

Atikokan High School
Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Present: Sylvie Cyr (teacher rep), Joanne Spencer, Darryl Gannon, Beth Fairfield, Nancy Pitura, Claire Poulin (student council rep), Jennifer Learning, Brad Gascoigne, Ashleigh Kalais

Recorder: Jennifer Learning

1. Welcome and Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Beth Fairfield at 7:05pm. Welcome and introductions took place.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

3. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes: Added an (s) to the last sentence so the chair now becomes chair(s). Motioned to pass by Sylvie and seconded by Darryl. Passed

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: Will declare conflict if it arises

5. Policy Review. Discussion around the Fair Dealing part of the copyright and what this means. B. Fairfield explained the rules around this in terms of copyrighting. No other comments about the policies that were distributed. School council did not have any specific comments.

a) Attendance at meetings Bylaws update: Beth found out that if people come to the council meetings they are only there to observe. They can't be part of the discussion. They can make a presentation but they have to let the chairs or the principle know about this before the meeting to be put on the agenda. There doesn't seem to be any other schools that have the number of meetings school council members are allowed to miss.

b) Bully Prevention at meetings by law update: Discussed the philosophical statement of what this school does to minimize school bullying ex what is put in the curriculum. Beth ran through the different things that are available in this school like the different clubs and the different partnerships that they have with community members. Discussed anonymous reporting boxes around the school so kids can report bullying they witness or are part of. Discussed how the school deals with incidents of bullying and what administration is responsible for.

6. New Business

a) Here Campaign: Created by the Northern Ontario Leadership Group and it was found northern Ontario has the highest rates of absenteeism which affects drop out rates. Students who miss an average of 2 days a month of school have a higher rate of drop out. B. Gascoigne explained what it means to part of this campaign. There are students, parents, teachers and community supports for this campaign. This was created to create a positive light of being at school. Encouraged students to take pictures and celebrate the days that they are here at school.

b) Cannabis Talk Kit: Beth shared a drug free tool kit that is a guide on how to have conversations with your children about marijuana and the legislation changes that are coming up next year. Schools are being told to deal with it in the same manner of dealing with kids and alcohol. It is illegal to have in schools regardless of your age.

c) PIC Letter: Beth handed out the PIC letter and the annual report from PIC. The letter is looking for a volunteer to attend the meetings from the Atikokan High School. If anyone wants to volunteer for the committee meetings let Beth know.

d) Crays/TTFM/Shapes/Compass survey results: The school uses various survey results when they are putting together their school community plan. Beth handed out results of different surveys that have been done in this school such as the Crays survey and the Compass survey. Looking for suggestions for help with talking to kids about binge drinking and the dangers of this. General discussion took place about results of the surveys.

e) EQAO results: Beth reviewed the results of EQAO. There will be some focus on applied math scores.

f) School improvement plan: Beth will have it for next meeting.

g) Policy 2.7 healthy food and beverage: The school is looking for feedback from the school and parent council on what 10 days the school will use to sell less healthy food. Generally, the school dances and sports days are the days chosen.

7) Teacher's Rep's Report: S. Cyr made a report about the sports events taking place around the school, report cards went out today, assembly about outers, and wilderness day was well attended. Art Extravaganza will be coming up soon.

8) Student report: Operation Christmas child being run. Christmas dance is being planned and maybe the students want to do something different so there is another poll about what else they may want to do.

9) Principal's report:

Ministry announcements:

Changes to Careers course – focus on financial literacy

Changes to report cards – LSWH
Updating other curriculum areas
EQAO assessments

PD day – staff worked on School Improvement Planning goals and strategies
Board Student Success meeting – AHS hosted high school teachers and principals.
Met to discuss Coop, SHSM, dual credits and guidance programs.
Central office staff have visited on the school to work with math teachers, English teachers, to support instructional practices

Grade 7 and 8 teachers:

- received training on MindsUP curriculum,
- working with Central Board staff on effective strategies for math instruction (why decrease in EQAO scores in females in grade 6?) Guided math instruction, hands on real life tasks,
- working with Central Board staff on effective strategies to support struggling readers; how to support better comprehension and fluency. How to assess and monitor student progress in reading

Presentation from Lois Fenton regarding curriculum connections with ACM
Marilyn Ricci on behalf of Legion provided information regarding Poster and writing contests

Julie Slack to present on the impact of poverty on student learning – to support of CCC goal

Eric the Juggler – for all PE classes

Raw Metal – Percussion and dance group from Australia workshops with grade 7 and 8 students on Hip Hop dancing

Skilled Trades luncheon in Thunder Bay for grade 10 girls....meet a mentor (bad weather)

Parents Night

Orange Shirt Day – Truth and Reconciliation recognition of Residential School Survivors

10) Next meeting date: Dec 12 at 7:30 for next meeting