

## **School Council Meeting Minutes:**

September 12, 2017

7:00 – 8:00 pm Ardrossan Elementary Library

**Attendees:** JP Grebenc, Judy Whetstone (Principal), Helene Hewitt (Assistant Principal), Skip Gordon (School Trustee), Jackie Anderson, Wendy Marty, Jennie March, Brandy Weis-Reinhardt, Cheryl Popik, Darren Wright, Shilo Harbak, Ady Arbuckle, Holly Kinnie, Terri-Ann Trohubiak, Vania Lloyd, Connie Hamelin

### **1. Welcome**

- Meeting called to order by JP Grebenc at 7:04 pm
- Attendees introduced themselves, including number of children enrolled and corresponding grade level

### **2. Overview of Tasks/Appointment of Council Positions**

- JP nominated himself to continue with position of President of Parent Council; all were in favor and motion was carried
- Cheryl Popik volunteered for position of Vice President; JP moved to appoint, all were in favor and motion was carried
- Jackie Anderson offered to continue as Secretary of the council; JP motioned, all were in favor and motion was carried

### **3. Chair Report (JP Grebenc)**

- The first COSC meeting of the 2017/2018 school year will be held October 4<sup>th</sup>, so no news to share yet with the council

### **4. School Trustee Report (Skip Gordon)**

- The building of the Ardrossan replacement school is on time and currently on budget; students still expected to be moved in over the winter break
- The new parking lot of the replacement school will be delayed until Spring when the weather will permit the pouring of new asphalt
- There are currently 17, 100 students enrolled in Elk Island Public school district
- School Board elections taking place October 16, 2017
- The new classroom is in place, utilizing half of the school library due to the growing student population at Ardrossan Elementary
- School board is considering the 2018/2019 calendar and is considering parent input as to whether students should return to classes from summer holidays prior to Labour Day and continue with a fall break OR if they should return to classes following the Labour Day long weekend and remove the fall break. A quick show of hands provided a near 50-50 split decision from parents in attendance
- There is a proposed name change for the replacement school to reduce the current “wordy” name of École Élémentaire Ardrossan Elementary School to a more simplified “Ardrossan Elementary”. Council members and parents discussed how this potentially reduces the ability to distinguish the francophone side of our school and takes away its uniqueness. The

group proposed the idea of presenting the name “École Ardrossan Elementary” instead to the board in order to keep an element of francophone awareness within the name of the school

#### **5. Administration Report (Judy Whetstone & Helene Hewitt)**

- To begin, a couple of thank-yous:
  1. Thank-you to the CPF and dedicated volunteers for a tremendous event at last June’s year-end BBQ
  2. Thank-you to parents who heeded the plea to send their children on the bus at the start of the school year due to VERY reduced parking
- The start of the school year began with a hitch due to drainage issues; the high school was a huge help in assisting with washroom facilities and student supervision
- The Grade 1 students hosted the first assembly of the year, introducing Habit 1 of the 7 Habits (Be Proactive!)
- Week 2 of the new school year brought a visit from Elder Wilson
- Upcoming Events (always check the school’s website calendar for the most up-to-date info; or sync the school calendar to your smart device):
  - o September 14: School Fire Inspection
  - o September 15: Earth Rangers Assembly
  - o September 19: Family Math Night (Amazing Race Ardrossan)
  - o September 21: Corn Festival
  - o September 22: Crazy Hair Day
  - o September 28: Terry Fox Run (2:15) and Saffron/RCMP Internet Safety Presentation (6:30 pm)
  - o September 29: Orange Shirt Day
  - o October 2-4: Read-In week
- New Twitter account: @ArdrossanElem

#### **6. CPF Report (JP Grebenc)**

- Year End BBQ was a huge success, thanks to many hands on deck and the previous year’s experience
- The challenge of a new location due to construction seemed to work well; committee will take feedback from this BBQ to use towards betterment of next year’s event
- Next CPF meeting will be held in October with new elections for the executive

#### **7. Other Business**

- Question for Administration regarding outdoor play spaces for students; there is an empty field not being utilized; grass has not been mowed by the county and parents are wondering if children can begin using this space to provide more options during recess time. Judy to contact the county and construction crew to see if safety fencing can go up so the students can use this space before the snow falls
- Our school has a Facebook group (currently approximately 150-200 members); this is a closed group, requiring approval and request for membership. The page is monitored to

- ensure student safety and is to be used for constructive parent engagement only and the sharing of helpful school reminders and upcoming events
- Upcoming AEPsA meeting: JP proposed to discuss wanting to fundraise for a new piece of artwork to commemorate the opening of the replacement school

**8. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, October 12, 2017 at 9:30 am in the library

**9. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Jackie Anderson  
Seconded: JP Grebenc, motion carried  
Meeting end: 7:59 pm