

DDS Home and School Council Minutes
Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

Attendance: Kelly McLeod, Kari Hanna, Melanie Fleischhauer, Kelly Spanke, Carol Gibson (teacher rep), Shari Rogerson, Craig Whitehead (trustee), Don Boras (candidate for trustee)

Called to order at 3:40pm

Kari approved the agenda

Minutes from June 2017 read and approved by Melanie

New Business: Introduction of candidates running for trustee in the 2017 election.

1. Don Boras:
 - a. Spoke to the need for transparency, regaining trust in the division
 - b. Feels that money needs to be dedicated to front line workers (teachers, aides, support staff)
 - c. Is willing to push for more supports with new superintendent
 - d. Has served as parent council chair in the past and has not been happy with the direction Palliser has taken over the past decade
2. Craig Whitehead:
 - a. Incumbent candidate
 - b. Started as trustee 2.5 years ago, took the time to learn what was going on and what direction needed to be taken
 - c. Is proud of the things accomplished over the past year and a half (Palliser wide review, policy changes, CSA policy for health and wellness, dismissal of former superintendent)
 - d. Spoke to recent cuts at central office (assoc superintendent of human resources, communications director and finance position in Calgary)

Old Business:

1. **H&SC Election:**
 - a. Treasurer position available – Melanie has volunteered to let her name stand. ***Kari nominated Melanie for the position of Treasurer. No other nominations, Melanie is elected Treasurer by acclamation.*** Thank you Melanie.
2. **Lunch Program:**
 - a. Kelly S. feels there is not enough parental support for running 2 hot lunches per month. She feels we should only offer one hot lunch per month and alternate between brought in and home made.
 - b. After group discussion, it was decided that Kelly S will draw up a schedule with 2 lunches per month and send it out for consideration. Kelly M, Melanie F will help with the lunches so Kelly S is not having to prepare and serve every meal herself.
 - c. Shari and Carol agreed it was best to continue asking for parent volunteers from each classroom. It seemed to work quite well last year, with the exception of May, which had no helpers.

- d. Craig suggested asking the local seniors group if some of the members would be interested in participating by making one lunch per month. Carol will talk to her mom.
- e. Carol also informed H&S that she will be running the hot dog program again two times per month.

3. Director's Cut Program:

- a. Program will be at DDS for 3 days in October working with grades 1, 2 & 3 and for 2 days in November working with grade 4 and 5/6 together.
- b. The cost is \$7/student and each grade will spend a full day with the instructor and produce a multimedia presentation of some sort (stop animation, graphic novel to movie, live action, etc.)
- c. Approximately 140 students will take part, excluding kindergarten

New Business:

- 1. **2017 Civic Election** – as stated above

2. Fall Fundraiser:

- a. Kelly M spoke regarding the need for a fall fundraiser. We have \$18,899.96 in our general fundraiser account at this time. \$5000 will be allocated towards field trips. \$3000 will be allocated towards Director's Cut. This leaves approximately \$10,000 for other activities. Kelly suggested waiting until spring and see if the need is there for additional funding. Kari suggested doing a fall fundraiser so we don't overlap with the grade 5s or 6s when they start fundraising for their fieldtrips this year. Melanie suggested selling poinsettias. Carol and Shari suggested the Little Ceasars Pizza fundraiser as it is supposed to be quite easy and a good return. Kelly M will look into both options and send out an email to the board.

3. Terry Fox Run:

- a. Will be on Friday, September 29
- b. H&S will purchase snacks for the runners
- c. ***Melanie motions to spend up to \$500 out of the Home and School Lunch Program account on snacks for the students attending the Terry Fox Run. Kari seconded. All in favor, CARRIED.***

Betterment Report:

- 1. PSBSPB is holding \$6621.85 in the casino account for DDS. This money has been earmarked for the installation of the new LED and static signs that DDS has purchased.
- 2. PSBSPB is holding \$18,899.96 in the general account for DDS to be spent on field trips, guest speakers, etc.

Lunch Program:

Dealt with above.

Treasurer's Report:

Kelly S reports there is \$1295.61 in the lunch program bank account. This money will be used for Terry Fox run as well as Turkey Dinner at Christmas time.

Principal's Report:

-Lord's Prayer: due to a parent complaint, students will no longer be saying the Lord's Prayer in the school. Shari researched the issue and came to the conclusion that because we are a secular school there little support for the continuation of the prayer.

-Shari is excited to report that the new LED sign and static signs are both in the school and awaiting installation. The original quote for just an LED sign was approximately \$25,000. After some shopping around, Shari was able to secure the LED sign as well as a static sign, installation and graphic design of the logos for under \$24,000. The County of Lethbridge grant paid for a large portion of the sign and PSBSPB is also paying a portion.

-Shari reports that we have an increase of 16 students this year, with a total of 161 kids from K-6. Shari is attempting to secure more teaching staff in order to split the kindergarten class (currently 28 students) and help out with the other large classes in the school. So far, with the upheaval at central office, she has not been successful. Craig will be making some calls on her behalf as well.

Trustee Report:

Craig reports that he has been involved with government meetings over the past few days and feels that the government is really trying to listen to stakeholders. Recent discussions were concerning common age of entry for kindergarten students, extended ages for high school students to complete their diplomas, school transport.

As a result of a recent central office structural review, three key positions have been cut. Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Ken Garinger, Communications Officer Dawn Sugimoto and Calgary based Finance Manager Muhammed Ashraf have been let go.

New superintendent Dave Driscoll will be starting October 1st. He is a strong supporter of small schools, he believes in empowering schools and administration, he values innovation and entrepreneurship and he will be working on how to bring more students to our schools.

Around the Table:

1. Kelly S suggests the building of a Gaga Pit. The grade 5s played the game at SABC on their field trip last year and loved it. Both Champion and Vulcan schools have built these pits. Shari likes the idea and will look into it.
2. Kelly M brought up the idea to have the grade 6s help with the Halloween Carnival again this year. Another idea is to enlist the help of the grade 7 leadership class to help out.
3. Melanie would like something done about the poor condition of the school yard. The grass is mostly dead and the fields are filled with thistles. Craig reported that he is working on this issue and has spoken with the town and county. He is looking for a joint use agreement between Palliser, the town of PB and the county of Lethbridge. Craig suggested that our home and school council write a letter to the town and county outlining our frustrations with the state of the school yard and the need for improvements.
4. Melanie stated that she had no need for the H&S laptop as secretary, so it was suggested that it be donated to DDS. ***Kari motioned that the Home and School Council laptop and carry case be donated to DDS. Melanie seconded. All in favor – CARRIED.***

Next meeting set for Wednesday, October 18 at 3:40pm

Adjourned at 5:21pm