

Whycocomagh Education Centre School Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2017

Present: Val MacEachern, Anna Solomon, Jason Bernard, Jenn Power, Colleen Smith, Fiona MacEachern, Eryn Sinclair, Donna MacInnis, Bev Ehler, Joanne Ellis, Shelley MacLean, Norma Gould

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Agenda – Moved by Bev, Seconded by Bev
3. Approval of Previous Minutes - Moved by Val, Seconded by Bev
4. Business from Previous Minutes:

Fundraising:

- a. Consideration of whether to do Tupperware fundraiser again this year.
- b. Suggestion to contact a rep. re. Norwex cleaning products – could be done as a ‘spring cleaning’ fundraiser.
- c. Cookie dough fundraiser (Bonte) – need to look into whether there are products that work within the food policy.
- d. Gift Card fundraiser to be investigated. Colleen and Shelley will look into this.
- e. Calendar going in for printing October 1st. They should be ready by November 1st for distribution before Christmas. Sales are very good this year. Photo needed by Sept. 26th.
- f. Cookbooks will be done this fall. Danielle is waiting for the new package and will then send information out to families. Recipes to be collected before next meeting.

5. Council Members – selection of new members

Membership needs to consist of – 4 parents, 2 teachers, 1 support staff, community representative, non-voting member, students’ council representatives.

Election of officers:

- Joanne to step down as Chair. No chair to step in at this point.
- Jenn Power to continue as voting parent
- Jason Bernard added as voting parent
- Patrick Austin added as voting parent
- Bev Ehler added as voting parent
- Val MacEachern to continue as the community representative

6. Council By-laws and Letter of Agreement – reviewed

- Meetings will take place the third Monday of each month at 6:00 pm.

7. Special reports or presentations

- i) Principal's Report
 - (a) WEC staff 2017

Staff 2017-2018

P/1 – Carrie LeBlanc
1/2 – Lisa MacNeil
3 – Debbie MacKay/Eryn Sinclair
4/5 A – Vicky MacLellan
4/5 B– Kim Gillis
6 – Connie Jordan (+ FST)
7 – Shelly Campbell (+ Gaelic, Tech Ed)
8 – Rick Welton
PE/Health - Lori Shaw
Music –Peter MacInnis
Art and Mi'kmaq Language – Miranda Gould
Math Intervention/Math Mentor – Jesslyn Petrie-MacDonald
Resource –Debbie MacKay/Betsy Jardine
Literacy Mentor – Betsy Jardine
YSF – Suzanne Spears
Reading Recovery – Eryn Sinclair

Library Tech – Colleen Smith
Secretary – Sadie Fee
Building Technician – James Shaw
Cleaner – Janice Bustin
Cleaner – TBD
Teacher Assistant – Cara MacDonald
Teacher Assistant – Amy Leon
Teacher Assistant – Donna MacInnis
Teacher Assistant – Ashley MacLean
Teacher Assistant – Crystal Durling
Bus Driver – Carl Campbell
Bus Driver – Arthur Ehler
Bus Driver – Randy Ehler
Bus Driver – Ken Hunter
Bus Driver – Don Mac Neil
Bus Driver – Tanya MacDonald
Cafeteria - Anne Marie MacKinnon

- New mentor positions – We have both a math mentor and a literacy mentor who work in the classroom with students and teachers to increase student achievement.

(b) Safe Arrival Process

- Families need to call the school if their child will be absent.
- If a call is not received and the student has not arrived by 9:30 am then a phone call will be made home to ensure safety.

(c) Change in Daily schedule

- Lunch needs to be 40 minutes (increased from 30 minutes last year). The school day begins at 8:25, the same as last year. The end of the day bell goes 5 minutes later at 2:25 and buses leave at 2:30.

8. School Improvement – 3 goals continued from last year

- a. Restorative Approaches – use of circles for both teaching and classroom discussion
- b. Math – students demonstrating understanding of strategies when problem solving.
- c. Literacy – organization in writing

9. Events at the School

- a. Stand up Against Bullying Day – Students met in the gym to recite the Anti-bullying pledge and to take part in scenarios to understand bullying and positive behaviours. Students were seated in an inner P-3 circle and an outer 4-8 circle. They then partnered in younger/older student pairs to walk the track and get to know one another.
- b. Welcome Back to School Breakfast – Wednesday. Hosted by A.A. Munro for all students.
- c. Terry Fox Walk – Thursday, September 28 down Stoney Point Rd. in Orangedale.
- d. Grade 7 and 8 Gaelic language class – Highland Village
- e. Provincial Assessments – Grade 6 coming up in October
- f. Celtic Colours concert in the school – October

10. New Business

- a. Playground:
 - Natural Playground elements are a possibility
 - Shelley will look into guidelines that need to be followed.
 - Items for a natural playground could be gathered from....Patrick Austin, Adam and Cathy Kennedy, Home Hardware, Kent.
 - Look into Canada 150 funds available.
- b. List to go home re. a breakfast item that each class can bring in for the Breakfast Program.
- c. Weekend backpack program to continue with food being collected at the Christmas parade.

- d. Lice – No head checks. Board policy was discussed re sending students home during the day when live lice is noticed.
- e. Grade 8 graduation – discussion about whether students can fundraise for an overnight event. Admin will discuss. According to travel policy there needs to be a teacher along on the trip. Important to ensure that all students can participate in the events that are planned.
- f. Flouride will begin by the end of the month.

11. Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Val MacEachern. Seconded by Colleen Smith.

Next meeting – October 16 at 6:00 pm. 3rd Monday of the month