

ÉCOLE ELBOW VALLEY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

October 7, 2015

1:00 PM

MME POOLE'S ROOM

Attendance

Karin Hunter
Troy Millington
Monica Webster
Robyn Benoit
Rita Walter
Michelle Adams
Brenda Renowden
Sally Lockhart
Niki Ferbey
Frankie-Lou Nelligan
Lori Champagne
Anita Palacz
Nicole Genereux
Natalie Pentney
Judi Poole
Trish Cull

AGENDA

- A. Welcome 1:04 pm
- B. Minutes Pending Approval
 - First Motion Sally Lockhart Second Brenda Renowden
- C. Approval of September 2015 Meeting Minutes
 - First Motion Brenda Renowden Second Melanie Spagrud

D. Council Reports

- 1. Chair's Report Troy Millington /
Karin Hunter
 - a) September Start Up
Thank you to Sally and Niki for the September start up and helping to create protocols for future council
 - b) November 4th is the Mathathon
 - c) Picture retakes November 5th – Volunteers will be needed
 - d) Staff Appreciation in early December please start thinking about how you can help out.
 - e) Newsletter - Included a diagram about where the money is being spent and what our sources of incomes are – feedback to Karin
 - f) Casino – volunteers will be needed please start thinking about it

- g) Signing Authority has been transferred to Troy, Karin's signing authority will be in place next week.
- h) Apologies to Michele Hornung for omission in the October newsletter.

2. Principal's Report

Judi Poole

- a) Accountability Survey Results Presented
 - Student, parents and staff were surveyed with a satisfaction level at 89% of having a safe and caring school.
 - Excellent parental involvement
 - General academics achieve excellence
 - We are above average in all areas when comparing Elbow Valley to the RockyView School jurisdiction with the exception of two, which administration will address in our School Annual Results Report to be submitted on October 30.

The three goals over the next four years:

- 1) Learners are successful – learners will have a better understanding of competencies and outcomes.
- 2) Learners are engage – expanding inquiry.
- 3) Learners are supported – through outside support in some cases.

Supporting literacy at home. Trying to bridge the gap between literacy at home and school.

3. Treasurer's Report

Melanie Spagrud

- a) Report attached
- b) Received cheques from Healthy Hunger from June 2015
- c) Expenditures of popsicles to accompany the pizza and receipts for teachers leaving in the spring
- d) Motion to adopt the financials as presented
 - *First motion Michelle Adams, Second Sally Lockhart
- e) Motion by Melanie Spagrud for the signing authority of the Parent Advisory Council Elbow Valley Elementary School also referred to as "School Council" be Melanie Spagrud, Karin Hunter and Troy Millington only.
 - *Second Motion Monica Webster

4. Teachers' Report

Trish Cull

- a) The character focus for September was FRIENDLINESS. Students begin or return to the school for a new year, new classes and making new friends. Reminders of what it means to be friendly and how to be a good friend is a great way to focus our character development at the start of the year.

b) SELF CONTROL is the character focus for October. Although more in line with making good choices, thinking before we act and stopping to solve problems, it's likely a good character trait to keep in mind with Thanksgiving feasts coming up and before the full Trick Or Treat bags come home!

c) The Terry Fox Run was a huge success this year. Throughout September, students learned about Terry, his character and perseverance as well as his dedication to raising money to help find a cure for cancer. Our Elbow Valley Elementary School community participated in the run along with the Middle School. Our students and families raised a total of \$3,230.03! This is almost double what has been raised in each of the last 3 years. The Terry Fox committee is very grateful to the community for supporting this endeavor.

d) Thank you to all the parent volunteers who came out to run stations during Sports Day. The weather cooperated for the event and everyone seemed to have a great time. Many food donation items were collected for the food bank as the students were motivated to trade their donation items in for extra chances to throw sponges at their favorite staff member – all in good fun of course.

e) The students have been enjoying their In Line skating lessons. Thank you to School Council for providing these much anticipated lessons.

f) Kindergarten students are working hard at learning their routines and figuring out what it means to be a school kid. They are full of energy, enthusiasm and are little sponges, soaking up all kinds of information.

Grade One students have also been spending most of their time learning classroom routines and how to be a supportive member of their classroom community. They are adjusting to being at school for full days.

Grade Two students have had their first Destination Imagination activities within cross class grouping. They have also had their first Positive Playgrounds session which is a favored activity in grade two. Most classes have started Daily Five which provides the students with a variety of ways to practice and build their literacy skills.

Grade Three students have been busy this month with SLAs (Student Learner Assessments). We are proud of this very first group of students to go through the SLA process for their patience and perseverance. The grade three team is hoping the assessments will provide valuable information regarding what the students already know and what they are ready to learn now that they are in grade three.

Grade Four students are excited to finally be at the top of the heap. They have waited a long time and are finally there. Many grade four students have been training to be Friendly Helpers and "Moo Markers" – keeping track of who is drinking milk at school. They take their responsibilities very seriously and we are lucky to have such a bright group of students ready for the challenges of being leaders in the school.

Grade four students are headed to Atlas Coal Mine this week and next as they study the six regions of Alberta. Students in Mrs. Belsey's class are designing

and building solar ovens as part of their Science study of light. They plan to bake apple crisp in their ovens when they are complete.

