

Parent Council of River Heights Elementary School
Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2020

Attendance: Tara Betts, Katie Albers, Taneill Selinger, Kim McDowall, Megan Loran, Dawn Austin, Tanis Richter, Kathleen Longpre, Karla Tweten, Megan Cross, Wes King-Hunter, Carolyn Freeman, Bryan Jeal, Jennifer Remai, Karen Rombough, Larissa Kowalchuk

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.
2. Town Hall Meeting - Carolyn Freeman
Although the provincial budget has not yet been posted, the Medicine Hat Public School District is anticipating a budget shortfall of approximately \$4,000,000 for the 2020/2021 school year. Carolyn outlined the budgeting framework used by the district and indicated the MHPSD is looking for input from stakeholders regarding priorities. Those present broke into groups for discussion and feedback was provided directly to the district via online questionnaire.
3. Adopt Minutes: Tara Betts asked if there was anyone present who had read and was able to adopt the minutes from the Parent Council meeting on December 4, 2019. The minutes were adopted by Kathleen Longpre and seconded by Wes King-Hunter.
4. Reports from school and council:
 - a. School Administration Team - Wes King-Hunter and Laura Gale
 - i. Event Calendar
 1. Thur. Feb 6 -- Application Day for Early Childhood Programs & On-line Registration
 2. Kindergarten (K), Early Learning Program (ELP), Play & Learn Program - PowerSchool Parent Portal
 3. Thur. Feb 6 -- Explore-Create-Reflect SHOWCASE (2:00-3:00 pm)
 4. Fri. Feb 7 -- No School - Staff Meeting and Professional Learning Day for teachers
 5. Thur. Feb 13 -- Come Alive Assembly with Alex Zerbe (courtesy of Parent Council)
 6. Fri. Feb 14. -- Kinsmen Skate-A-Thon
 7. Mon. Feb. 17 -- No School -- Happy Family Day!
 8. Tues. Feb. 18 -- No School
 9. Wed. Feb. 19 -- No School
 10. Thurs. Feb. 20 -- No School -- Teachers' Convention
 11. Fri. Feb. 21 -- No School -- Teachers' Convention
 - b. Report from Co-Chairs - Katie Albers and Taneill Selinger

- i. Babysitting/Stay at Home - The Stay at Home course will be held on March 20, with the Babysitting Course on March 21. More information to follow.
 - ii. Staff appreciation - The preliminary dates for staff appreciation week will be Mar 30-Apr 2, with David Chow to chair the same.
 - iii. Spring Dance - As a replacement for movie night, a spring dance has been scheduled for Friday, May 8th.
 - iv. Spring Fling - The event has been scheduled for Thursday, June 11.
 - v. Growing Smiles - This is a new fundraiser for the school, in conjunction with DeVry Greenhouses Picture Butte. Hanging baskets and potting plants, etc. will be available at an average cost of \$30-35 for a 10-pack. To ensure delivery in time for Mother's Day/May long weekend planting, an order form will be sent home before Easter and will be due back after the Easter break. Ideally, the fundraiser will be connected to SchoolCashOnline. There is a 35-40% profit to the school. Taneill will be looking for volunteers to help organize orders and to distribute on delivery day. More details to follow.
 - vi. Recycling - An update will be provided at the next meeting.
 - vii. PC Facebook - Taneill has been posting snippets from the Healthy School Newsletter.
 - c. Report from Treasurer - Megan Loran - See Attached Financial Report (Taneill reporting for Megan)
 - i. There are outstanding hot lunch revenues not yet included in the Financial Report. The Miscellaneous income reported were gratuities received during the casino event. There is a large bill for recycling that occurred in error.
- 5. Report from committees and council representatives:
 - a. Hot Lunch - Karla Tweten
 - i. Hot Lunch Menu for November
 1. Thur, Feb 6 - Dairy Queen & Veggies
 2. Fri, Feb 14 - Pizza 73 & Veggies
 3. Fri, Feb 28 - Heartwood Cafe & Veggies
 4. Fri, Mar 6 - Farros Pasta & Veggies
 5. Fri, Mar 17 - Argos
 6. Thur, Mar 19 - Pizza 73 & Veggies
 7. Fri, Mar 27 - Heartwood Cafe
 - ii. Report - There are several new vendors with updated pricing for all orders. The total number of orders to date is on par or above, compared to last year. Karla is working hard to incorporate Healthy School guidelines into our hot lunch program, including the addition of milk, fruits/veggies and a change to low sugar juice. Desserts are now optional. There were some online difficulties with the dipping

sauce/dessert for the Dairy Queen orders. Unfortunately, this cannot be changed until the end of March. Please call Stacey at the front office if you encounter an ordering issue. There is approximately \$3500 in hot lunch orders to be added to revenue.

b. Casino - Jerri-Lynne Worth/Kim McDowall (Taneill Reporting for Jerri-Lynne Worth)

Our casino dates were January 17th/18th, 2020. We had an excellent group of parent volunteers come out to run our shifts. We had 100% attendance for our shifts! We contracted the services of Tara Betts to serve as our Casino Advisor. The event was a success and we have been entered for our next set of casino dates. We have been slotted for the Oct/Nov/Dec 2021 quarter at the Copper Coulee Casino. In May 2021 they will contact the Casino Chairperson via email with the exact dates and the application to apply for the casino licence. Kim McDowall has graciously volunteered to be the Casino Chairperson allowing me to step back and support Kim in this role.

c. Winter Village - Tara Betts

Winter Village, held on December 12, 2019, was a great success! The format was kept the same as the previous year, with activities in each classroom, snacks in the gym and a visit from Santa. A special thank you to our amazing grade six teachers who, for the second year, gave their students a unique learning experience and baked several hundred cookies to share with the school community!! Of our \$1000 budget, \$739.83 was spent on classroom activities and decorations and \$85.68 on food/beverage, for a total of \$825.51 to date. Included in the classroom expenditures was the purchase of the face paint supplies from Taneill. The cost of \$150 was split between Winter Village and Spring Fling as these are used for both events. Thank you to Megan for gathering raffle prizes. Donations were harder to come by this year due to the economy, but we managed to raise \$618 to give to families in need. Thank you to our amazing planning team, teachers, support staff, administration, volunteers and overall school community for making this such a special event!

d. Skate-a-Thon - Karissa Parsons (Taneill Selinger Reporting for Karissa Parsons)

Skate-a-thon is right on track this year. The date is Friday, February 14 and there will be two helpers on hand to guide teachers and students at the Moose when each group arrives. They are Larissa Kowalchuk and Erin Rathgeber. The money has been counted up to the grade 5's and that will be finished up by next week. The snack is set to arrive Tuesday, February 11 in the afternoon and I hope to get it sorted and delivered to the classrooms that day as well. Then after the reading week break, the prizes will be awarded at the assembly (whenever that is determined by the school). I did have time to finish counting today and our total is \$2,290 not including the percentage we need to give to Kinsmen. To note, this is well below previous years: \$3,780 (2019), \$3,910 (2018), \$4,882.75 (2016) and \$3,254.05 (2015)

- e. Co-Chair Position - Katie Albers will be stepping down at the end of the school year. We will need a new Co-Chair for next year.
-
- 6. New Business
 - a. The next meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 4 at 7:30 pm in the school staffroom.
-
- 7. Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Note: We encourage every family to participate in our online QSP renewal program. All funds raised will support our school. Shop at www.qsp.ca. This year we have opted out of the magazine fundraising campaign, but if you were to reorder, place a new order or shop, the profits will still come to the school. OUR GROUP ONLINE ID ISL 36966036