

Bev Facey Community High School

School Council Meeting – Tuesday, December 1st 2015

Attendees: 13 families represented – Cara Brandse, Lisa Clamp, Lori Martin, Maxine MacKay, Michelle Dugan, Rod Frank, Sandy Stor, Corinne Yakiwchuk, Leah Hesson, Sherri Kaldenhoven, Sandy Cappelle, Lisa Allnutt, Lorena Evangelista

5 school reps – Assistant Principals Trudi Williamson, Sharon Gach, Amit Mali; Teachers Rita Lal, Nicole Mayr

2 Student Voice reps – Eleanor McKnight, Calla Isaac (grade 12 students)

1 Elk Island Public School Trustee – Trina Boymook (our rep for 2015-16 school year)

Call to Order: 7:03 pm

- Introduction of all in attendance
- Sandy apologized for the confusion over the late cancellation of the previous meeting in November.
- Please include an asterisk and your email address if you want future updates and minutes

Additions to the agenda - none

Approve Oct 13, 2015 minutes

Accepted as drafted (Motion: Sandy Stor, seconded by Michelle Dugan) **Motion CARRIED**

Ongoing Business:

1. Graduation 2016 Plans

Update provided by Sharon Gach and Amit Mali

Based on feedback from the survey, we stayed with the traditional format: grad will be held on one day but in two locations. Wendy hasn't signed the final contract; meal pricing will be determined in March/April. This grade 12 class has 340-350 students so pricing will be based on these numbers.

June 11, 2016 – Graduation Ceremony at the Butterdome from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. The banquet is at Northlands afterwards with doors opening at 6:00 pm. The time may still be adjusted based on SAL's requirements.

Parent Questions:

1. What do I need to do about grad? – Sharon: Check the grad section on the website
2. Was Wendy able to book for May of next year – 2017 grads? **(Action 2 from Oct 2015 meeting - unresolved)**
3. What about a "donate" button? – Sharon: nothing decided yet. Discuss next meeting. **(Dec Action item #1)**
 - a. Discussed the I.V.C. – (Information & Volunteers Center for Strathcona County) they collect grad dresses/accessories; give them out for free

4. What were the results of the grad survey? Discuss next meeting – add to agenda.

2. Action Item 3 from Oct 2015 meeting

Carry forward (change in Socials AP curriculum). Next Bev Facey open house – 2016 dates not set yet.

New Business:

1.School Survey Results

Mr. Mali provided information about a “results review” session held Nov 24 with representatives from EIPS/FRH/Wye/Facey. This was also a great opportunity to talk to feeder schools: we are working hard to build bridges to help students make seamless transitions.

Mr. Lemko is still working to analyze trends and breakdown the data.

One area of concern is student engagement. 48% of students surveyed feel the education they are receiving isn't of value to them. We need to dig deeper here. We can discuss **student engagement** further at [the January meeting. \(Dec Action item #2\)](#)

Another area of concern is parent involvement. Sharon noted that, to this end, 1208 parents have been contacted by email or telephone already this year. Mr. Mali added that this is part of an initiative to help increase communication to parents and to establish a relationship on a positive note.

Discussion ensued. Concern was raised about inconsistent use of communication tools by various teachers such as e-teachers, PowerSchool, reading of the Daily Bulletin, etc.

Trina Boymook commented that, surprisingly, a very small percentage of parents actually access PowerSchool. Printed report cards are being reconsidered by the Board.

Reports:

1.Chairperson

- a. Sandy participated in the results review session Nov 24 (see above).
- b. Another successful Learning Clicks session held Nov 19. A spring session will be held as well. Sandy recommends students attend these sessions. Mr. Mali said they have chatted about how the school can be about doing more for students.

Dec Action item #3: Learning Clicks sessions for students

Ideas include: Hold 1 hour sessions during the day; bring Learning Clicks people in for kids in grades 10 – 12; Trina suggested bringing them in during Parent/Student/Teacher interviews in March.

