

September 15, 2020 Parent Council Meeting

Virtual Attendance: Sally Kucher, J. Hlmschoot, Sheryl Bridgeman, Jamie Holinski, Erin Jonson, Michelle Visscher, Jen Richens, Malinda Ferris, Heather Bader Kopp, Kasey Quinn, Haly Thompson, Trina Trimble, Janet Zaplotinsky

Meeting called to order by Malinda at 6:31pm

Malinda read the Acknowledgement statement

Adoption of the minutes by Jen second by Jamie

Approval of the minutes by Jen second by Trina

Voting in of New council members:

Chair: Kasey Quinn

Vice Chair: Aimee Henning

Secretay: OPEN

Treasurer: Jacklyn Cadeau

All nominated by Malinda, all in favor.

Parent at Large:

Kindergarden: OPEN

Grade 1: Heather Bader Kopp

Grade 2: Krystina Repchuk

Grade 3: OPEN

Grade 4: Trina Tremble

Grade 5: Jen Richens

Grade 6: OPEN

Grade 7: Carmen Weber

Grade 8: Jamie Holinski

Grade 9: Janet Zaplotinsky

All in favor

The parent at large job will be to reach out to the teacher and find out the best way to get their names out to parents and make themselves available if parents have concerns or something they would like brought to council.

Introductions done by everyone, who they are and what they have for children.

Malinda and Jen will reach out and connect with Kasey and Aimee to discuss the hand over of the positions.

Chair Report (Malinda):

Brought up the possibility of events happening at school, Sheryl informed us that as of right now all events are cancelled/postponed until AHS directs them otherwise.

Parents have been asking about donations and how they can help out at school. Anyone needing direction can talk to Sheryl and she will let them know how dropping off donations works and what is needed.

There will be a Playground Committee meeting on September 22 to narrow down the contractor selection to 2. The 2 final options will then be asked to present their designs and be available for questions. Parents will be invited to attend these presentations in an advisory capacity. After the presentations and receiving feedback from parents, a final selection will be made and the process can move forward.

Vice Chair(Jen):

Teachers lunch was cancelled in March. Jen will put together a list of prizes and pass along to Kasey and Aimee so they have them if/when needed. Prizes will be kept at the school.

Treasurer Report(Jacklyn):

Not present - will update next meeting

School Trustee (Sally):

See attached document

Principal Report (Sheryl):

Blueberry school Website has all the information and links about what to do when your child is sick. An email was sent home with a very easy to follow guide depending on symptoms kids are having.

When a child gets sick at school, you will be called. If you have any questions about the information given in terms of when your child can return to school please call Michelle or Sheryl.

Open discussion:

If a parent is keeping a sick child home, its great to let the school know what symptoms they have and (if known) approximately how long the student will be out for. It helps the school to be able to support the parents on their end.

Q: Do teachers have to get tested if they are showing symptoms?

Yes - the guidelines are for all students and staff

Q: What if a person waiting for their covid test results goes past the 10 days?

If a student has isolated for 10 days and is symptom free they can return to school once they have signed the affidavit to return to school

<https://www.psd70.ab.ca/documents/general/Negative%20Covid%20Declaration%20Student.pdf>

The 10 days isolation period starts on the day symptoms start.

Trina commented on virtual learning going fantastic, feeling very supported at home.

Parents can call Sheryl or Michelle if they have any questions or concerns about anything.

The school will be having virtual meet the teacher night - information has been emailed out to parents.

Blueberry school has 556 students this year - combination of in school and virtual.

Q: Why are school and division meetings not happening in person but students are able to attend school in classrooms? Classrooms are considered a cohort and there are extra precautions being taken when students can't be 6 feet apart (extra hand washing and sanitizing, all facing the same direction, masks worn when doing group work). It's essentially a

matter of what's possible and what's not in any given situation and just to do the best we can. At division meetings, it is very easy to keep attendees social distanced for a couple hours in a large space, so they do. In classrooms it is not as simple, and so they implement what precautions they can.

Q: How do students have 1 bubble (cohort) in class with siblings in other bubbles or extracurricular bubbles (cohort)? The main reason for the cohorts is to make tracing possible if there is someone with a positive covid case. When possible homeroom cohorts are being spread out.

There will be a fundraising meeting in October held by Amanda Adams to figure out what fundraising will look like this year.

Next meeting: October 19 6:30 pm (Virtual)

Meetings will continue to be virtual until further notice.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Trustee Report
September 2020
Submitted by Sally Kucher Johnson

-The board has voted for a new model for trustee remuneration.. This model provides all Trustees with equal base compensation covering their time for attending meetings and events with some modifiers for the distance of the wards from the Centre for Education, and the positions of Board Chair and Vice Chair. It also eliminates the variable per diem payments for attending school division events and the reimbursement of travel charges for travel within the division. These changes will limit the time and effort of submitting, approving, paying and reporting on the individual events that were paid through per diems and mileage under the old model.

-Last June there was a motion on the floor for a 40% reduction of Trustee remuneration that was voted down and next month there will be another motion on the floor for a 20% reduction in Trustee remuneration.

-Board has just learned recently that we will be receiving 4 million of federal funding. The funding will address COVID-related costs in areas such as:
PPE and supplies (eg: hand sanitizer, face shields, desk shields, masks, cleaning supplies...) and additional cleaning staff and supporting online learning (Option 2 students).

-As previously determined at the Board's Organizational Meeting in June by acclamation, both Board Chair, Lorraine Stewart, and Vice Chair, Eric Cameron, remain in those same roles for the 2020-2021 school year.

-The Board received as information the 2020 Facilities Services Summer Work Report. Blueberry had security upgrades, camera upgrades, lights with LEDs, hallway flooring, and management system.

-The Board received as information the Human Resources Department report. We have been able to hire back all our support staff.