

## G.W. Smith School Council Meeting

Agenda (Draft) – May 18, 2021

7:00 p.m. Virtual

\* indicates written report/attachment provided

1. Call to order: 7:04
2. Attendance
  - Parents: Jonas Neidert, James Wright, Rachel Geistlinger, Alicia Brown, Jen Anderson, Greg Williamson, Ayumi Romans ,
  - Staff: Jason Moline
  - Others: Nicole Buchanan
3. Review of the Agenda
  - Motion:** James made motion to accept motion as presented.
  - Action:** passed by consensus
4. Approval of the Minutes (draft) - April 20, 2021\*, as presented (OR as amended)
  - Motion: James made the motion to approve previous minutes as presented
  - Action: Passed by consensus
5. Financial Report\*: Treasurer - Jonas
  - a. Financial Transactions / Status to date
    - i. \$9777.89 in our account
  - b. Financial Allocations Outstanding
    - Motion:** Jonas made motion to approve the financial statement as presented. James seconded
    - Action:** passed unanimously by consensus
6. Trustee Report - Nicole Buchanan
  - a. Welcome Nicole!
    - i. Advocated to the government that the timing is not right for the upcoming curriculum. Government has said that they will be rolling out the new curriculum fall 2022.
    - ii. Passed the spring budget. Deficit of 4 million dollars. After RDPSD uses reserves to pay deficit it will be left with 5.6 million dollars. Typically leave 4% in reserves.
    - iii. 1 million dollars set aside for recovering
    - iv. school fees will not be implementing any additional school fees.
    - v. Also opted to put money aside for at home learning. It will still be offered but do not know at what capacity.
    - vi. 250,000 aside to prepare staff for 2022/23 school year new curriculum.
    - vii. Feedback for curriculum.
    - viii. Huge thankyou to staff and students for the transition to online learning and for everything the entire year.
7. Committee Reports
  - a. Hot Lunch Committee – Chair: Ayumi, Chelsea, Tanya
    - i. no updates
  - b. Committees / Volunteers – James
    - i. Fundraising Committee - Tanya, Jenn
      1. Update?
    - ii. City Wide School Council Representative - James (my notes on the information presented, below)
      1. May 11, 2021 update.
        - a. Presentation on Aspen Heights.
        - b. COVID Update
        - c. Ed Plan Draft

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- i. Three year plan
      - ii. Student success & completion, equity, literacy & numeracy
        - 1. "Through-line Outcome: All learners are supported in their academic, behavioural, social and emotional well-being."
    - d. New Curriculum (Red Deer Public will not pilot this curriculum. The focus will be on recovery. The following is just my summary of what was presented.)
      - i. Summary: Lots of good things, but many, many concerns. Very prescriptive. Indigenous content is going backwards compared to what is taught in Red Deer Public. Eurocentric. Each section is not as coordinated as it should be.
        - 1. Added financial literacy throughout many grades and subjects. This has been asked for by our district for a long time.
      - ii. Math
        - 1. Introduction to fractions starting in grade 1
        - 2. A long list of concerns from grades 3 and above
      - iii. Science
      - iv. Social Studies
        - 1. Religious Studies added to Grade 2 and Grade 6
        - 2. Lots of American content and terminology
        - 3. Eurocentric and Christian centric views
        - 4. Indigenous content removed from grade 2
      - v. English Language Arts
        - 1. Not developmentally appropriate for K, 1, 4 and 5.
    - e. Valuing Mental Health
      - i. Part 4 is to train all parents in mental health literacy. This is something we could do as a parent group.
  - iii. Policy Committee - Aaron, James
    - 1. No update
  - iv. ASCA Survey Committee - James, Alysia, Jonas
    - 1. No update.
8. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - a. No business.
9. New Business
  - a. Teacher appreciation - Tanya/ Jen presented on her behalf.
    - June 14-18th week. Would a day work better. Can we ask for \$600 to spend for the teacher?
    - Motion: Jen made a motion to request \$600 to spend on teacher appreciation day. James seconded
    - Action: passed unanimously by consensus
  - b. GW Smith School Ed Plan (2021-2022 to 2023-2024)
    - Recovery is the big plan for next year. Emotionally, mentally, socially as well as academically.
    - Equity
    - Mental health initiative
    - Performance measures through surveys
    - Students success and completion- build strong foundation and support all of our learners.
    - Focus on our values of RDPSD. 6 core values.

Feedback: It will be posted on the website soon.

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c. Next Year's Council

- i. Please think about running for Executive Positions. Possibly September 14th as the AGM.

10. Principal's Report – Principal: Jason Moline

- i. Thankful for all the parents and staff. Students have adapted very well but they are tired. Positive feedback has been felt around the district as well.
- ii. Spring activities- still waiting to hear what that can look like. Grade 5 farewell?
- iii. Language arts and Math are the big blocks for next year.
- iv. Thanks for the school council group and for coming monthly to show support.

11. Next Meeting(s) - James

- a. AGM September 14th, 7:00 P.M. virtually
  - i. Feel free to contact us via email ([gws-schoolcouncil@rdpsd.ab.ca](mailto:gws-schoolcouncil@rdpsd.ab.ca)) or by chat.

12. Adjourn- 7:45pm

Motion: James made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Action: Passed by consensus.