

School Council  
G.W.Smith School  
7:00pm Tuesday, March 21, 2017

The School Council is an advisory council to the school Principal and the elected board of trustees with respects to matters pertaining to the school.

Attendees: Kelley Lund, Shelley Odishaw, Krista Neidert, Julia Ibanescu, Wendy Fath, Candice Bowie, Audra Garnett, Alysia Dyjur, Rachel Geistlinger, Loraie Couchman, Karen Gervais, and Diana Kuszniir

***Celebrations - Principal's Report***

- please see attached report

**1. Approval of the minutes**

Krista made a motion to approve the minutes. 2nd by Rachel. Motion carried.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Krista made motion to approve agenda. Rachel to 2nd. Motion carried.

**3. Committee Reports**

a) Treasurer

The grand total is currently \$21 552.21. Please note that due to prior commitments available funds are limited.

b) Hot Lunch

Hot Lunch continues to do well. Loraie may arrange Hot Lunch for four of the last five days of June.

c). Social Committee

Spring Hop-The event is slated for May 5th from 6-8pm. The theme will be Canada and families will be encouraged to wear Red and White. A DJ has been booked for the event.

**4. Business arising from the minutes**

a. Cross Country Skis update

The event went well. Six families utilized the program and \$60 was earned. Several families were able to bring attention to issues with the adult skis which are not utilized as often by the school.

b. ASCA Resolutions

(sorry Shelley - I came in as this was wrapping up)

c. CARC Math Seminar

The CARC seminar is now being planned with Shelley from CARC. The date has been set for April 20th at likely 6:30pm. There is still some planning needed for the event. Children may be able to attend as well.

#### d. City Wide

City Wide was held at Gateway Christian School on March 7. The School Resource Officer Program spoke of utilizing the RCMP in schools program. For the upcoming Canada Winter Games in 2019, schools may live stream the opening ceremonies in the gyms and welcome families. Volunteers are needed to assist with planning a forum prior to the October election of school trustees. The next city wide is scheduled for May 9th in WestPark with Bryan St.Germain slated to speak.

City Wide discussed the possibility of changing Teacher Professional Development days from 1 day a month to early dismissal every Monday(70 minutes). The early dismissal would allow for weekly staff meetings at the school. Council expressed some concerns with parents arranging childcare with the different time.

### **5. New Business**

#### a. FNMI Acknowledgment

The following statement is being utilized at various school events across the Red Deer School District including Assemblies and City Wide meetings:

“We acknowledge that we are on Treaty Six territory to the North of the Red Deer River and Treaty Seven territory to the South of the Red Deer River. We acknowledge and give thanks to all the many First Nations, Metis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.”

Candice B. makes a motion that the above statement be included at the top of the G.W.Smith School Council Agenda. 2nd by Krista. Motion carried.

Please note that FNMI refers to First Nation, Metis and Inuit.

#### b. Possible Residencies

Audra spoke of two possible residencies that she has researched thus far and that she will be seeking a grant through the Allied Applied Art Council.

##### 1. Dance Play

Dance Play is a week long stay of a dance company where each class will be taught movements/dance. There would be a wrap up event at the end. The cost is \$2400.

##### 2. Young Rembrandt's

This program is Art based. The program can either run for a day or the entire week. The company would instruct the children and over the week complete multiple projects. The cost is \$600 for the day or \$2600 for the week.

Audra expects to find out by the end of June if the school has received a grant to have a Residency next year. The goal is to have the Residency during Education Week next June if possible. Ideally, the school would be able to have a combination of the Residences.

#### c. Spending Motion Review

Last month, School Council voted to provide \$400 to each classroom participating, to a maximum of \$5600, to purchase Speciality Classroom Items. Speciality Items included Rocker Chairs, Standing Desks, and Wiggle Seats.

Concerns were brought forth by several parents after the School Council's recent decision. Prior fundraising forms noted that any funds raised would be utilized toward field trips, fine arts, physical education equipment and/or presenters. It was felt that purchasing the speciality classroom items did not fall into any of the categories.

Rachel makes a motion to revisit the decision to spend up to \$5600 on Speciality Classroom Items. Wendy to 2nd. All in favour and motion carried.

A general discussion ensued. The Red Deer School District does not have a policy on what the Council can and can not purchase. However, the Council must be clear to families what the purpose of any fundraising is and what the funds will be spent on. Thus, in order to be transparent, if money is raised for a specific purpose it must be spent on that. Thus, any money previously raised should be spent on field trips, fine arts, physical education and/or presentations. It is also noted that although School Council may decide to spend money on a particular item, it must be in conjunction with the Principal and Administration.

Kelley indicated that she would be willing to use her budget to purchase the Speciality Classroom Items.

Julia made a motion to rescind the motion regarding School Council's commitment to purchasing up to \$5600 on Speciality Classroom Items. 2nd by Candice B. Loraie and Krista abstained. Motion Carried.

During the previous meeting, School Council also committed funds to the sound system. It was discussed that the sound system was utilized by Grade 5's, for fine arts, presenters and assemblies which was in line with the prior fundraising statements.

#### d. 1-2 year fundraising plan

Moving forward, we must be clear in any fundraising event where any funds raised will be allocated towards. For example, such as 80% toward a large project and 20% toward purchasing fine art supplies.

Wendy motions that Candice P and Shelley further investigate the information we want to forward to G.W.Smith families in terms of fundraising. Julia 2nd. The motion carries.

It was discussed that more families need to be engaged in brainstorming ideas to help enrich our students experiences at school. At the Spring Hop we may have a box seeking ideas and potentially a prize. School Council will seek more ideas from families prior to making any decisions regarding past and future funds.

e. Teacher Appreciation

Teacher Appreciation Week is slated for the first week in May.

## 6. Adjournment

Adjourned at 9:10

Next Meeting: 7:00pm, Tuesday, April 25, 2017

## G.W. Smith School Council Principal's Report – March 21, 2017

### • Michael Mitchell was Fantastic! Thank you School Council!

- GWS Parent CARC Math Workshop w/Cathy Coers - April 20 @ 6:30
- Sea Can & Snowblower - Looking into acquiring for next year
- GWS Cold Weather Protocol - GWS has a Weather Station in the office. The temperature is often different than reported on Environment Canada. Students stay in if the temperature is colder than -20.
- Grade 5 Basketball - Completed Season with Tournament & game vs. Staff
- Sign Language Club - Ms. Garnett & Mrs. Snyder
- Mar. 13 Dr. John Ratey (Author - Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain) - thought provoking presentation
- Grade 9 Leadership Students from HHHS working with 35 Gr. 2 students once a week until June
- Grade 4 students visiting ALG - Cree Storyteller Presentation



- Looking forward to Student Led Conferences (Scholastic Book Fair)
- Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Registration continues

Upcoming Events

- *March 23 Student Led Conferences 1-8pm - No school for students*
- *March 24 District PD—No school students*
- *March 27-31 Spring Break*
- *April 3 Back to School / April Newsletter*
- *April 13 Staff Learning Day - No School for Students*
- *April 14-17 Easter Weekend*
- *April 20 Parent Math Workshop w/Cathy Coers - 6:30pm*
- *April 25 Author Presentation - Tyler Enfield (Hannah and the Magic Eye)*
- *April 25 School Council Meeting 7:00pm*