Curriculum Connections:

Students from Mrs. Douglas' grade two class are here to present their "Matter Rap." This song helps the students learn and remember the different states of matter.

Students from Mrs. Woolley's grade three class made clay volcanoes as part of their study of. They will demonstrate how to make their volcanoes erupt using simple household materials to create a big reaction.

5. Volunteer Coordinators

Sally Lockhart

Niki Ferby

a) Volunteer Class Rep meeting

- Meeting went well with 14 class reps in attendance, reviewed communication requests and expectations.
- Requested all reps to make use of Sign Up Genius program to get all parents online and creating some consistency throughout the school with volunteer programming and scheduling.
- Concerns about teachers having different systems and processes, reminded that is the best part about each class and to work with teachers and to help meet their needs and requests in relation to volunteer requirements and to be flexible.

b) Volunteer Workshop

- 28 parents in attendance.
- Reviewed school volunteer policy
- School volunteer requirements
- School volunteer processes.
- School volunteer opportunities and events
- School Lunches
- Library Volunteer Program
- Sign up Genius

c) Photo day

- Went very well thank you to Niki Ferbey, Jennifer Rauparell , Brenda Renowden, Angela Bucholtz and Frankie Lou Negellan for a great job. We had the entire school completed by 12:45pm. Lots of wonderful smiles all morning.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.

d) Mathathon Nov 4

- One of the school's biggest fundraisers on Wednesday November 4, hoping everyone is available to help out that morning with class pledge collection.
- In the process of updating documents and sending out information.

- Volunteer sign up will be sent out to Class Volunteer Reps next week. October 15.
- Pledge and information sheets will go out October 23.
- Communications will be through volunteer reps, newsletter, school parent email list and school communication systems.

e) School Pic Retakes Nov 5

- November 5th – will need 3 volunteers for the morning to do retakes.

f) Staff Holiday Appreciation Event. – Dec 1

- Frankie Lou Negellan has kindly offered to take the lead with this event. Big volunteer requirement for donations and contribution of food and materials.
- Sign up for this will be sent out the end of October.

- g) Suggestion to add a volunteer opportunity link on the website that is linked to Sign-up Genius.

6. Special Lunch Coordinator

Alex Martin

Michelle Hornung

- a) Freezer was donated and installed

7. Library Coordinator

Monica Webster

- a) Everything is going great fantastic participation! Sign-Up Genius will be sent out for two-month sign up periods.

8. Yearbook Committee

Brenda Renowden

- a) Yearbooks are on sale now. Same early bird pricing of \$20, until Dec 31st, then its \$25.00. We now have student photographers! Some students have been assigned classes to take pictures of. Looking forward to having student involvement.
- b) We received our final invoice from last years sales. Lifetouch will be issuing us a check in the amount of \$1,544.68.
- c) Grade 3 and 4 classrooms each have a photography representative for the yearbook to take photos of exciting learning events at the school.
- d) There is a yearbook link, elbowvalleyyearbook@gmail.com to send photos to.

9. French Immersion/CPF

Lori Champagne

- a) Cheese Fundraiser will be sent home at the end of October and in the November Newsletter. Will be delivered November 24th.
- b) AGM held October 6th.

a) Casino

Sign-Up Genius has been created and sent out to parents and can be found on the bulletin board.

40 spots are needing to be filled, we are only at 25% full currently

Remember you may volunteer as a support person ie pick up/drop off, food, babysitting.

Will add a QR code that links to Sign-Up Genius on the bulletin board for people to sign up.

Link will be sent out to parents via email after Thanksgiving weekend with a renewed request for volunteers.

E. School Trustee Report**Helen Clease**

1) Oct. 1. RVS organizational meeting. Results: Colleen Munro, ward 5 re-elected (Chair), Todd Brand, ward 3 (Re-elected Vice Chair)

2) Latest growth numbers: RVS grew by 981 students (basically 2 schools)
Final number will be determined as Sept 30th numbers come in

3) At first glance at government list of infrastructure projects we should not see delays in our 2016 openings. We will be inquiring in regard to 2017 openings.

4) Provincial budget to be tabled on Oct. 27

5) November 19 is the joint board/council meeting. Will be having discussions as to best ways to communicate.

F. Other Business- ASCA, Veteran Holiday Planning**1) ASCA**

a) Currently looking for a new president, candidate has been narrowed down to two applicants.

b) Goal is to find out what the current issues are for parents and students in schools.

c) ASCA wants to amplify School Council voices. Government is looking to School Council for more information on ideas and issues.

2) Veteran Holiday Planning

a) Looking to see if school is interested in participating in sending cards overseas to people serving in the military. Possibility of having a Christmas theme to coincide with the timing of mailing.

3) Outdoor Garden/Learning Space

- a) Conversation started to look into this

4) Long Term Planning Committee

- a) Melanie Spagrud puts forth a motion to create a long term planning committee

*Second Motion by Monica Webster

- b) Will look to have administration and staff involved in the committee and provide their input.

Meeting Adjourned 2:32 pm

Next Meeting Date:

November 4th , 7:00 PM