

Willow Creek School Council

Nov. 17, 2011

Attendance: Ruth Lindquist, Randy Bohnet, Beverly McNutt, Carmelle Steel, Ellen Struthers, Loiose Nelson, Charlene Dunlop, Darryl Seguin, Stacy Seguin

Move to Approve Agenda: Louis Nelson, 2nd Carmelle Steel

Move to Adopt Minutes from last meeting: Ellen Struthers, 2nd Carmelle Steel

School Report

1. Modernization- Ward Brothers has been chosen as the general contractor for WCCHS. Asbestos abatement is expected to be done by 1st week in December.
2. Staffing- In process of interviewing candidates for a Child Youth Care Worker and a jr. high math teacher. This position will team teach grade 8 and 9's with current teachers. This also allows us to address literacy concerns in other areas by freeing up a TA to work elsewhere.
 - a. Mike Brown is filling in for Mr. Charchun as he will be on a short term medical leave.
3. New Education Act- Monday, Dec. 5th public meeting in Lethbridge to discuss and give input on revisions to School Act. Open to all but must preregister.
 - a. <http://ideas.education.alberta.ca/engagement/current-initiatives/education-act-getting-it-right>
4. School Goals
 - a. **School Spirit**
 - Mariya S. to do a 45 minutes presentation to jr. high students on goal setting
 - Student survey results were shared. Student Council will try to focus on those areas where students expressed an interest to see if this will help increase school spirit
 - Motivational speaker, Ian Tyson, will come Nov. 23 to speak to all students about handling life's challenges.
 - Regional Student Council Meeting- Dec. 9 (3 students from our Student Council will attend)
 - b. **Assessment**
 - Lorna Adrian Nov. 25/11 PD day to discuss Admin. Procedure 360
 - Pinnacle- Now using Pinnacle report cards, ie. Cumulative grading.
 - Questions was asked why so many courses show up in parent viewer. Part of answer is that each CTS module must be put into pinnacle as a separate course which could be up to 7 modules per CTS class.
 - Also some concern the modules are all over and hard to find a core class. This doesn't seem to be the norm, but that concern will be shared to see if it can be fixed.

5. **Communication & Engagement**

- Community Presentation- Bruce L. is creating a video highlighting school events to share with the community. Purpose is to engage community in school more and prepare for their involvement in next 3 year plan cycle.

6. Board Report- Charlene Dunlop

- Ward 3 vacancy due to Jim Burdett moving to BC. January 13 election
- Early Dismissal Fridays was reviewed and will be further discussed at local school councils and Regional council to determine if it is satisfying the intents for having it. Suggested that it be put on the Student Council Agenda as well.
- Kelly Hall has been elected to serve on the Zone 6 ASBA
- Regional Student Council Meeting Dec. 9
- Evergreening- Question has been asked if parents can get in on technology being used by school division. Perhaps at arms length, ie. Buy same computers for use at home. Will be examined further on what that can look like.

Council Business

7. Bylaws- A sample was shared, some suggestions made for changes to a possible School Council Bylaws. Ruth Lindquist will make changes and bring to next meeting.

8. Early Dismissal Discussion

- Are transportation costs justifiable when one school is closed and not the other? Raised question of whether bus drivers are salaried or wages on the routes.
- Required instructional hours are different for elementary than for high school resulting in the additional PD days at the elementary level. These days are provided with support from School Council.
- For the most part sports teams are not being let out early.
- Students don't want to go back to full Fridays. They felt Fridays are productive and viewed as important.
- Question asked about sharing teachers between schools. Is early dismissal necessary to do that? No, but all schools do need to be on the same schedule which is the intent of having a coordinated schedule.

9. Regional School Council- Next steps on Jamie Vollmer 'Schools Cannot Do It Alone' to be discussed. Next meeting for Regional School Council in Fort Macleod is Jan. 23rd, 2012.

Next Meeting: January 19th, 2011

Move to adjourn: Stacy Seguin