

Clearspring Middle School Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 3, 2015 11:45-1:00

Present: Ed, Cheryl, Fern, Jen, Merilee, Viola, Michelle, Tonya, Laura, Stacy
Regrets: Vicki
Not present: Dawn, Colleen
Guest: None

Potluck

Agenda: Called to order @ 12:12. Handed out agenda at the meeting. On the agenda it should reflect that Stacy Harder and Michelle King are on Canteen Portfolio, not just Michelle

Minutes: from last meeting need to be sent out ASAP to the PAC and Leanne Warkentin via email. **Leanne** - Viola Giesbrecht, and Cheryl Peters need to be added to the Website and email list. Could you correct Darcey's last name (Steiner)? Thanks!

School Report: 18 new microwaves are ordered and on their way from Canadian Tire. They were \$70 each, they are small but good for each class room and there was no preference to white or black chosen

This time of year is hectic and school staff is working hard at keeping routine and trying to keep things calm.

Safe School Allies we met with to see how things are going. Staff are trying to hear everyone's voice. There was a ½ day meeting at the division office. The information collected at this meeting is very eye opening and enlightening. More research needs to be done before moving on "correcting" or changing anything that was found in the initial meetings. Meeting 1 was about "What does an ideal school look like?" Highest numbers were: Lots of books (39), Laughter (73) and Welcome (51). Meeting 2 was about "Which areas need work in our school?" Highest work needed areas were: Students being calm and respectful (56), Learning-based conversation (60), Like learning (89). Discussion was had about these results. Complete results can be obtained through Cyndy Ganz or Merilee Plett.

(Side note: Technology issues going on the classrooms that was expressed at the last meeting has been looked into repeatedly over the last month. Results: technology seems to be being used in a respectful way and is not being overly used in the classrooms)

"Tell them from me" survey taken by the students revealed that the cyber bullied results were low in our area. Which matches what is seen by the principals in the school. The goal is to teach good citizenship even on technology.

HSD has reported that PAC's in Manitoba have had issues in some areas. In order to ensure that our school doesn't fall prey to people stealing our funds, a new policy will be implemented by HSD. (See Financial report update for details)

Financial Report:

Current balance is \$5,710.16. Dawn will be stepping down as treasurer at the end of the school year. Michelle King will discuss responsibilities to consider taking over this position. This would leave an opening in Canteen, plus Stacy may be considering stepping down in Canteen next year.

Update from HSD/PAC meeting via Darcy Steiner:

Expenditures: all expenditures should be made through the school so we can get the GST rebates.
Transfer of Funds and Account Balances: Three times per year, PAC's will review their account balances and transfer excess funds to their school, based on the following criteria:

| Number of students | Maximum balance |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 0-249 | \$1500 |
| 250-499 | \$2000 |
| 500-749 | \$3000 |
| \$750-999 | \$4000 |
| 1000+ | \$5000 |

The three times will be Nov. 30 (don't worry about this date this year), February 28 and May 31. Kevin Heidi would be happy to come and speak at our meetings if you have any questions regarding this and he would appreciate our feedback. Basically we just need to get to these balances periodically to keep our finances "in check".

Canteen: In January, Monday hot lunch item will switch from quesadilla to doener. There has been some communication challenges but it is being chalked up to a learning curve. Otherwise all things are going smoothly.

Fundraising coordinator: There was a \$12,000 profit from the chocolate fundraiser that the school did in fall. Fundraising option of hot lunch in the canteen is available for anyone in the school (band in particular). The new learning centre that we put in with the money from the last fundraiser still needs grass. The company is coming to "seed" now to see if it will take better. They will be doing a few test patches to figure out the best way to make the grass take.

Final Portfolios are:

Co-Chairs – Vanessa Koop & Darcy Steiner

Vice-Chair – Laura Oswald

Treasurer – Dawn Fehr

Secretary – Vicki Clayton

Canteen – Stacey Harder

Canteen – Michelle King

Fundraising – Tonya Loeppky

MAL – Colleen Watchorn, Eva Klassen, Mathilda Penner, Ann Thompson, Cheryl Peters, Viola Giesbrecht

Added item: -We will not be organizing an event at this time regarding the cell phone issue that came up in the last meeting. Follow up can be done with Ed Neufeld if necessary.

-Farewell for grade 8's is being left up to the parents

-Water filling stations are still not installed. Maybe with the Manitoba Summer Games coming here in August this will make this happen finally. Our school is the female village. But at the moment we are still waiting.

-The budget update is in the financial report (see above)

-Sensitive issues letter from a parent in Blumenort requesting how this is taught was discussed. As parents we are always allowed to see the Sensitive issues information before it is presented to our child. As it has not been addressed in over 10 years at the HSD level maybe it is time to make a request to have it reviewed again.

Newsletter item this month will be: **nothing was discussed**

Next meeting will be **Friday, January 15, 2015 11:45-1:00** in the conference room by the office.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes taken and sent by Cheryl Peters