**Fort Assiniboine School Council - Minutes**

**Meeting Date: Wednesday May 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the library**

**Attendees:** Danielle Calahasen-Chair, Jennifer Schulte-Vice Chair, Lorna Hiemstra-Principal, Melissa Hanna-Trustee, Tiffany Rondeau

1. The meeting was call to order at 6:21 pm, as held off for the tball game.
2. **Introductions/Regrets:**
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Jennifer Schulte approved, Tiffany Rondeau seconded.
4. **Old Business**
   1. **Elections: Secretary:** Postpone to Annual General Meeting as nobody in attendance other than already holding positions or to be assumed to a position.
5. **Reports**
   1. **Parent Society: New Breakfast Program Changes**: No members in attendance tonight. No report submitted. June 3rd is the new date for highway cleanup. There are a few questions to ask about the new Breakfast Program. Who are the volunteers? Can they have their criminal record checks submitted before the end of June so they may start the first days of school.
   2. **Preschool:** Not in attendance. No report submitted.
   3. **Trustee:** A trip to Europe was presented. The 2023-2026 Education Plan has been outlined. Cameras have been trialed on busses in high fly-by zones with great success. The Spring General Meeting was held in Banff. The next Board meeting will be moved to June 24th due to a Grad occurring on the 28th.
   4. **Woodlands County:** No member in attendance. No report submitted.
   5. **Principal**
      1. **PHSD Surveys (Grade 4-12):** This year only 37 parents responded, some were from the same household. This is under a 50% response rate.Those in attendance to todays meeting reviewed all the survey responses and discussed. Overall Parents reported feeling happy with the school and happy with the safety of their children at school and on busses. Students reported feeling safe and involved with the school. The students also reported good rapport with their principal. Of note however, students reported bullying and hurtful comments on social media. We discussed as a group and will be bringing our School Safety Liason RCMP officer in to give a talk in September on this issue.
      2. **Alberta Education Surveys (Grades 4, 7, and 10):** Tabled as no results yet.
      3. **School Base Planning: Staffing changes, Grade configurations, Budget, etc…** Mission statements were started and we went through what staff have come up with so far. “Progress over Perfection”. **Staffing changes** are coming this fall. Mrs. Kiselyk is retiring early to persue other endeavors. Mr. Wyman will be transferring to another school. Hiring is in progress. **Grade configurations** for next year will be k, ½, 3, 4/5, 6/7 and 8/9. The deficit to the **budget** for the past 3 years is almost gone.

**Awards Night** will be Wed. June 14th at 6:30pm. There will be a short citizenship awards followed by legion awards and long service awards for staff. Mrs. Flemming is celebrating 30 years! There will also be a celebration for our Grade 9 grads prior to the awards ceremony.

The Fish release at Schuman Lake will be tomorrow as will an electricity competition be held for the Junior high students. Currently teachers are administering a round of testing and assessments on the students. The Bicentennial celebrations for Fort Assiniboine are kicking off with June 5-9 Pioneer Days for schools. Our students will be attending. Our school gym will be hosting dancers and drummers for the Bicentennial on July 6-9. This year is also the 50th Anniversary for the Ag Society and we can put a float in the parade again for the Aug 19th Hoe Down.

1. **New Business**
   1. **Elections:** Vice-Chair Jennifer Schulte stepped down and Tiffany Rondeau volunteered to take her place. Jennifer Schulte seconded/supported this. Welcome to Tiffany as our new Vice-Chair.
   2. **ASCA (Alberta School Council Association) Workshops to use grant money*-****Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose*. Recap of *School Council Purpose* from May 15th. At the last Webinar we attended, *School Council Purpose,* we (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Principal) unanimously decided it could be beneficial to use remaining grant money to schedule the *Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose* webinar as the information we were given was very useful and it was highly recommended. It has been booked for June 1st at 7:00pm.
   3. **ASCA (Alberta School Council Association) -Conference and Annual General Meeting April 21-23, 2023 in Edmonton.** Danielle attempted to attend some of the conference virtually, however they had technical difficulties and so refunded the money. Danielle did attend the online Annual General Meeting and voting results can be accessed on the ASCA website.
   4. **School Attendance: Health Status-When should your child stay home?** Concerns were discussed as to students attendance with perceptions “brainwashed” from Covid 19 health restrictions. Health restrictions for not attending schools for 10 days were brought forward and made public to parents and students, but then were simply removed from the division website, with no clarification given to parents and students. Our concern that our children have been “trained” to stay home for every small ailment(cough, sneeze, runny nose, sore throat, etc…) which is greatly affecting student attendance. We asked our Trustee to mention at her next board meeting. She has agreed to discuss for us.
   5. **Division Wide and Local Bussing Changes: Chosen School**

The school Division has made the decision that there will be no bussing children that are attending their school of choice over their designated school. Only students that already have changed schools will be grandfathered in. No siblings will be permitted this. For more information please see the Division Website.

School was being supervised from 8 am to 4pm which drastically affects the teaching budget. It has been decided that busses will be delayed with students not arriving at the school until 8:10 daily. Now teachers will have from 8-8:30 to prep for their days. Students will come in, hang up backpacks, put indoor shoes on, go down to breakfast window and eat in communal spaces, to enter their class and begin at 8:30. This will be starting for Kindergarten to Grade 5 on June 1st.

1. **Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting Wednesday September 20, 2023 @ 6pm**
2. **Adjournment 8:20pm.**