

Christina Gordon Public School  
School Council Meeting  
Thursday November 29, 2018  
2:30 pm-3:15 pm

Meeting Minutes

**Alethea Austin**

Welcome

Approval of last meeting minutes

\*Approved by Jen Hoilund, Alethea Austin

Approval of Agenda

\*Approved by all in attendance

Agenda:

- Joint networks meeting recap (Alethea Austin-Chair)
- Principals Report (Principal-Chris Organ)
- Fundraising Association Update (Jen Hoilund)
- Next Parent School Council meeting date

**Alethea Austin**

**Networks Meeting: Overview of Joint Network Meeting from November 5, 2018**

Health and Safety

-Compliant to Occupational Health and Safety guidelines every school will have a safety person to ensure compliance

AERR-Accountability Report

- Student and Parent survey from grades 4, 7, and 10 as well as academic tests.
- Overall FMPSD is above the provincial average in student learning.
- Overall strong result and continued improvement in all areas.

Budget 101:

- 6000 registered students, 10.4% growth. Fort McMurray birth rate trajectory of 7700 student that will be entering school system in the next few years.
- Red Cross is currently providing funding to FMPSD, the funding is set to end by 2022. Decrease funds and grants available in budget.
- Currently running a \$8-\$900 000 deficit in bussing costs alone last year. Bussing available to those 1-2.4 km from school but still in catchment area for designated school. The deficit money from bussing is enough for the salary of 10 teachers. Currently they will keep bussing, although not utilized or available with all schools to keep the incentive for student registrations.
- All computers and technology is currently provided by a generous donor.
- Class sizes getting difficult to keep smaller numbers. Funding is not keeping up with inflation. Currently 92% of funding is received from Alberta Education, 72% of those funds are allocated to wages. Any extras come from parent fundraising groups.

School Council

-School Council membership at all schools is low, ideas to generate membership include: providing snacks, utilizing social media, providing child care possibly by a willing grade 6 student, afternoon meeting times right after school while parents are still at school, sending out an email about 'hot topics' that will be discussed at next meeting.

### Polar Bear Club

-Temperature changes of Polar Bear Club to -30 C from the current -27 C. Still a club that is based on volunteer commitment from a staff member as well as parent consent.

### Outdoor Inclement Weather Protocol

Cold weather protocol currently -22 C (plus or minus 2 degrees) discussed to change the temperature in which indoor recess occurs to -24 C with windchill included.

\* Rick Thorne added that at the leaders meeting it was decided that the temperature change will be implemented January 1.

Next Joint Network Meeting January 14th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

### **Rick Thorne**

#### **Principals Report**

-With the implementation of the temperature change the school will send out an email about how to dress for the temperature. For children that do not have proper winter attire the school has a staff committee in place with a discrete fund to provide for these children. There is also donations from the community to assist with ensuring children are properly dressed.

#### AERR/School Growth Plan

-the AERR report has been completed, once this has been compiled it will be sent out to the school. Rick will share Christina Gordon's results in the New Year.

#### Parking/Bussing/Crosswalk

-Mr. Thorne has been monitoring more in the parking lot closer to St. Martha's. But parking will always be an issue. Currently seems to be running smoother than it had been prior.

-Both schools are working together, our school also needs to not use St. Martha's parking lot if we expect their school not to use Christina Gordons.

-Administration fully supports bussing, if the PAC would like a survey sent out they need to draft it. It would undermine the decision of the board for Rick to send out a survey to parents. Bussing cost was \$70 000 last year, 13 students signed up for bussing and on average 8 student used the bus. Students were staying at the school for clubs, therefor not able to use the bus. Another issue is the qualification for use of the bussing system and that many students do not met the requirements.

-AMA crosswalk training is available for kids, parents would require training from the city. The crosswalk in question between the two schools is technically St. Martha's. Parents would have to make the commitment to be here and have back ups in place. The school supports it but do not have staff available to assist.

-Instead of crossing guards, possibly requesting from the city that a flashing push button crosswalk be installed. The PAC would have to draft letter to the city requesting this, Rick has the contact information for the city.

#### Other

-Report cards go out to Gr. 1-6 student next Thursday. Kindergarten PTI's are next week.

-The school is still experiencing growth

-Ongoing challenges of lack of TOC's and EA's.

## Christmas

- The school will continue to support the Fort McMurray Food Bank, The Center of Hope and The Salvation Army Angel Tree. Questions have been raised of other agencies to support but those above named will be the only agencies. The school does not want to cause strain for families by asking to support multiple causes.
- The school will be doing a food bank drive, it will not be a competition. Asking only those that can and want to give to give, not a requirement for any kind of spirit week participation.

## **Fundraising Association Update - Jen Holland**

- Hot Lunch is open today November 29, 2018 for January 2019.
- Art Cards for Kids- Samples went out mid November, date for ordering closed. Need \$500 profit to break even. Due to Canada Post mail disturbance the ordered cards have not arrived.
- Growing Smiles Poinsettia/Christmas Fundraiser-\$10 320 in orders, just under \$4000 in profit. Pick up is Friday November 30, 2018 from 8 am to 8 pm
- Casino date is December 9 and December 10, 2018. As of this morning November 29, 2018 all spots have been filled and fundraising committee has back up volunteers in place.
- Winter Feast: Will be going ahead on December 19, 2018. The cost will be \$5100, 50% deposit has been paid. Brad Corp from 93.3 radio station would like to do a live broadcast from the school, he is also looking into getting a sponsor for this event so costs would be covered. The chefs from Earls and Prime Test Kitchen are catering.
- Gym flooring was approved to be purchased \$8670.
- Teacher wish list: still waiting for it to be done
- Basketball nets approved to be purchased \$1980.
- Lunch supplies/food for children that often don't have a lunch. Teachers to distribute when needed. Approved to allocate \$100 a month, will continue to assess if this is being utilized.
- Looking into Hello Fresh fundraiser, codes sent out at \$30 value and every code used will result in \$10 profit
- Looking into Papa Johns fundraiser as well.
- Staff party, it was requested that the fundraising committee provide a \$50 raffle basket. This was approved.

## **Next Meeting**

Next School Council Meeting date scheduled for December 17, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. The Fundraising Committee meeting is prior to this at 1:30 p.m.

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List of Attendees

Jen Hoilund  
Sara Keelan  
Cheri Evashkevich  
Alethea Austin  
Keisha Fahey  
Rick Thorne  
Michelle Griffiths