- c. COSC update – members talked about new report cards for elementary kids; the results/review process (very interesting); lots of discussion on the Fort Saskatchewan boundary review process; the EIPS survey.

2. Administration

Amit Mali reported they want to roll out **My Pass** to all grade 12 students sometime this year. Students can start any time. Students need their 9-digit ASN (Alberta Student Number) and Alberta Education will mail out a PIN.

This is an online program by Alberta Education. Enrollment will provide information on grad progress, diploma exam results, number of credits earned, transcripts, etc. A link is available on the Bev Facey website under the “Students” tab.

<https://public.education.alberta.ca/PASI/myPass>

Bev Facey was very busy in December with numerous sports, music, drama and band activities.

Sharon Gach reported the school has brand new cameras; a new classroom (made when Facilities converted a Language lab). New curtains are coming for the gym and one has been replaced in Automotives. The learning hub in the Library has more electronic access. Christmas decorations went up today (courtesy of FLI).

Rita Lal reported she acts as a liason to bridge the gap between the staff and parent council.

- a. The Daily Bulletin is now available by 9:00 am
- b. Access to teachers’ emails is increased (teachers are listed in a variety of places)
- c. Volunteers are required – opportunities are now posted on the Home Page. Priority is in order of date. Rita will connect parents/volunteers with teachers. A waiver form and confidentiality agreement must be signed and in place first.
 - a. Parent suggestion – get kids to help photocopy
 - b. Trina Boymook’s suggestion – EIPS pays membership to the Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce – contact them as well.

3. Students

Eleanor and Calla attended “student voice” last week. They discussed daily bulletins, Math re-writes and paperless classrooms with Administration. Re: Math re-writes – the Math Department says students are down to two re-writes as too many kids are “banking” on re-writes and not doing enough preparation for tests. Re: Paperless classrooms – they feel this is not always realistic for students.

Parent suggestion: in Calgary students have to “apply” to re-write Math tests and must complete a review booklet, marked by the teacher, first.

4. Committee of School Councils (covered by Sandy Stor, above)

5. Trustee

Trina attended a Board Retreat.

- a. Types and amounts of **school fees** were discussed (knowing the new Education Minister is to have future input). This Thursday there is an Education Committee meeting.
- b. We still need to have a conversation about **collections** and how we go about this. Currently, a reminder letter is sent out from the corporate treasurer. There is \$200,000

left to collect: these accounts have been sent to a collection agency in Ontario. After collections take their cut we will be left with \$30,000. Discussion ensued with a suggestion that a local collection agency be used.

c. International field trip travel

- a. We will not send students into unsafe environments
- b. A draft framework for high school students will be seen on Thursday (no junior high school can do international travel)
 - i. Critical - #1 issue is student safety (as determined by the Government of Canada up to the date of boarding the plane)
 - ii. Trip must be curriculum driven
 - iii. Equity of opportunity for students

d. Re: the Paris situation

- a. Meetings are being held with parents.
- b. Schools are not to collect any more money or send any money to tour groups
- c. No trips are to be booked for next year

e. Results Reviews

- a. Trina has attended 14 results reviews meetings
 - i. Some schools aren't doing great. "Apply to All" button may not apply to all schools; different realities mean allocation models may need to change; bottom line is important conversations need to happen.
 - ii. Surprised/shocked by degree of anxiety and depression starting at age 4; we are seeing an increase in Elk Island schools; MENTAL HEALTH needs to be on our advocacy plan; Trina has already spoken to Annie McKitrick.

f. New Calendar consultation complete and calendar is now in for approval by the Board. The Trustees will decide which version to choose. This time they will approve two years together.

g. Junior High Schools – new report card consultation will start taking place.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM.

**Next Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2016
7:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted by

Lori Martin, Vice-Chair

Substituting for Z'Anne Harvey-Jansen (Secretary)