

École Montrose School Council Meeting

Wednesday January 16, 2019 at 6:30 pm
École Montrose Library

Minutes

Meeting Chair: Dawn Moffat-McMaster

Recorder: Allison Hill

Attendance: Brenda Lefebvre, Paul Therrien, Allison Hill, Carolyne Beaudoin, Saara Bain, Johanne Kemp, Maxine Herbert, Corry Harper, JoAnn Cazakoff, Joanne

Regrets: Melanie Bayko, Paulette Kurylo

1. Call to Order and Introductions at 6:37 pm by Dawn
2. Review and Approval of Agenda motioned by Joann and seconded by Maxine
3. Review and Approval of past meeting minutes (November 21, 2018) motioned by Corry and seconded by Brenda
4. Standing Items
 - a. Principal's Report
 - January 28th to February 1st school will celebrate Literacy Week. Students asked to bring in gently used books on Jan 21st & 22nd; will then be able to pick out a book to take home as part of Literacy Week activities. Giant Scrabble game will be back. New school mascot will also be revealed this week
 - January 31st - Grade 7's will be participating in the blanket exercise during the day with a separate event that evening for the school parent community.
 - January's mental health theme is empathy
 - Student Career Convention happening on March 1st. Matt Bain, Registered Provisional Psychologist & Mental Performance Consultant in Grande Prairie will be the keynote speaker. Looking for approximately 40 people from all industries to present their respective careers and discuss how school relates. Will be followed by breakout sessions where students can have more in-depth discussions with presenters. Paul to send out additional information to share with people we think might be interested in being a presenter
 - Request for feedback from school council regarding 4 timeframes during the day. Feedback below will be presented at February staff meeting.
 - ☐ 8 – 8:15 am: supervision starts at 8, bell at 8:13 am
 - What happens when doors open early? Kids are either all in or all out to maintain supervision of everyone
 - Could doors be open longer in the morning? Question raised that sometimes students are late due to circumstances beyond their control & having to go to another door delays them further. Result -> Doors will now remain open until 8:25 am
 - ☐ 10:50 – 11:20 recess, intramurals & 11:20 – 11:50 lunch: longer stretch before a break occurs but structured this way to capture student's attention during the 'golden hours' for learning. As well, previously if an incident occurred at recess that needed to be addressed it cut into instructional time; now that recess is first, that conflict resolution occurs during lunch.

- Parents indicated that most kids were happy with or didn't notice the change
- Asked how many supervisors during breaks: one supervisor per 3 or 4 classes
- Question about what kids are watching in the classroom during breaks: is monitored to ensure its educationally and age appropriate
- Question raised about junior high classes in the morning – more intensive classes scheduled in the mornings (science, math, etc) with art, gym, etc in the afternoon; suggestion put forth that it would be nice if there was a mix of easy and hard at all times to give students a bit of a break. Paul advised this was done as early mornings is when kids are more attentive

☐ 1:20 – 1:35 pm: Elementary (K to 6) recess; allows for a short break in the afternoons for younger students

- Feedback positive

b. Chair report

- Good engagement from parents when serving hot chocolate at the Winter Carnival
- Ran out of hot chocolate about half an hour before event ended; plan to have more for next carnival
- Discussion regarding proposed travel policy changes in regards to vaccinations
 - ☐ Changed from mandatory to recommended (PLEASE CONFIRM)
 - ☐ HPV is not included as a mandatory vaccination
 - ☐ No exception policy in place for individuals that cannot be vaccinated – point made that the risks associated with travelling for these individuals would likely outweigh the benefits
 - ☐ Comment made that if you've had chicken pox or MMR you're already immune therefore why the need for vaccination – point made that getting vaccinated will not hurt a person and is a minor inconvenience
 - ☐ Schools should follow what the Centre for Disease Control recommends and not reinvent the wheel
 - ☐ Liability issues for schools are why these & other policies (i.e. Insurance) are in place

5. Old Business

Nothing to report

6. New business

- a. Trustee Report – Paulette not in attendance

7. Round Table

- a. Family paint night on February 7th, \$25 per person – put on by Leadership Group as a fundraiser for the Education Foundation (initially for trips costs but those are covered so decided to redirect fundraising efforts)
- b. Question raised about leadership group acting as lunch monitors – is working well

8. Next meeting date: Wednesday, February 20, 2019

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm