

Fort Assiniboine School Parent Council Minutes

March 19, 2019. 7:00pm

Attendance: Jennifer Tuininga, Lorna Hiemstra, Charlene Fleming, Jenni Williams, Teresa Dekker,

Vice-Chairperson Charlene Fleming called the meeting to order at 7:09pm

1. Approval of Agenda

Jenni Williams approved the agenda as amended

Charlene Fleming seconded it

2. Approval of minutes from March 19, 2019 meeting.

Jenni Williams approved the minutes

Charlene Fleming seconded it

3. Treasures report - Teresa Dekker

The account balance is at \$84.18. There was \$500 paid to Fort Assiniboine preschool for last year's staff appreciation baskets. Teresa Dekker adopts her report as read.

4. Old Business

- a) Junior High recess activities ideas – The teachers had asked the junior high students what kind of structures they would be interested in having at our school. Some of the ideas were as follows: hill, skatepark, tire swing, trampoline, gazebo, chin-up bar, running track, outdoor rink, climbing wall. There was a discussion about some of these ideas. Thought it might be a really nice area for the kids to have a gazebo with some porch swings in it. Or some low-cost ideas brought up were painting hopscotch in the basketball court. Possibly a large swing.

6. New Business

a) Principal Report / Student Union Report – Lorna Hiemstra -see attached. Also, Lorna showed us a video "5 Moore minutes" with Shelly Moore. She is an advocate for all kids to be involved and included, no matter their skill level or mental capabilities are. Also not ever being ashamed to ask for help is a strong subject in her video. A discussion about Parent/ Teacher Interviews; Parents seem to like the group setting for convenience but think that it is very important to have one on one time with the teachers to ask questions and discuss the kids in a more private setting.

b) PHPS School Trustee Report- Jennifer Tuininga -see attached

c) Woodlands County Report – absent

d) Parent Society Report –Jenni Williams - The account balances are as follows- General Account - \$47222.68, Casino account - \$37828.08. Highway Cleanup is scheduled for May 4, 2019. Junior High is in the early stages of planning a mission trip.

e) Pre-school Report – Jenni Williams- Preschool is currently doing a hanging basket fundraiser. The final deadline is March 21,2019. Spring raffle will be cash prizes and will be starting to sell tickets around Easter. Jenni, Sandi, and Sarah Webb attended a PD session about teaching kids to play and use their imaginations.

f) Staff Appreciation- preschool was asked if they would like to make up staff appreciation baskets to be handed out at spring concert. Yes, they would do them again.

g) Open Floor for comments or concerns – A parent brought up a concern about the amount of candy that is being handed out at valentines day. Thought it would be nice if it could just be valentines without so much candy along with it.

7. Set date for next meeting – May 28, 2019 at 7:00pm

8. Meeting was adjourned at 9:07

School Trustee Report – March 19, 2019

Swan Hills teacher selected as Edwin Parr nominee

Swan Hills teacher Michelle Tran has been selected by the school board as this year's nominee for the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) **Edwin Parr Teacher Award**, which recognizes first-year teachers for their outstanding efforts. Each school board can only nominate one candidate to the zone selection committee. This year, the school board received principal recommendations for two very deserving first-year teachers for this provincial award.

School bus fly-by statistics are up 40%

It is illegal to pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing — the fine is \$543 and six demerit points. Last school year the division transportation office received a whopping **123** reports of fly-by incidents (35 in-town, 88 rural). So far in the first half of this school year, **85** fly-bys have been reported (30 in-town, 55 rural)—that's almost 40% more than last year.

Provincial proposed Policy Position Statement

This week the Board will be considering whether or not to submit a policy position statement for all provincial school boards to vote on in the fall. If successful it would then be used to advocate government to review the current law. Pembina Hills will be proposing "That the Minister of Transportation establish that school buses may operate at the same speed as the posted speed limit, as prescribed by law."

Alberta is the only province that has a transportation regulation that states that school buses can only travel 90km/h or the posted speed limit, whichever is less. This means that school buses that travel on major highways in the province could be travelling 10-20km/h slower than the moving traffic around them. It can be a safety hazard to travel lower than the posted speed limit as you are more likely to cause or be involved in a crash than a vehicle moving at a normal speed. When school buses are on roads with faster moving traffic bus drivers report that motorists perform unsafe passing maneuvers, inappropriate hand gestures, honking and expletives.

A change in regulation to allow buses to travel the posted speed limit would address safety concerns, and have a positive impact on bus ride times. For example, in Pembina Hills Public Schools when looking at data that compared what our bus ride times might look like if our buses could travel the posted speed limit we could save approximately seven hours a day off our ride times. If you multiply 7hours x 184 school days that is equal to 1,288hours in a school year! This is significant time that students can spend in other ways and in other environments.

Alberta Rural Education Symposium

I attended this conference at the beginning of March and it was great to have a mix of trustees, senior administration, principals, municipal councilors and government ministers and staff present all talking about rural issues in education and the need for community partnerships. Despite the statistics we heard on the aging population and decline in rural areas, we also heard great stories about school partnerships that connect us to one another. Small towns and schools build relationships, and this is an advantage of rural living.

Alberta School Council Association Resolutions

* ASCA member school councils have been asked to review and provide input on 21 Advocacy Resolutions submitted for consideration at the AGM, through online pre-voting by March 22, 2019. Click here to access the Advocacy Resolutions Package www.alberta.schoollcouncils.ca

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Jennifer.Tuininga@phschools.ca 780-674-6579 H, 780-284-0971 C

Principal's Report March 19, 2019

Shelley Moore update – new curriculum

Pembina Hills Grade Group Numeracy Meetings

Celebration of Learning Meetings – parent feedback

Japanese visitors

Misty Ridge Gr. 5-9; Jasper 7-9; Outdoor Afternoon K-4 with Kiselyks

Curling – Jr. High

Buddy Lunches

Video Conferences – cotton, dolphins, Glacier Bay, Polar Bears

Ian Porteous March 21

Jr. High Student's Union Conference

Bach to Beatles April 8