

School Council Monthly Meeting

Monday, October 19, 2020

Video Conference

Attendees: Shelly Wiebe, Krystal Alston, Leticia Webster, Kerri Williams, Candace Craddock, Kyla Tuttle, Sheri Duchene, Ron Heinrichs – PSD Trustee

1. Call to order – 3:45 pm Krystal
2. Additions to the Agenda –N/A
3. Approval of Agenda – Shelly, 2nd Candace
4. Reading of last months minutes – Adopted – Shelly, 2nd Kyla
5. Trustee’s Report – Ron Heinrichs
 - 1) Trustee Remuneration -
Trustees have agreed to a new remuneration schedule which simplifies the process by combining most mileage, per diems, other costs and honorariums into one monthly expense/pay which includes most expenses. The Board has agreed to take 1 10% cut in this amount for this year due to decreased travel, fewer meetings, and the switch to mostly virtual conferences, etc. This will be reviewed at the end of the school year.
 - 2) PATS (Provincial Achievement Exams)-
PSD has decided to go ahead with the PATs this year (grades 3, 6 and 9). The test results will only be used by teachers as a "snapshot" of where each student is at, and individual results will be made available to students and parents.
 - 3) COVID Updates - PSD Website-
The Parkland School Division website is continuously providing up-to-date COVID information based on Alberta Government recommendations. As changes to recommendations are announced, the website is changed and made up-to date. Parents are able to check 2 lists of symptoms which will help determine whether or not their child should remain at home.
 - 4) School Ventilation System Inquiry-
All PSD schools were tested this summer and have met the necessary requirements for their ventilation systems.
 - 5) PSD School Enrollments-
The total PSD school enrollment for this year is down -294 students have left, many to enroll in virtual programs, mainly provided at centres in St. Albert or Calgary. 56 new students have entered the Division.
 - 6) “Public” Schools, the government has started to use the word “Public” for schools, we will go into more detail on this topic at a later meeting but just a quick note on this: We are a public school system that is open to everyone and we are fully public funded, there are other types of school systems that are being called “public” which is different in ways that they either have other ways of being funded along with public funding and that they specialize in Religion, Belief, Language, etc. Again Ron will go into more detail on this in the future.
6. Principal Report – Ms. Wiebe (written in Ms. Wiebe’s words)
 - 1) Budget - submitted and approved. We were in a deficit position because we are carrying a fulltime teacher salary and have 16 students that are enrolled in home learning programs.

PSD has supported our deficit and we are balanced. I will be monitoring our budget very carefully as it is very tight.

Current enrolment: 122

In class: 111

At home: 11 students

2) I have been reviewing our school handbook. One area I am working on updating is our cell phone policy. I am concerned about cell phone use in school. There is a lot of learning disruption during class, and there is inappropriate use of cell phones outside during recess.

I am currently proposing changing the cell phone policy to:

- ZERO usage during the school day for K-6 students. Parents can call the office if they need to speak to their children during the day. Cell phones will be securely stored in student backpacks, bins or lockers (when we have access to lockers). Classrooms will be locked when teachers and students are not in the classroom.
- Recess usage only for junior high students. A number of our junior high students leave to get lunch, and for safety reasons they should have access to their phones. During class time, students will place their cell phones in their bin or locker. Parents can contact the school during class time if they need to be in contact with their child. Brought up in meeting that perhaps they should only be able to use them off of school property.

3) Seba Seniors have donated \$250 towards breakfast foods for our school. We will be using it to purchase individually wrapped items such as granola bars, yogurt, etc.

Bree Adkins generously donated \$1500 to Entwistle School to go towards art supplies. As a staff, we are discussing how best to use the funds. We have inherited a lot of art supplies from Seba Beach school. Most of this is still in boxes and we have no idea what we need or want yet. One suggestion was to perhaps look at an artist in residency program (when allowed) to create a school mural with the students. Stay tuned.

4) COVID update: everything is going well. We have been rolling with the numerous COVID changes in symptoms, testing requirements, etc. etc. We have recreated our cohorts as follows:

K-2 - 38 (24 on non-Kinder days)

3/4/5 - 45 students

6-9 - 27 students

Anticipated returns to in-class learning: 11 students

All students are now outside for recesses at the same time, in their designated cohort areas. Staff have been collaborating to ensure students are out there having fun and we are very flexible with switching areas to meet needs of kids.

Due to the snow, no sidewalk around to the back of the school, and the snow removal designations for our custodian under her contract, the junior high students now access the school through the front doors and utilize the boot area in the front entrance of the building.

5) Field trips: Grades 3-5: Camp Warwa (deposit was made last year) June 17

Grades 4-6: Drumheller

Grades 6-9: Proposed ski trip

I have not heard from early years teachers. I will keep hounding them.

- 6) Collaborative Response Model: I have been approached by Learning Services to initiate the CRM Model in Entwistle school. Learning Services is paying for our access to WeCollab software for Entwistle this year. We are also teaming up with some of our Learning Services supports to do a "PD Residency" here at Entwistle school. Essentially, we will have 2 specialized teachers joining our teachers in classrooms, elbow to elbow, to work on literacy, numeracy and social/emotional needs in the classrooms. We are looking at doing some intensive literacy PD as part of this initiative.

Collaborative Response involves the development of a school based continuum of supports, embedded time for teachers to meet with each other and administration to discuss student needs and collaborate, and the strategic use of assessments to ensure all students are making progress. It is intended to catch the kids that fall through the cracks.

For more information, see <https://www.jigsawlearning.ca/>

I have been involved in the development and implementation of the CRM as both a teacher and administrator. It is powerful, and everyone involved benefits greatly from collaboration and identification of supports and needs.

- 7) Updates on Library, Learning Commons, Gymnasium:

- We are going to be returning the library to the library. Mrs. Webster will be moving back into her classroom, most likely after fall break. We have approximately 40 boxes of books from Seba that need to be sorted and catalogued.
- Makerspace: I am slowly getting this figured out. At this time, we are not dedicating an entire classroom to a Makerspace, but creating a mobile Makerspace cart that can be used and accessed by everyone. We have a large cart that has many spaces to hold items.
- Art items will be moved back into the original storage room so that the Learning Commons can be cleaned up and organized, and return to its original intention of being a flexible space.
- We have been busy moving items in the gym to create a usable space for students now that the cold weather is upon us. We are waiting for some help to move heavy items onto the stage, but the kids will have access to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the gym at this time.

7. Old Business: No old business

8. New Business:

- a) Executive Elections 2020-21

We forgot to nominate and elect Directors last meeting, Not many on the call but Kyla Tuttle has offered to be one of the Directors, Thank You Kyla. We will ask more parents for next meeting.

- b) COVID-19 Update: This was answered in both the Trustee Report by Ron as well as the Principal Report by Shelly

9. Other: Next School Council Meeting is November 16th with a time change to 3:50 to accommodate those who have to pick up their children from school.

10. Meeting Adjourned – 4:28 pm – Krystal