

## **E.J.E.S. School Council & Parent Association Meeting MINUTES**

*Mission: To Foster the well-being and effectiveness of our school community and to enhance student learning.*

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**Date: February 2, 2022**

**Location: Virtual Meeting**

**Attendees:** Eric Bouchard, Becky Koss, Jenn Stolfa, Rosanna Zaniol, Susan Given, Dale Karpluk, Jeremy Todgham, Janelle Gaskin, Stephanie English

**1. Call to order** – meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

- Agenda review and additions – accepted as circulated.
- Introductions – brief introductions of attendees.

**2. Approval of minutes** – Rosanna accepted November minutes as circulated.

**3. Administration Reports / Opportunities to advise**

1. Principal's Report:

- \$6,000 donation received from Right to Read. Books purchased, will allocate similar dollar amount to buy books for the French program.
- Update on talent show: preparations continue on the same.
- Flags lowered at half mass in recognition of the bodies found at Williams Lake residential school.
- 200 N95 masks donated from Pharmasave. As they are large, given to older kids/teachers.
- Rapid tests distributed, none left.
- Started school literacy and numeracy program for grades 1-3. \$26,000 allocated to school, EJES used funds to hire a temp p/t teacher. Teacher is focusing on doing intense intervention sessions with small groups in literacy and math. This started on Monday, January 31, 2022.
- 2 other teachers hired and 1 other EA for puff program.
- balanced budget. Looking to shift library, maybe buying softer furniture for kids to hang out and read books.
- Reminder: Feb 10 & 11 teachers convention, will be online this year.
- Susan inquired on if there was any desire by school administration or school council to consider putting together a survey to hear from families on the recent online school learning experience. Hoping that this will be last wave of COVID, however, should there be another need for online learning, there is an opportunity to hear what has worked well for families and teachers, and what may benefit an adjustment for future. A brief discussion on experience by attendee. Eric suggested a brief discussion at the end of the council meeting for those interested to discuss.
- Eric shared that there was a new School council engagement grant. Grant purpose to support increasing school/parents engagement in school council and building capacity of same. , \$500 is available. Brief discussion on opportunity. Eric to share the email with further info.

- New administrative procedure by school district: AP 163, COVID vaccine protocol for safety. All school staff must disclose vaccine status as of March 2022. Alternatively school staff would need to demonstrate negative test, at own cost.
- Parents are now allowed to volunteer, vaccine status is needed to enter school and volunteer. AP 163 applies to parents.

## 2. Trustee's Report:

- Dale reported back that School councils do not have access to district reserves, this was a follow up to last mtg.
- AP163, board made policy to keep kids safe.
- Board meeting held in December to determine if extension of winter break would be supported, that was decided on as per January public communication.
- Five schools were on online learning in the district with the increased number of COVID reported/absenteeism.
- Alberta School Council Association had a cut in funding. Provincial association is wondering what is going on. Alerting to pay attention. Every Monday night there is free education. They do workshops for school council, including sessions on engagement to increase local school council engagement. Brief discussion if this was something that EJES school council was interested in. Rosie to further look into the engagement session details.
- Dale spoke about the 2 motions' passed at the recent board mtg. The first one was regarding staff needing to have COVID-19 vaccination or demonstrating negative COVID testing. Second motion passed was related to if a child tests COVID positive, siblings must stay home.

## 3. Opportunities to Advise and Discuss: no items.

## 4. Committee and Member Share

*Opportunity for members wishing to share a brief report, update, or news item*

No updates.

## 5. New Business

1. Face Masks N95 masks - Community member inquired if school council would be willing to buy masks for those that don't have them. Council to investigate if mask would arrive by end of February, approximately \$2,000 budget from school dollars. As it is anticipated mask mandates may end by end of February, agreed that if masks are not able to be received by then, then not to order.
2. Scholastic bookfair - will take place November 2022
3. Street Safety - Inquiry from parents regarding street safety concerns during drop off/pick ups. Noting there was a recent near miss. Brief discussion on what could be done. School use to have kids doing patrol and by-law doing checks. Suggestion of having sandwich boards or unique signs to bring awareness to parents and community of school zone area, in particular the drop/pick up zone. Suggestions of following up with council to what could be done. Rosie to follow up with Wendy Hall.

## **6. Old Business**

### **7. JES Parent's Association**

Brief update on flower basket fundraising.

**8. Opportunity for open discussion** – Dale shared that the Minister of Education will be giving public an opportunity to provide input into the curriculum.

**9. Adjournment**, meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

• **Next Meeting: February 23, 2022**, will hold virtually.

A brief discussion for those that were interested to discuss recent online learning experiences and explore if there was an interest to develop a brief survey either by school administration or school council. Eric and parents that were on the call stayed to discuss. Experiences were shared, questions asked. Eric to inquire if teachers were interested in further feedback.