

**Horace Allen School**  
School Council Meeting  
October 26, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Teri Harrison, Catherine Graham, Jenny Wilmot, Katherine Mertz, Nicole Pearse, Leah McNeil, Paul Pichurski, Michel Collings, Pauline Beech, Becky Giesler, Myrna Dembicki, Elaine Garner, Jaime Reeve, Penny Warris, Tammy Penny

1.1 Meeting called to order at 6:35 by Teri Harrison

1-2 Additions to Agenda, information items (2-5 Report Card Descriptors)

1-3 Adoption of September Minutes, Teri motions to accept minutes, Jenny seconds, All in favor

2-1 School Budget 2010 (Elaine Garner, Hardcopy to Teri)

Will parent council need to cover additional bussing this year? It wouldn't hurt, may still need support in that regard. Happy where the budget is this year, not quite as tight, combined classes helped meeting the cost of running the school for this year. Even though class sizes are larger than what she would like, the budget worked this year.

2-2 Lockdown procedures; first lockdown went very well, kids handled it well, they sat quietly in the classroom for 10-12 minutes, Elaine went to every classroom, and jiggled the doors and kids cooperated. Kids seemed to understand procedures and handled it well. Teacher & classroom all have walky-talkies and a bag for a lockdown procedure. Sign for outside doors are made that indicate a "Lockdown Procedure" is in place. Signage will be placed if the opportunity is available. ParentLink has a bag as well, and followed along, it went well. A few areas that need to be fine-tuned. 3 drills per school year, another before Christmas holiday. Kids were great about it, and it was just before recess. Teachers job across the bathrooms if possible - do a sweep of the bathrooms. The kids know if they are in the hallway to hide in the staff bathroom or somewhere safe. If they are in the lunchroom, plan is to go to Mrs. Beech's room. If student is in the library, go to music room or another classroom along the hallway. When RCMP arrives, the list is presented and then attendance is taken. Elaine was very proud of the kids.

2

-3 2010/2011 Calendar draft. Calendar is available in Google Documents on HAS Email account. They would like input on which draft parents prefer. Draft 1A and Draft 1B, main difference is the start of the school year 6th of Sept, and Christmas break starting on a Thursday and coming back on a Tuesday. 1B has school starting on Sept 1st and Christmas break starting on the 17th and returning on the 3rd. Having a full week for Grade 1 was a long week for the kids this year, kids are distracted by Christmas, How many parents would like to start on 1B start Sept 1 (8 parents vote yes), 1A start on Sept 6 with shorter Christmas break (3 parents vote yes) biggest issue is for the High School kids for exams, Teachers will vote and take into consideration with the final decision (5 people not voting).

2-4 Thank you letter from Eryn Sawatzky, Norwex, we raised \$404.76 for our fundraiser

2-5 Report Cards division moving to Pinnacle web based program, piloted at Canyon in Pincher creek K-6, curriculum based software program. Does not effect report card, but gives more detailed reporting for child's activity in communicating student's progress, a step in right direction. As a staff has changed the headers on the report card, does not report percentages

but proficiency. Outcomes are what Alberta Learning stipulates teachers follow. Wanting to clarify the outcomes and identify the indicators. A "B" would need extra support or extra time in showing what they know in regards to a basic understanding. "NY" not achieving at Grade Level, basic concepts and skills. Instead of having a percentage of outcomes, especially for the younger grades, it helps teacher's access students. With the Pinnacle, the assessments that will be used will be available online to parents. In their portfolios the outcome needs to be noted on the page. In the spring they will be receiving some in servicing on the program. Question: As a parent, what level should a parent become involved? An E or a P is okay; a B is an indicator to contact the teacher on how to help with the outcomes. A "B" is not dismal; teachers are no longer assessing September with November work, but each concept as they learn. Now assessing in a more fair way for the kids.

3-1 Hoodies for fundraising: Michele had spoken with Chad Patrone regarding doing Hoodies as a fundraiser. As parent council we need to decide if we would like to move forward with these as Christmas presents or as a spring item? If we want them for Christmas we need to decide at this meeting. One of the options was each of the children drawing their portrait, with school logo, some parent's thought that would be really fun. Council requests the cost of the different options,

3-2 Skiing: Teri motions Parent Council will provide an unofficial and unadvertised ski scholarship fund for kids who are unable to ski due to funding issues, up to 8 children, up to the discretion of Elaine Garner who is familiar with these anonymous children and their specialized funding needs. Tammy seconds, all in favor.

4-1 School Report (Mrs. Garner)

4-2 Fundraising Report - Hoodies above in action items

4-3 Hot Lunch/Milk Program Coordinator - Last year we made a profit on Hot Lunch, the coordinators are asking that kids who never get Hot Lunch, can have Hot Lunch. They may implement a lottery for a "winner" to receive Hot Lunch.

4-4 Teacher Representative: Ms. Dembicki, on interschool collaboration day, our school hosted term plants with no attendance, Ms. Dembicki held a writing class, looked at a picture prompt and students had 10 minutes to write about picture. Same picture each time to really look at the progress that kids are making. Rubrik to look at the samples of writing to really track the progress. November 1st day children have off, district wide divisional PD day. In Nanton, the day is measuring 'what matters'. Learner profiles, response to intervention assessment with technology and journaling. Panel discussion where the focus is assessment in the classroom. Last two days involved in threat assessment training, threats in the school, beginning of the lockdown process - key message is all threats need to be taken seriously. There may be something behind them and cannot be dismissed. Procedures were not in place to handle these events when Columbine happened, now policies are in place to keep the kids safe, positive outcomes. Mike Mertz and Kevin Garet, RCMP, in area had meeting with Bonita on philosophies on developing assets in our youth and prepare a presentation to parent council, excellent workshops.

4-5 Trustee Report - tabled till next meeting

4-6 Program Committee: Lee and Sandy Pailee, \$380 plus tax for one hour of sing a longs with kids, action songs with more movement with kids, Tammy thinks kids would enjoy it but may not be the educational. Michael Mitchell does shows around Canada, \$600 p/h his program is more geared toward flag waving and Canada awareness, sends an entire kit with the materials

available. While he is performing, he will ask questions about Canada, thinks kids will enjoy it but it is pricey. He also brings disc and music for sale, and a portion of the proceeds will go to the school. He has an intense schedule travels throughout BC and AB, February is Calgary area, March and April in Alberta. Would like to contact him and bring some information to the November meeting, and analyze cost sharing. March avoid music festival week, April is fairly open. Beginning of February looks good for the artist.

4-7 Elaine is hosting excellence awards, opportunity to nominate principles and teachers for their work.

5-0 Next Meeting - Tuesday November 23, 2010 @ 6:30

6-0 Adjournment @ 8:10pm