

February School Council Meeting – February 23, 2021

6:00 PM – Bailey Thorson's Room (Room 117)

Minutes:

In attendance: Candice Halma, Megan Krysa, Lenee Fyfe, Tasha Olsen, Monika Lietz Greenway, Mindy Kool, Debbie Newman, Brittany Jacober, Jodi Everson

Regrets:

Agenda: approved by Mindy, seconded by Tasha

1. Approval of Jan. Minutes Mindy Kool approves, seconded by Tasha
2. Reports – only new report is boundary changes, getting approved tonight Feb 23
3. Communications - none
4. Treasurer Report – fundraising updates – auction raised 1019.79, 2595 from beef jerky, money for Christmas trees was sent to district and will be deposited, Joel stretch has cashed his incentive cheque. Mask lady has not deposited so it has come back. About \$10000 in bank – getting nicer blinds for learning Commons and office, ordered a few more tables and chairs, decos will be a major expense, awaiting review of proof by leadership - going all over school including classroom doors, 2 other art pieces that are half paid for, “oh the places you’ll go” for learning Commons and learning is our Buffalo for library area
5. Admin Report
 - Pivot Point – Monday, Feb. 22 – We had 4 students transition in and 2 out.
 - COVID case identified – Review process of notification – email Friday night indicating pos case, 9am sat started contact tracing, work with AHS, class and teacher auto quarantine, also had to quarantine 2 rows in front, the row of the student and 2 rows behind on the bus, had to go through any other person who may have had contact and AHS determines if they qualify as a close contact (within 6 feet for 15 min with no ppe OR comforting with ppe, or in gym if teacher was actively engaging with class) quarantine only impacted 3 days of class time which was lucky. Not reported to ahs unless we get another case within 90 days. Entire process took about 8 hours.
 - COVID School Reporting - We will use:
 - Alert - one to four cases, and schools with two or more cases will still be included on our public reporting map as they have always been since September.
 - Outbreak – five to nine cases
 - Outbreak - 10 or more cases.
 - Town Hall Virtual – Need two volunteers (Tuesday, Feb. 2 – 6:30-9:00) – scratch this, already happened!
 - Boundary Review – Motion for tonight's meeting – ours didn't change through the revision process, will grandfather kids who would move to Westminster, but will be bussed to Westminster vs having to walk/transport to SB. NS admjn group met because there is a perception that the NS has room – asked for support to squash that because we aren't accepting kids outside of zone.

6. District School Council Meeting – town hall- great!
7. New Business
 - Senator Buchanan Boundaries – How do we want to admit students for next year?
 - Grandfather in existing students from Northside only
 - No admittance for Southside and Westside students – no change from last year
 - Kindergarten – Review details of survey, summary sent to all those who participated in survey – half day: better for consistency, better flow, development and support; challenges especially around child care, possibly too short, kids might need a break, covid concerns;; full day: better for prep for gr 1, childcare; challenges for consistency and routine, loss of school days due to holidays and PL, difficult for kids with exceptional needs, possibly less learning. It seems that alt full day is better for parents but not necessarily better for students. Will continue to advocate for full day, including possibly leaning on federal funding for covid benefits
 - Staffing for next year?
 - Straight grades? Multi-age? – will discuss again in march; purpose for multi age was strictly covid related – created a team of 4-5 teachers who could support each other, let us split the kids up more and brought class sizes down substantially. What do we do for next year? Think about it and will discuss more next month. Talk with your students!
8. Old Business – stem lab! 10 landed computers with mice for the fall, 25 ipads to replace old laptops
9. Fundraising
 - a. Purdy's? – have to get approved by Ed centre because it's not healthy. Suggestion centennial meats.
 - b. Hot lunch starts in March! Subway for 1st month. Had to be individually packaged with kids name on it.

Next meeting date: March 16, 2021 @ 6pm

January School Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2021

In Attendance: Debbie Newman, Candice Halma, Mindy Kool, Monika Lietz Greenway, Sally Leung, Megan Krysa, Cynthia Young, Tasha Olsen, Lenee Fyfe

Approval of Nov Minutes and Reports: Approved by Tasha, seconded by Candice

Admin Report:

-Pivot point changed to Monday Feb 22 to better support teachers as it is a lot of work to rearrange and previous pivot point did not line up well with report cards. We are expecting to stay close to same #s of students at home and at school.

- Covid case identified right before Christmas was a visitor and not connected to students or staff. 1 of 3 schools in the division without a school connected case yet – knock wood!

- Town Hall Virtual – Mindy and Tasha volunteer to attend. Volunteers will connect to the town hall at home – either teams or zoom – there will be 2-3 questions to answer in virtual rooms. The conversation will be recorded and answers will be sent in. Invites to come from Leeanne Tedder.

- Staffing update – intern teachers Jami Thomson and Leah Murphy are tied to Bob & Lenee, assisting with 4/5s, Julien Hazell is with the 2/3s and PE support, and Sarah Viejou is providing music support. This frees up other teachers for 1x1 support in cohorts.

- Funding update – approx. \$10000 from Kernels/cookie dough; \$5000 grant went to fund the sensory room (which ended up costing slightly over the 5k) approx. \$10000 from trees will be rec'd in February; final furniture purchases including new chairs for grade 1 and some teacher desks; now turning attention to finishing touches – branding and deco, learning commons. Tech funding – evergreening – got funding from district for a cart of 25 ipads and another cart with 25 laptops. Old laptops will go to learning commons and be grounded with a mouse. In total will have 2.5 carts of tech plus learning commons. Funding came from cancelled bussing. As part of evergreening process, next year teacher computers will be replaced, the following the computer lab.

- Treasury update – currently \$8800 in acct, \$600 in cheques waiting clearance. Cookie Dough – school sold an extra \$480, making total \$5969. December Auction/raffle update – made \$605 on raffle, approx. \$800 on auction online plus \$362 cash. Will update once confirmed.

- District Council meeting – boundary update. Grandfathering existing registration, new reg will go to Westminster. No west or south students will be accepted. Because of funding changes, changing division (Holy Spirit to public) will be refused for in zone students.

Parent/ Guardian Input Summary

Kindergarten Program Planning (2021-2022)

Thank you for participating in our survey to gather data. Here is a summary of the results, grouped into themes.

Q1 - Currently, Senator Buchanan offers Monday through Thursday, with alternating Friday, half-day programs. This means, students come every morning or afternoon Monday-Thursday, and alternate Fridays. (Students attend every day, but for a half day). What are the benefits for this schedule? (Think of both the parent & student benefits)

Consistency

- Participants saw the half-day schedule as being consistent and predictable for both the parents and students
- Participant felt a regular, daily routine is helpful, especially when moving to Grade 1

Development

- A benefit for half days was that all students may not be ready to manage a full day of school yet
- A benefit for half days was that the students was at school each day which allows for consistent flow in teaching vs. repeating information that may be forgotten on the time off
- Support daily for students with identified needs

Child Care

- Consistent and predictable child-care for families

Q2 - Currently, Senator Buchanan offers Monday through Thursday, with alternating Friday, half-day programs. This means, students come every morning or afternoon Monday-Thursday, and alternate Fridays. (Students attend every day, but for a half day). What are the challenges for this schedule? (Think of both the parent & student challenges)

Child Care

- Participants felt that full-day program would allow for easy child-care
- Participants s felt that mid-day pick up is challenging, particularly for families with more than one child at the school

Development

- Half-day programs are too short
- Students may need a full day break from school

Other

- COVID Concerns over sharing of the classroom

Q3 - In other school locations, programs are offered as alternating full-days and alternating Fridays. This means, students come EITHER Monday/ Wednesday – full day OR Tuesday/ Thursday full day, with alternating Fridays. What are the benefits for this schedule? (Think of both the parent & student benefits)

Consistency and Readiness for Grade 1

- Participants felt full days better helps the students in their transition into grade 1

Learning

- Participant felt stronger peer relationships would be built by being with peers all day
- Participants felt more learning would be occurring with longer days

Child Care

- Participants felt that full days would be easier for pick up and drop off
- Participants felt it allows for flexibility for family choice and allowed for more full day time to spend as families
- Easier for parents to get care

Q4 - In other school locations, programs are offered as alternating full-days and alternating Fridays. This means, students come EITHER Monday/ Wednesday – full day OR Tuesday/

Thursday full day, with alternating Fridays. What are the challenges for this schedule? (Think of both the parent & student challenges)

Inconsistent

- Less frequent class time -for example, long weekends and PL days would mean potentially one day at school that week
- Participants felt that it would be hard to build routines and a set schedule
- Packing a lunch and snacks is time consuming
- Monday, Wednesday students would have a 4-day break before returning to school, maybe longer on long weekends

Learning

- Challenge for student routine, disadvantages children with exceptional needs
- Everyday is a new thing and reteaching from the day before so actually less learning time