

Bev Facey Community High School

School Council Meeting – April 12, 2015 (Upstairs staff room)

Attendees: 7 families represented – Sandy Stor (Chair), Susan Ballash (Vice Chair), Lori Martin, Michelle Dugan (Members at Large), Lisa Clamp, Rodney Frank, Maxine Mackay
3 school reps – Principal Bill Schlatt, Asst Principal Sharon Gach, Teachers Candida Shepherd and Brandon Salyzyn;
1 Student Voice rep – Brett Golka

1 Elk Island Public School Trustee – Barb McNeill

Call to Order: 7:04 pm; Round table introductions were made

Additions to agenda: None

March 10, 2015 Minutes: Approved (Motion by Susan Ballash Seconded by Sandy Stor) **CARRIED**

Ongoing Business:

1. Review of Action Items from the March meeting:
 - **Action # 8** – Completed - Sandy sent DRAFT Accountability Survey e-mail to Alberta Education
 - **Action # 9** – Review the criteria for the Student Recognition Awards
 - Group discussed how to move forward with Student Recognition Awards and when to present awards (June staff meeting vs fall awards night)
 - No monetary value for award (student recognition only)
 - **MOTION:** Michelle moved, Susan seconded, that we give the Student Recognition Awards at the fall 2015 Awards Ceremony **CARRIED**
 - **Action # 9A** – Sharon will forward request for nominations to teachers and will then forward student names to Sandy before the next parent council meeting on May 12th
 - Students for these awards are nominated by teachers using criterion outlined in the awards binder. Sharon explained this includes following the Facey Way, setting goals, being positive ambassadors for the school and leadership characteristics.
 - **Action # 9B**– Sandy to get criteria for the awards to Lori for inclusion in the minutes
 - **Action # 10** – Sandy to re-send criteria to parents on council, as none of the members present received her prior email, with a request for feedback
 - **Action # 11** – Sharon reported back that the grade 12s are considering benches with flowerpots for their Legacy Project.
 - The benches would be cemented in out front with names on plaques.
 - This project is not the school's responsibility: it is a grad project.
 - Candida reported than there were only 4 grads present at the last grad council meeting so more help from grade 12 students is required if this project is to be completed.
 - **Action # 12** – Not done yet
 - **Action # 13** – Sandy set up next Learning Clicks session for tomorrow night.

BRING FORWARD

- update parent info handout to send out at end of school year to new students for next year (May, 2015)
- update parents on ASCA conference

New Business:

1. Highlights of Provincial Budget April 2015

Barb McNeill and Bill Schlatt both summarized the drastic impacts of the new budget on Education

- a. There will be no new funding over the next three years. This is a three year “go forward” plan. Funding for all schools will remain the same as in 2014/2015.
- b. There will be no funding for new, additional students in the school district – this amounts to an estimated \$745,000 shortfall this coming school year 2015/2016. Funding/school used to be tied to the # of students.
- c. There will be no increases in money for support staff. The government says the contract negotiated for certified staff (teachers) must be honoured (2%, 2%, and 1% increases) and the board will have to fund the increases for the non-union support staff as they have traditionally always done. This includes office staff, librarians and education assistants.
- d. Restrictions are being imposed by the Provincial government on how school board reserves can be spent.
- e. No school can run a deficit
- f. 95 % of the Bev Facey school budget supports teachers’ salaries
- g. The number of “front line workers” must remain the same which means the 867 full-time teachers must remain the same and a school can’t hire less teachers.
- h. Bev Facey Administration is working on how they will make these cuts as non-certified staff will suffer. Class sizes will most likely increase as well. Some programs may be lost.
- i. School boards across the province are up-in-arms and held a press conference this week
For more information, see Paula Simons’ article, “With unprecedented election protest, Alberta school trustees find their voice”:
<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/news/edmonton/Simons+With+unprecedented+election+protest+Alber+ta/10989058/story.html>

Reports:

1. Chairperson Report: Sandy Stor

- a. Sandy reported a second Learning Clicks session will be held tomorrow night in the library
- b. Sandy attended the grade 9/10 information session. She welcomed incoming parents to the school and extended an invitation to all to attend parent council meetings next year
- c. Sandy will be representing Bev Facey at the ASCA Conference this coming weekend and will report back to us next month

2. Administration: Bill Schlatt

- a. Bill commented that the information night last week was very good and was a positive evening.
- b. Grad is coming in May: the grad list will be put up tomorrow (Wednesday). Grad is always the last weekend in May/First weekend in June
- c. Bill also provided an update on the fitness centre.
 - i. The equipment was delivered on Monday and they expect the gym will be open for students' use on Friday the 24th.
 - ii. Fundraising is still ongoing (funding for the fitness centre is not part of the school budget) Again, regarding the test drive fundraiser, we may have earned close to the \$10,000 maximum: GM is still verifying the paperwork.
 - iii. Two more fundraising events are planned: a **bottle drive** on Saturday, May 23rd – all teams expected to help - and a huge **Garage Sale** on Saturday, June 6th. The Fundraising Committee, headed by Chris Taylor, is looking for a parent volunteer to sell tables and co-ordinate donated items. Any interested parents please contact Chris Taylor at Christopher.Taylor@eips.ca
 - iv. \$97,000 still needs to be raised to pay for the new facility and equipment
- d. Bill is now focused on planning for next year

3. Student: Brett Golka

- a. Nothing to report; however, questions are welcome.

4. Trustee: Barb McNeill

- a. The Board highlights for the April 14 meeting are on the website. Go to <http://www.eips.ca/board-meeting-documents> .
- b. The next Board meeting is on May 20th, 2015 at the Board offices. Public attendees are welcome.
- c. Barb conveyed that the Diploma exams will count for 30 % of the students' marks starting in the next school year. Some discussion ensued.

Final comments: Brandon Salyzyn reported the school is receiving 150 new computers through the Federal program, "Computers for Schools". These will replace the older computers we are currently using.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:46 pm

The Next (and final) Meeting: Tuesday May 12th 2015 (7:00 – 9:00 p.m.)