

Mattie McCullough School Council

November 7, 2023 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 6:33 pm

Attendance: La Keria Clayton, Lindsay Mancell, Crystal Murray, Kelsey Hanson, Julie Yee-Gould, Jaelene Tweedle (guest speaker), Travis Pregitzer, Joseph Chan, Caitlin Schineke SSR Teacher (for presenting bikes and steppers). Absent: Diane Wade, Carmen Archer, Cherelle Bundziak

2. Approval of September minutes:

- **Motion:** Crystal Mancell
- **Second:** Travis Pregitzer

3. Business Arising from Minutes:

- School wishlist
 - Crystal Kjelsberg reported teachers have been very happy with the \$100, and Mrs Kjelsberg has informed teachers to bring forward bigger ticket ideas
 - Caitlin Schineke: presented Self-Regulation Classroom Cruisers - stationary bikes designed for kids. Requesting 3 bikes: 1 each in K-1 area, 2-3 area, and 4-5 area. These bikes are designed for kids and are portable, on casters, and adjustable. Adjustments include tension, seat height etc. Is useful for kinesthetic learners as it helps them retain information better. Co-regulation with an adult can take as little as 10 minutes. There are no dangerous components. There is extensive testing behind the durability of the bikes and exceed industry standards. Students who incorporated movement while learning retained over 70% compared to less than 40% without movement. Two sizes: Pre-K- Grade 2 (\$1027.99) and Grade 3-6 (\$1027.99). Proposing one small and two larger bikes for a total of \$3083.97 (tax not included) from the Education Station in Edmonton.
 - Tested for safety for children. 6-year frame warranty, 2 years moving components. Quiet and portable, created for learning. All parts are enclosed.
 - ACTION: Joseph Chan to ask the owners of Scholar's Choice if any possible discounts are available
 - Caitlin also presented: Stepper: proposing 4 steppers to be used in grades 1-5. \$59.99, Total: \$251.96
 - compact, self-regulation, portable, adjustable height, clinical studies show success with movement.
 - Grade 2 hall might also be useful for them to have a stepper
 - Discussion: A question was asked about how to manage the expectations of the kids. Crystal Kjelsberg noted it will be teacher-directed and after the first 2 weeks when the novelty wears off, it becomes much easier for teachers to see which kids need it, and can offer it to them on an as-needed basis. Caitlin Schineke notes brain research indicates regulation can happen in about 10 minutes. Crystal Murray notes their school has them, when the kids are directed, they have been quite respectful, and have been very helpful for the kids. Discussed if a mat underneath would be needed, it was noted Aspen Heights and Westpark have bikes and haven't needed the mats underneath. Currently have a squeeze machine (\$900) on loan from Aspen Heights for Caitlin to trial. Discussed the durability of the bikes and both schools haven't had issues with them, nor have they had maintenance issues/or any needed maintenance.
 - Final Total for 3 bikes and 4 steppers: \$3335.93
 - Have already asked across the district if any of the schools were getting rid of them. Have asked the district and admin if there was more money for a bike this way. Aspen Heights also had it paid for by the Parent Council. Grants have not been applied for at this time, especially with the finances and socioeconomic status of the community.
 - Discussion around money. There might be enough but would drain our general funds. Awaiting updated money from other fundraisers, including Little Caesars (\$6700 in hot lunch currently).
 - **Vote** for 3 bikes and 4 steppers. All in favour
 - **Motion:** Caitlin Schineke, **Second** Joseph Chan

