

Sturgeon Heights School Council
Meeting – March 21, 2011
Minutes

In Attendance: Mr. Rufiange, Suzanne Radchenko, Christine Toner, Tracey Buryska, Tara Bochke, Heather Soetaert, April Silvester, Wendy Miller, Cindy Hamilton, Hollie Haffie, Pam Ryks-Paquette, Lynn MacDonald

1) Call to order and introductions: 7:37

2) Additions to Agenda: Suzanne – Alberta Foundation of Arts

3) Approval of Agenda: Suzanne Radchenko approved, Christine Toner 2nd

4) Approval of Feb 28, 2011 minutes: Tara Bochke approved, Christine Toner 2nd

5) Administration Report – Wayne Rufiange

- Lots of people showed up for Rooney & Punyi
- Ski Trip to Marmot – was successful with only a few injuries.
- Rabbit Hill was chilly, but no injuries.
- It was mentioned that maybe there be more supervision or check-ins on ski trips, with parents responsible for a group of kids that need to check in every hour or so. This happens to some degree already on the Marmot trip, but not at Rabbit Hill because there's really no where to go.
- Overall, it seemed well organized. The lessons were staggered. Beginners were first, while more experienced got to do a few runs while waiting for their lessons.
- Really chaotic in boot room at Rabbit Hill. Maybe an idea to buddy up jr highs with grade 4s for getting gear.
- It was really busy because weather cancellations in February required some other schools to re-book.
- Marmot boot room works really nicely as you pre-order sizes and they have them ready for you when you get there. It's nice, but not really possible at Rabbit Hill.

6) Trustee Report

- Wendy was sick for 2-1/2 weeks the day after the last meeting, so hasn't been to a board meeting since. The next meeting is this Wednesday night, and she'll bring forward the schedule for early dismissal on staff meeting days. The council would like the Board to consider allowing students to be dismissed before lunch as long as they are home by 12:45PM.
- The council thanked Wendy for dealing with the snow removal issue.
- Based on the Provincial Budget that was announced this month (March) Alberta Education has cut school board budgets and have also withdrawn some program funding. Sturgeon School Division has been cut by 170,000.00 for the 2010-11 school year and has lost over 1000,000.00 in program services for next year. The Board of Trustees are now in the process of determining how they will manage the cuts while still providing necessary educational services in Sturgeon schools.

- The AISI school projects are being cut provincially by 50 percent this year and next year will be the last year for this AISI cycle and it is yet to be determined if the Provincial Education Department will opt to take on another cycle.

7) Chairperson Report

a) April 7 – deadline for registering for Alberta School Council conference 2011

- Conference runs April 15-17

8) Bouquets

- **Mr. Goertzen** – handled the injury at Marmot very well.
- **Sheryl Tallis, Maureen Halderson, and Diane Keiser** all did a wonderful job helping the injured student.
- **Wendy Miller** – for getting the snow removed
- **Christine Toner** - for coordinating the Shrove Tuesday pancake lunch
- **Karrie Thompson** – for organizing McDonald's Lunch, **Jodi Hodgson & Liane Halbert** for assisting
- **Christine Toner** - for her kind words about our school at the Kindergarten meeting
- **Carol Moores** - for stepping up and working in the snack shop March 15 when no parents were able to volunteer.
- **Anonymous donor** for the Darren Herd presentation

9) Teacher Report

- Last trimester is starting this week.
- Completion of Rooney & Punyi program.
- DARE grad last week – completed – 2 RCMP officers came in and were great.

10) Parent Fundraising Association Report

- Installation of the Projector is scheduled for April 6th, in time for Open House.
- We're going to have a ribbon cutting and cake to celebrate.
- It came in close to budget at about \$18,000.
- PFA is tossing around the idea for a training day in September for the snack shop and hot dog day. We're going to be looking for new faces from the Kindergarten, G & T, and Kinderstart.
- Hot lunches are going well, our next ones are April 28, and May 10. Track and field BBQs are the only other hot lunches scheduled. Suzanne suggested coming to the PFA meeting that's scheduled before School Council meeting to be a part of this planning.

11) Grade Representative Reports

- **Kindergarten** – absent
- **Primary** – absent
- **Elementary** – Lynn reported that Rooney and Punyi were fantastic and well received.
 - (1) DARE grad was great, good conversations were started and continued in the homes.
- **Jr. High** – continued comments that Rooney and Punyi were great. Dinner theatre was fun.

12) Old Business

- Suggestion for early dismissal day – maybe eliminate morning recess.
- As it stands on early dismissal day, there are 3 half hour classes a recess break, then 3 more half hour classes.
- **WENDY** will take this to the board this week for discussion.

13) New Business

- a) **School supplies** – on the school supply list there are Crayola Twistables. These are plastic tubes with wind up crayons inside. The crayon inside often breaks when dropped, and the waste of the plastic presented a concern. Is it necessary to be so specific on the supply list? Really you could buy 7-10 sets of crayons for the same price as one set of Twistables.
 - **WAYNE** will discuss it with Leadership for next year, as lists are already made up for this year.
- b) **Motion to fund Appreciation gifts for Administrative Support – last week of April**
 - Garnet and Wayne generally take the office staff out for lunch, and a couple of teachers cover the office. Looking for ideas for Admin Support gifts – tabled to next meeting
 - Teacher Appreciation Week – May
 - **SUZANNE** to draft a letter to parents asking for food donations. **APRIL** will fill in if/where there are needs.
- c) Suzanne spoke to Rooney & Punyi at the Greater Edmonton Teachers Convention. There will be 50% funding next year and then it will be gone. Other schools have sent letters to the government. **SUZANNE** will draft a letter based on other schools submissions and bring it to the next meeting, and have it ready for the Open House to collect signatures.
 - Motion to draft a letter: All in favor; none opposed.

14) Date for next meeting April 18

15) Meeting Adjourned: 8:38