

CES School Council  
Wednesday, December 6, 2017

**Attendance:** Krista Benoit, Norma Lang, Tracy Wasylucha, Krista White, Bob Rodgers, Chris Frederick, Shari Krukowski, Chrissy Berard, Liz Grace, Janice Graham

**Call to order: 6:34pm**

Chair: Shari Krukowski

Secretary: Janice Graham

**Review and approval of previous minutes.**

Motion to accept by: Krista Benoit

Seconded by: Krista White

Vote: Carried.

**Review and approval of agenda.**

Motion to accept by: Liz Grace

Seconded by: Chrissy Berard

Vote: Carried.

**Reports:**

- Chair: Shari Krukowski
  - Shari will email to Bob when she is finished her 2016/17 summary of minutes.
- Treasurer: Amy Spotswood
  - Absent
- Volunteer Coordinators:
  - Christmas movie night
    - Thursday, December 14 at 6:30 pm
    - movie - Elf
    - Proposed budget - School can contribute \$200.00
    - We have almost 3 boxes of popcorn left
    - We need parent council volunteers to arrive by 6
    - We will collect food donations at movie night
  - Need volunteers to attend: Krista, Krista, Tracy, Bob, Lisa, Janice (maybe)
  - Notes to go home in agendas will be ready tomorrow
  - Popcorn will be given out in solo cups as this is quicker
  - Bottled water and mini candy canes
  - Chairs will be set up the same way as the spring movie
  - Bob will download it, Janice will bring the DVD as a backup
- Principal:
  - Christmas Concerts:
    - K-2 Wed, Dec 20 - doors open at 6:30, concerts start at 7pm
    - 3-5 Thus, Dec 21

- Dress rehearsals will be the afternoons at 2pm
  - Front row seats will be raffled off again for charity
- Movember
  - Raised \$1400.00 for prostate cancer research with combined funds from our students and matching funds.
- Operation Christmas Child
  - 31 Boxes were collected!
  - Thanks to Kelly D'Aoust for organizing this and taking them in
- Shari mentioned that there is a Canadian program that could be considered for donations next year. These benefit First Nations people in Canada. <https://www.ilovefirstpeoples.ca/shoebox-gifts>
- Thank you to Shari for volleyball club! The kids enjoyed it and they learned a lot!
- Casino for Whoo's Crew was a success.
- Kindness Project was launched in November. It was started as an initiative of the school Culture Committee. The purpose is to celebrate, teach, practice and recognize kindness. We will be doing a series of set initiatives throughout the year, including an act of service that will coincide with our June food drive.
- Staff are taking part in the Mustard Seed's warm sock program and stuffing socks with needed items.
- Report cards go home this Friday.
- Grade 5 has been doing weekly visits to the Seniors lodge as an act of service to build relationships and connections. They read with the seniors and spend some time together.
- Crossfield Firefighters' Christmas Hamper - The Tree of Giving is filling up with gifts and food. The playschool is also collecting for this.
- Gideon Bibles- The School Act allows for religious content as schools see fit under the condition that parents have the opportunity to opt out. The Gideons provide free Bibles and have requested permission to distribute Bibles in our school. The superintendent has provided the permission and Bob is able to determine whether it will be allowed at the school level. Parents are given the opportunity to opt their child out of hearing from the Gideon's group and from receiving the Bibles.
  - Bob is looking for feedback from parent council as to the thoughts of parents on this. As principal, he has to demonstrate a "response to societal context" and his decisions on this should reflect the community as a whole
  - If other religious groups are given the same opportunity (if the school is approached), then it should be allowed across the board
  - With more FNMI curriculum being introduced, there is a high likelihood of First Nations beliefs and faith being brought into schools in the form of guest speakers, etc
  - Parents feel that students should have the opportunity to learn about a variety of other faiths and cultures
- Lice advice - Bob has received a number of phone calls regarding lice. The school's role is to educate students and parents on how lice is transmitted and what treatments are effective. We want students in school and encourage students to return to school after one treatment.

Lice is common in elementary schools as kids are in close contact and are more likely to have head to head contact through wrestling, etc.

- All old weekly newsletters are archived on our website
- Trustee: Norma Lang
  - There was an Inclement Weather committee meeting here in November. If the roads are impassable or unsafe, or the cold is severe, Norma and the principals (this year the designated principal is Ryan Reed) make the decision on whether to close the schools. Busses may be cancelled or run late while the school remains open. The decision will be made by 5:30 am and the information will be posted on the RVS website, news, radio. If the weather takes a severe turn during the school day, the school will not close, but parents may be contacted and given the option to come pick up their child.
  - Joint School Council meeting- "What do parents feel about the communication of student learning at their schools?" Discussed in a focus group format and will be continued at the April meeting. The Minister of Ed has been invited. When the results are tallied, Norma will bring the results here to share with us.
  - There will be a survey regarding the new school year calendars coming out after Christmas for parents to provide feedback regarding school breaks, fall start dates, Professional learning days, etc.
  - Transportation- the entire 1.2 million dollar reserve is completely depleted now. Topping up the service by dipping into the reserve fund is no longer an option as there is no money left to rely on. With the new bill that has changed the bussing radius, there may be an additional shortfall to providing bussing to our students. It still remains to be seen if the government will help to cover this shortfall.
  - Infrastructure Plan for next year to maintain our schools- there is some money to finish off the conversion of school libraries to learning commons. The plan is to be approved at tomorrow's board meeting.
  - Exemplary Practice from Ralph McCall called Connections. Goal is to inspire students to make connections with their learning and partnerships in the community. For example, touring recycling facilities. In comparison to what our school does to link community with learning, it is apparent that we are on the right track in terms of our strong school and community connections.
  - To send 1 child to school, RVS spends just over \$10 000 annually per child.
  - Alberta School Board Association Meeting- Norma was selected to join the teacher bargaining team and has been invited to be involved in the process in the Spring.

**Old Business:** (Items from last meeting):

- Jeff, Krista and Krista attended the parent Mind Up! information session and really enjoyed it and found it informative. They feel that it is a valuable and interesting program that RVS has brought.
- Attendance discussion from last meeting- it is on our radar and we are looking at doing something in January to recognize perfect attendance, possibly a monthly draw to recognize and celebrate attendance. Perfect attendance day- a day in which all students and staff are in attendance will be celebrated should it happen.

- RVS Attendance Project- Present for a Purpose- funded by an anonymous donor. Our school has benefited from this program. The child was missing school for factors beyond their control and RVS was able to provide support to improve the situation and the child is now happy at school.

**New Business:**

- Skating? Typically the end of January or beginning of February

**Question Period:** (This is a time for questions to the council chair, trustee, or school admin. Advance notice of questions, especially on controversial topics, will help us to provide complete answers. A time limit may be imposed if needed.)

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**Adjournment:**

Moved by: Tracy Wasylucha

Seconded by: Krista Benoit

Vote: Carried.

**Adjourn at: 8:05pm**

Next meeting: February 7, 2018