- Gaga ball
 - Move to spring
 - ASCE grant \$500
 - Shelve to December
 - Remind App
 - Only allowed 150 contacts, it would be over \$1000 to upgrade. Action: Make two accounts and keep at least one admin on the second account. Crystal Murray to ask Jen to remove herself from that group.
 - Staff Appreciation Lunch November 22
 - Crystal Murray: has reached out to Hunting Hills High School (HHHS) Darrel catering menu. Will likely be enough for two days. Last year was Greek rice bowls. About \$10.50/person. Mrs. Kjelsberg notes Nov 22 would likely be for 43 people. Midweek is often good to get most teachers and to boost through the week. (451.50). Crystal Kjelsberg notes the staff has had a lot of tacos recently and may like something different.
 - ACTION: Mrs. Kjelsberg to pick menu items.
 - **Motion:** Staff appreciation on Nov 22 for about \$500. Crystal Murray, **Second** Travis Pregitzer.
4. New Business:
- Presentation: Jaelene Tweedle with the Foundation for Red Deer Public Schools
 - Works at arm's length from the district which includes superintendent Chad Erickson, community members, and principals.
 - Jaelene explained the program
 - General Projects include: grow kids, Symphony Kids, Dawe Run, Healing through the Arts, Young Writer's Conference, youth Citizen of the Year, Body Image Play, Choir Kids, Cross Country Ski Loppet
 - 6 main programs
 1. Bright Start: Pre-K (in 4 schools now) placements for kids who would benefit but don't have government funding and families which would be cost prohibitive. There are 12-18 spots per year for the students. \$200/month/kid. Funding can come from donations from businesses that will "sponsor a family"
 2. Reading college: Students who by the end of grade 2 are struggling with their reading which is impacting their learning. They attend college in July. The kids are picked up by a bus right from their house, and fed breakfast and lunch. They work with experienced teachers and brand new grads to work on reading and writing skills and have a graduation at the end. Referrals come directly from the school. Have had 600 graduates already.
 3. Come grow with us: passive solar greenhouse in Normandeau. 105k grant from coop paid for. One of the Normanbdeau teachers has dedicated to linking the curriculum to the use of the greenhouse.
 4. Music Plus: Kids who may not be able to afford an instrument to get into band. There is a donation (and funding) program for them to acquire the instruments, and Red Deer Symphony has partnered to give training to the kids
 5. Step Up Fund: Helps families in need with basic necessities including gift cards for groceries, medication, transportation coats, coats, boots, and helping families move to safe accommodations. Direct referral from administration at schools or CLW, with the goal of getting kids to school.
 6. Finish Line: Supporting High School Completion
 - Discussion: CLW is already connected with these programs, and Crystal Kjelsberg notes the school has referred families to a variety of these programs.
2. Principal's Message:
- Crystal Kjelsberg reviewed the School Results Report 2022/2023 - Will be available on the website next week
 - The total number of students last year was 417 and the staff was 39. The curriculum has been the focus of the school with the new changes that have come from the Minister of Education
 - SIVA training is going to all teachers within MME instead of just a few. Crystal Kjelsberg has become a trainer for this program which has the goal of keeping explosive kids in the school by supporting them in developmentally appropriate ways.
 - Student Support Room has a full-time teacher now, and note it has been going well

- Challenge: New ESL learners from multiple different languages come in with a variety of skills. Teachers and admin send letters home in translated languages for at least 5 families.
- Parent involvement has gone down to 64% with the provincial average over 80%. Mrs Kjelsberg notes it is unknown how many parents responded to this survey and therefore these results may or may not be skewed.
 - There is a buzzer system that will be coming into place in the next year to enter the school, which has been noted by other schools to deter parent involvement.
- literacy and numeracy: 27-hour EA and two LAT half-time support. Data shows progress.
- Will be qualifying for 8.5 hours a week for 2023/2024 to support the entire school.
 - government standards have changed over the years. Example: a child coming into grade 2, the standard is they can recognize 5/30 sight words or less to qualify for support. Grade 3 the standard is 7/30 words.
 - Crystal Kjelsberg encourages the Council to let parents know and work towards change in government such as contacting your MLA, as Council feels this standard is very low to be able to get support. Crystal Kjelsberg notes kids who are only one point off in this assessment will not qualify for support, despite the clear lack of literacy skills.
- The school wants to give the message to parents that teachers and the school are committed to the kids
- The library book fair, was able to give a more diverse library for teachers, so teachers are not having to pay out of pocket for learning resources.
- Emotional Intelligence is a focus as research shows this is a major indicator of success into adulthood
- FNMI culture and information are becoming more accessible throughout the year, as opposed to being focused on Orange Shirt Day or Metis Week, for example.
- Nov 12-18 Metis Week
 - Invitations for the luncheon will go out in the next week's newsletter
- Hour Zero (fire safety, lockdown safety) Modules being completed by staff through their PD days
- Christmas Concert will be December 11 at Crossroads Church. The grade 5 practices are going well.
- The Remembrance Day assembly went well.
- Spirit Day, Bullying presentation was for grades 3-5, and Mr Richardson had some lessons on kindness and bullying which tied nicely into this presentation.

