

FRH PARENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2019 @ 6:00pm

Attendance: Colleen Miller-Helwig, Andrea Moniz, Rita Lal, Erin Clark, Jessica Smith, Aaron Tuckwood, Shelley Brewer-Semple, Monica Vane, D'Arcy Vane, Stephanie Spilchak, Brandi Nieuwendyk, Sheri Cholin, Jeff Hanrahan, Tracey Hill, Marlene Crippin, Jennifer Daley

Regrets: None

1. Meeting called to order at 6:02

2. Introductions and welcomes – Jessica S.

3. New Business

a. Establishment of a new Council – Jessica S.

Vacant Positions include Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

- Cannot be filled by our staff
- Job does not include fundraising
- Secretary will be in charge of taking notes and sharing out
- Chair will be leading the meeting, writing an agenda, and meeting with the Principal a week in advance to discuss concerns or upcoming events.
- Vice Chair runs meetings and fills in when the chair unavailable.

Call for nominations for Chair – Darcy V. nominates himself, Tracy H. seconded

- Proclaimed by unanimous agreement

Call for nominations for Vice Chair – Shelley B. nominates herself, Monica V. seconded

- Proclaimed by unanimous agreement

Call for Secretary – Stephanie S. nominates herself, Brandi N. seconded.

- Proclaimed by unanimous agreement

4. Principal's Report –

- Great start up – Good year, students and staff have been very happy, not a lot of changes to options and classes were very steady.
- Cell phone policy – kids have responded well. Across the district we have been implementing it with success. We have only had to issue 6 warnings. Students are

- interacting more and walking safely. Teachers are noting they are learning more about students because they are interacting more in classes and halls.
- Meet the Staff – New change this year, having staff meet families outside in the courtyard and we invited food Trucks to participate. Positive kudos were given by parents for this event.
 - Change in timetable – We have moved to 7-day cycle instead of 6, and added BIONIC. This has replaced daily homeroom. BIONIC, Believe it or not I Can, allows for the staff to not take time out of Core's for administrative business. Has been really good for students.
 - New Staff
 - Carol Knott – Counselor
 - Tamara O'Neil – Maternity leave for Mrs. Webb
 - Alisia Cook – Educational assistant
 - Whole School Focus - is Positive Culture in the school. What can we do to make things happen in this school? Positive messaging in the halls.
 - SEP – Culture, Numeracy, and Literacy – Looking at this as a staff, how we can we do our best. Following up with assignments.
 - Mission and Vision of the school – Clarifying what we stand for. Making sure that all staff can understand and speak to why we are here and how we plan to accomplish this.
 - ISP's – More information in October – New program coming out.
 - Lates and Attendances – have not been an issue yet, we will be following 4 lates will be a lunch DT, 8 late will be an afterschool DT.
 - Emergency drills will be on the calendar
 - Hawk's View will be coming out on Friday – short and sweet, the goal is to enable conversation at home about what is happening in school.
 - Please refer to the webpage for information, we are trying to put everything on there.

5. New Business

A. Questions

- What is the policy with Teachers and the cell phone? Do teachers have access to them for safety? - Yes, they have them with them, but we are expecting to model appropriate use.
- What is the policy with regards to watches? – At this time, anything that sends or receives messages is considered to be a personal communication device. Will be revisited in January. This will be decided by schools.
- Has the cell phone policy improved academics? Is there data to show the impact? How could we see that? – This is something that we will have to look at closely, but there is a lot of layers so it is difficult to pinpoint one thing as we made changes to our schedule. Students are receiving more core time.
- What time can students come to school – Once the doors are open students are able to be here. We prefer them to be somewhere visible. Typically after 7:30.
- With the change to homeroom, what plans do we have for cross grade work? - We don't yet, but we are looking at ways. Teachers are finding ways. We are

looking at doing work with the Grade 8's and 6's as part of leading from the heart.

- What is our current enrollment? – Currently we are about even.
- In your safety drills, the drill are typically focused around students and not the building. – We are always thinking about how can we better talk about and prepare individuals.
- Concern- Frustrated with start up and lack of information communicated out. Upon further investigation it was all going to spam, anyone else with the same issue?– Yes. As a school we will address this to our tech team. Noted, there is an App from school messenger that let's you know a message has been sent. You can choose how to access messages.
- Will there be more opportunities to transition? - Yes, we work a lot with Facey and we are working more with the elementary.
- Musical Theatre missing from Grade 8, will it be back? – It's not gone forever, but there are many factors that go into our course offerings. Student interest, and lack of qualified staff to teach it to name a few. We are happy to help connect students with other opportunities, we will offer it again next year.

6. Trustees Report –

- a. Welcome
- b. The school year began for the trustees on the Thursday before the long weekend with the trustees cooking breakfast for the central Administration staff followed by our organizational meeting for the year.
- c. We have met a number of times in September including our annual board planning Retreat
- d. Major discussion points during these days included facilities and student populations including Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan which both face challenges with growth in the communities in coming years.
- e. In our meetings we have reviewed the new policy for the use of electronic devices which seems to be working very well we are getting good replies from parents and school administrators. We are also getting inquiries from many other boards in the province and across Canada for information on the policy as they want to create one for their school divisions.
- f. The trustees met with the new education minister earlier this month and received updates on the budget process which should be complete by October 31st. Lack of a budget has been a major problem for all divisions as we are uncertain as to our funding so that we've had to budget very conservatively until we know the details.
- g. Follow up - Did the district put in a budget submission to the Government? Is it online?

7. Next meeting date is not set yet. Mr. Vane will advise when a date is set.

8. Meeting called to closure at 7:05