

Minutes of the EVA ACSL, September 10, 2012

Attendees:

Neil Arnason, Annette Bonneteau, Carla Brenan, Barbara Cahoon, Suzanne Campeau, Rachel Donner, Marcia Fonseca, Kim Huebner, Jason Mattikka, Kevin Olfer, Robyn Olfer, Cori-Lee Paterson, Karine Rioux, Debbian Robb, Carol Steel, Judy Steverns, Peter Ward,

Regrets:

Chris Lepa

1. Introductions:

- a. Approval of agenda: motion to approve, CS, 2nd KH;
 - Addition of item under New Business: Violent Incident Report
 - Motion carried
- b. Approval of minutes from June 2012: motion to approve, ??; 2nd KO; carried

Chair's remarks (NA):

- Pleased to chair this year;
- Will keep meetings to 90 minutes;
- Discussion of expectations of executive members;
- Nomination of PW as co-chair; motion to nominate, CS, 2nd; AB, carried;
- Other non-executive positions to be filled:
 - i) Pizza Day coordinator: KO and RO have volunteered; welcome and thank you;
 - ii) Website maintenance: Neil to try to find someone.

2. Matters arising (old business) (NA):

- Minutes from September – mission statement? Hand out at Open House or post it on website instead to be more environmentally friendly?
- Neil will try to find the Word doc.
- Electronic media in the classroom: meeting held on June 23, 2012; was well-attended, with good discussions; procedures/policies to be revisited

3. Regular Reports:

- a. Good News Sharing

- First week was exciting;
- New classmates from St. Avila;
- Positive feedback from Grade 5 students;
- Students are excited about new computers in the classroom.

b. Principal's Report (KR):

- What a terrific start! We started off the year with a fantastic staff meeting where everyone felt reenergized and inspired. We viewed *Bring on the Revolution*, presented by Sir Ken Robinson at http://www.ted.com/talks/sir_ken_robinson_bring_on_the_revolution.html. Graham Bruce, our assistant superintendent, presented the provincial report cards. We will be having three of these as of this year in PTSD, in December, March and June. More information will follow on behalf of Pembina Trails School Division. You may find out more information through the following website: http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/docs/report_card/full_doc.pdf
- We are continuing to provide students in grades 5 and 6 outdoor recess which continues being a success.
- We are so happy with Red-Lake Construction's renovations which will enhance our community's spirit. PTSD continues to support us in many ways and we are very thankful for this support.
- News from the Music program: Students will continue carefully placing their instruments in the music room.
- News from the Art program in grade 8: Since there are many students in this class, we have two teachers who are teaching this curriculum.
- Co-teaching: Teachers are happy to be co-teaching with one another this year. These include Mitch Friesen (grade 8 art), Ron Monin (technology and at risk students), Elena Joffrin (some grade 8 periods with Chantal Lavergne) and Eric Bissonnette. Teachers are encouraged to collaborate with one another, plan together and visit each other's classrooms.
- We are continuing building community by creating a positive school culture with celebrations. Our first one took place with an informal assembly on the very first day of school. We reviewed our mission statement, school beliefs and bottom lines .
- We are proud to announce that we have a completely new Student Support Team whose main focus will be to work in classrooms.
- Upcoming PD for staff: Next week, Sue Hjalmarson, PTSD's Literacy consultant, will be coming at ÉVA for personalized sessions with the teaching staff in order to better prepare them for Strong Beginnings. Together, we will be reviewing our assessment practices. Staff will continue receiving on-going support throughout the year. Also, staff

are encouraged to visit schools in order to better support quality teaching and 21st century classrooms.

- On October 1-3, 2012, Karine will be in Gimli at a Pembina Trails Leadership Community (PTLC) conference where we will be focusing on *Realization, The Change Imperative for Deepening District-Wide Reform*, by Lyn Sharratt and Michael Fullan.
- Parent Survey: You are invited to please complete a very short and simple online survey located on our school's website to help us place an order for our corn roast. Would you please complete this by **September 11th at 3:20**? Thank you.
- Every classroom will now have a learning centre with four computers and one iPad, which will remain in classrooms and be closely monitored by our teaching staff. This is an opportunity to improve our teaching practices in a controlled setting to enhance student engagement and the 21st century classroom, which is part of PTSD's expectations located at the following link:
<http://www.pembinatrails.ca/generalinfo/index.html> .
- The computer labs are being dismantled as part of this vision; we now have a portable computer lab with about 30 computers;
- The iPads run Apple's OS; the desktops are PCs;
- A committee has been struck to examine a trip for the Grade 8s to Quebec in June 2013;
- Walk-a-thon: a survey will be on the school website to let parents, staff and students decide where to spend the proceeds;
- Have a great school year!
- Parents are very appreciative of the approach the school is taking with regards to literacy and things like the social contracts (KO).

c. Treasurer's Report (CL via email):

- ACSL account balance is \$3890.40;
- There is a check for expenses incurred by Sheila Mitchell-Dueck for Milk Spirit Week, Open House, and Staff Meetings from 2011/12; new co-signers must be set up at the bank;
- Cal Dueck to be removed; PW and NA to be added, CS to remain. Motion for adjustments to signing authority, NA; 2nd RD; carried.
- PW, CL and NA to prepare a budget for next meeting.

d. School Grounds Transformation (CS):

- Next meeting Tues., Sept. 18, 7 pm in EVA library; all are welcome;
- The path and berm were completed at the end of June;
- The committee's first fundraiser – Farm to School – will happen at the end of September for delivery by Thanksgiving.

e. Lunch Program (RD):

- Students now eating in multi-purpose room; this has taken some work to fine-tune but it is coming along;
- Students and supervisors are working hard learning the new routines and expectations;
- Parent feedback re: long wait for microwaves (MF or was this KH?); a request has been submitted to have more breakers installed in the room so we can operate more microwaves at once (KR); in the meantime a request will go out to parents for lunches that require little-to-no heating up as well as a request not to send microwave popcorn in lunches as it creates quite a mess (RD);
- Suggestion to incorporate what constitutes a healthy lunch into health and cooking curriculums (KO).

f. Milk Program (AB):

- Will be set up and running Monday, September 17.
- For the time being, milk will be delivered to each classroom by a lunch supervisor and handed out by the teachers.

4. New Business:

a. Meeting Dates:

- Oct. 15
- Nov. 12
- Dec. 10
- Jan. 14
- Feb. 11
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13
- June 3

b. Plans for fundraising and special events 2012-2013:

- ACSL will continue to run programs that provide steady revenue (milk, pizza day), but not fundraising.
- Special events that are likely to continue: Pancake Breakfast, Open House, Community Night.
- Suggestion to send a survey to parents/students requesting ideas of other special events (CB)

c. PTSD Violent Incident Report:

- Whenever PTSD makes changes to its policies, it must make all parent councils aware; this is the policy surrounding reporting a violent incident at a school;
- The language in this policy has been strengthened to includes works like “must” instead of “should” in directing staff on how to proceed; reporting also has been made electronic rather than paper.

Motion to adjourn by CS; 2nd CB; carried.