6. City Wide Presentation- Nov.14, 2023 at G.W.Smith Elementary

Next meeting: Tuesday, Dec 5, 2023, 6:30 pm

Close: Motion: 7:57 pm

Mattie McCullough Parent Association

November 7, 2023

Immediately Following Parent Council Meeting

1. Call to Order 7:58pm

Attendance: La Keria Clayton, Lindsay Mancell, Crystal Murray, Kelsey Hanson, Julie Yee-Gould, Travis Pregitzer, Joseph Chan, Carmen Archer via Facetime for Christmas Market discussion **Absent:** Diane Wade, Cherelle Bundziak

2. Approval of September Meeting Minutes
 - o **Motion:** Crystal Murray,
 - o **Second** La Keria Clayton
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - Fundraising
 - Little Caesars Fundraiser: \$9933 sold, Profit \$2121
 - Debrief: Call centre in the USA, online sale was supposed to be till midnight on Sunday, but closed at 10 pm because of the time difference. Delivery: there were a few damaged boxes. There are still two missing orders. La Keria notes dealing with customer service has been a challenge. There were multiple late pick-ups and La Keria Clayton had to find room in freezers to keep others' orders for the few days after. These late pickups were not pre-arranged
 - Ideas for next year, possible donation of late orders. Possible focus next year on local, with Nossack having a better profit margin and an easier time dealing with them.
 - ACTION: Order pizza from the Fresh Slice for the winners of the contest.
 - Rebels Family Night Out
 - Monday, February 19 (doors at 1 pm) 2 pm game, \$12 tickets with \$19 adult tickets, pick your own seat in the reserved section to sit with your classmates. Paint the ice afterwards, and wear Mattie colours.
 - Not supervised by the school.
 - Information will go out shortly
4. Christmas Market and Christmas Project
 - Carmen Archer (via FaceTime) presented on the Christmas Market (December 18)
 - The letter is ready to be sent out and has gone out to teachers. A volunteer chart has been sent out to La Keria Clayton.
 - Volunteers - more needed this year for the gift table. Granted money for gift bags and gifts if needed. \$250 for gift bags has already been made available.
 - The tables are already ordered.
 - Had set up Friday morning last year, looking this year to have set up on Friday, December 15 all day the whole school day, with some set up Saturday morning as needed. Will be able to use the girls' washroom again.
 - Carmen will be fully available through December.
 - ACTION:: Crystal Kjelsberg has checked the gym is fully blocked off from the 15-19
 - Christmas Project: Food Collection: Dec 4, begin food collection, then will be available before parent conferences on Dec 7. Can pick a day for organizing after the market. Will be in the sanctuary again. Organizing ideally will be December 18/19, but will possibly conflict with the market schedule. Laundry baskets were a good idea last year to give the hampers out in. Likely will cost \$120 to get baskets again, as they were about \$10 per basket.
 - Last year \$2000 plus the \$500 was used for the gift cards (13-15 families supported last year).
 - The school will run a "giving tree" to donate gift cards for the Christmas Hampers
 - ACTION: Council members to approach local businesses with funding request letters. **Put your name and number and date the letter** when you are going to each business.
 - ACTION: La Keria to start a group email, and to help track who is going to which business.
5. New Business
 - none

6. Reports from Treasurer: hot lunch, General, Common = Total

- Discussion around how much money transfer from hot lunch to general funds for the school wishlist. La Keria and Crystal Murray decided \$3000 should be enough to cover the bikes and steppers.
- ACTION: Crystal Kjelsberg to get HHHS Order ready for Crystal Murray by Nov 14 to be ordered for staff appreciation
- Current Funds: Hot lunch \$6728.48 General Funds \$5695.15 Common Shares \$1.21 **Total \$12424.84**
Crystal Murray notes the accounts are awaiting some reconciliation at this time, and more accurate numbers will be available at the next meeting.

Next meeting: Dec 5, 2023

Close: 8:29pm