

EVA ACSL Meeting, September 13, 2010 Minutes

Attendees:

Rachel Donner, Carol Steel, Shirley Zaporzan, Gail McIntosh, Carla Williams, Brady Gill, Peter Ward, Helen L. Friesen, Sheryl Hague, Janet Lucas, Carla Brenan, Susan Kuz, Pam Warkentin, Janice Steadman, Fred Nash, Sheila Mitchell-Dueck, Kathleen Tomy, Signy Kuch, Kim Pepler, Edith Samuels, Cal Dueck, Patti Gair, Julien Allard, Caroline Mehra

Regrets:

None

1. Introductions:

- Call to order at 7:05; great to see such a large turnout; welcome Cal Dueck as chair.
 - a) Request to add tree banding to agenda; added to item 4 c);
 - b) Motion to accept agenda with one change by R. Donner; 2nd GM; carried.
 - c) Motion to approve June minutes by XX; 2nd by P. Warkentin; carried. Confirmation of Rachel Donner and Carla Brenan as co-secretaries; all in favour.

2. Regular Reports:

a) Principal's Report, J. Allard:

Fort Gary Childcare Centre has integrated well.

Staffing:

- Mme Pepler (grade 5) has agreed to join us at PAC.
- Mme Danyluk has had a reduction in time; new hire is for 5/6 gym is Kathryn Fenny (does not speak French); she also works at Chapman;
- Mme Hébert (resource) has accepted a promotion at the school board office; we have made a first round for the posting; we are now doing a second round that includes newspaper advertisements;
- Mme Baum (EA) took a position at another school; new hire is Danielle Mailhot;
- Other new EAs: Patrick Binne, Valerie Armstrong.
- Mme Patenaude replaced Mme Davis (grade 5/6 music);
- Mme Davies (grade 9) will be back in January (her position is being filled by M. Beaudoin);
- We have almost a full slate of supervisors for the lunch program.

Good entry or start:

- We have 322 students: two classes of 28 in grade 5; two classes of 24 in grade 6; three classes of 26,28,28 in grade 7 (math students are separated into four groups, enrichment being offered); three classes in grade 8 of 24,23,23; three in grade 9, 22,22,21.

Events:

- Meet the teacher Sept. 16; on the same day there will be an assembly of sorts to test transition and to present the adults in the school to the students; Corn roast at 16H30 as part of meet the teacher.
- Leadership is creating a bird's eye view of the year (teacher in charge this year is Mme Marriott);
- Volleyball is beginning (coaches are in place);
- Strong Beginnings 24 and 27th, no school fro grades 5 to 7;
- Picture day is October 1st.

Staff Committees

- Staff will be forming committees to examine student-lead conferences (based on parent feedback), student portfolios, as well as the various transitions going on in the school: grade 5 intake, transition from grade 6 to 7, losing the grade 9s, 2011 grade 8s moving to Massey in 2012
- Request for leadership's activity overview to be presented to council (FN);
- Could the grade 8s have access to leadership course (J. Steadman)?; **Action:** JA to as Mme Marriott to assess how that might work, as the course will disappear with the grade 9s next year.

Student Voice:

- Student voice (e.g. student council) not possible this year (2010-2011);

b) Chairperson's Report, C. Dueck:

- Nothing to report

c) Financial Report, E. Samuels:

- Computer virus at home meant no paper copies of financial statements to hand out;
- Outstanding receivables are \$500 from milk program; C. Steel recalls it being more like \$190. ES will check.
- Council has about \$3,000 to spend this year, which is less than in previous years, but that's because the council had earmarked funds in past years which have been paid out;
- Key expenditures are: pancake breakfast (\$300-\$400), teacher appreciation (\$500), awards (\$500) and other miscellaneous (\$1,600); please note all figures are approximations.

d) Milk Program, C. Steel:

- Motion by J. Lucas; to increase the price of white milk to \$.65 and chocolate milk to \$.70/carton; increase should cover the remaining balance owing council on the fridge and NSF cheque charges; 2nd by C. Brennan; carried.

e) Lunch Program, R. Donner

- Year is off to a good start;
- Still short-staffed by two;

- Clarification of policy for grade 7 students: they may not leave the school grounds unless they have a permission note from a parent and are accompanied by an adult; discussion of possibly moving to a closed campus next year once grade 9s are gone.

f) Pizza Lunches, F. Nash

- Leadership students would like to do the lunches; **Action:** FN will liaise with them Mme Marriott and hand off the job;
- FN to focus on Booster Juice; he would like to offer it every three to four weeks, with pizza once a month;
- Discussion of whether order forms could go out electronically and whether the dates could be set up and orders placed in advance (S. Mitchell-Dueck); yes to both. **Action:** FN to make that happen with Heather Poirier.

g) Lunch Lady, G. McIntosh

- Lunch Lady hot lunches will be offered once a month, on the second Friday of each month, beginning October 8;
- on-line ordering will be available with the November order;
- menu options change monthly;
- the company has had to increase their prices slightly, which reduces the school's profit to \$.75/meal from \$1/meal.

3. New Business

a) New Committees

i. VMC Grade 9 Transition:

- J. Steadman, P. Gair to form committee that will meet independently, study the relevant issues and report to council with recommendations. Committee to include student, faculty and parent representatives and will work with Vincent Massey Collegiate's corresponding committee. **Action:** JS and PG to be in touch contact at VMC.

ii. Viscount Transition to Middle School:

- Discussion of how to give grade 5 and 6 students more leadership opportunities at EVA (CS);
- Discussion of how to make EVA a school of preference; 20 grade 6 students from St. Avila did not come to EVA for grade 7 this year because of transportation issues (S.M-D);
- CS, GM and S. Mitchell-Dueck (in November) to form committee that will meet independently, study the relevant issues and report to council with recommendations.
- J. Allard recommended capping committees to eight members.

iii) Parent Survey:

- ES, PW and J. Lucas to form a committee to analyze and make recommendations on information gathered from the survey sent out in June 2010.

b) Clubs

- Request to parents should go out at the end of September; **Action:** RD to send out request and coordinate responses;

- JA advised he will once again designate two teachers to supervise the gym during the second half of the lunch hour from November until Spring Break (March 2011).

4. Old Business

a) Meet the Teacher, September 16

- Discussion of parent council presence at the event (all); **Action:** JA to include a list of future ACSL meeting dates in the power point presentation that will be running continuously throughout the event;
- Discussion of schwag for parents to take home with the meeting dates on it (pens, fridge magnets, etc.) (S. Zaporzan).

b) Staff Appreciation:

- the inexpensive yoga teacher sourced by CS last year is now only available Fridays; agreement that Fridays aren't a great day to offer something to staff after dismissal; another teacher could be sourced for another day during the week but likely would be more expensive;
- discussion of available grants to offset cost (K. Pepler);
- might be a good idea for teacher appreciation week (S. Hague);
- can we increase fundraising to address extra cost? (FN); only by fundraising for it (ES);
- item tabled until next meeting pending more research.

c) Tree Planting and Banding:

- Discussion of need to replace dead/dying trees (FN);
- Provincial government giving away free poplars (CD);
- Idea floated from last year to plant one tree for each incoming class (CS);
- **Action:** FN and S. Kuch to research ideas for new trees;
- The school supplies the supplies for tree banding; council supplies the labour (ES);
- **Action:** RD to call one parent she knows of who might be able to lead a team of tree banders; there is some urgency to this as it must be done before the first frost.

5. Meeting Schedule:

- Changes: October meeting will now be October 12th; February meeting will now be February 15, 2011.

6. Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm by GM; 2nd by CS; carried.