



SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

June 6, 2016

6:30PM

Sandhills Library

MEETING CALLED BY:	Della Sousa – Chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Regular School Council
NOTE TAKER:	Beth Robson-Secretary
STAFF ATTENDANCE:	Silvana Hoxha, Principal, Christine Hristov, Vice-Principal
PARENT ATTENDANCE:	Ashley C., Della S., Jennifer A., Kerri P., Kim F., Katherine S., Sabrina S., Cindy S., Nicole M., Beth R., Mark, Christian S.,
SPECIAL GUESTS:	Melissa Roberts-Lunchbox

Agenda Topics:

CHAIR UPDATE

Della

DISCUSSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome - Reviewed previous minutes and accepted - Motion brought forward to change the School Council Meeting from first Monday of every month to first Wednesday of every month, starting Wednesday, September 7, 2016.

DISCUSSION
<p>-Staffing influx-# of requests for student class placements and ensuring that students have a productive relationship and friend -estimated students for the 2016-17 year are: 687 down from last year, 29 classes</p> <p>-tentative approval to keep an extra portable-to be used for Mrs. Je-Yi Wu for her ESL and Syrian newcomers-currently the little room inside the library is being used</p> <p>-some staffing changes-Pam Wood CYW (share her with J.W. Gerth-they received .5 hrs alternate to suspension -she is leaving for a permanent position at J. Gerth</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">-new CYW will be starting in September-Magdalena Ecsedi or otherwise known as: Mrs. Mags -we will be sharing her with Jean Steckle</p> <p>-as a result of lower enrollment-down 55 hrs=2 full time EA's</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Mr. Bell and Mrs. Jones will be going to Queensmount School</p> <p>-need to hire 5 LTO's and 2 DECE LTO's as a result of leaves-pregnancy and sick leaves</p> <p>-very sad to see our vice principal Christine Hristov leave to go to Chalmers Street School in Cambridge-. Congratulations Christine and we wish you much success in your future endeavours but you will be dearly missed☺</p> <p>-Kimberly Bingemans will be the new VP starting in September</p> <p>-2 teachers will be retiring at the end of this term-Mr. Swanson and Mrs. Dykstra</p> <p>-French Immersion classes will be in the school bldg. starting in September</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">-2 classes will be going to the portables-Grade 5 and Grade 5/6</p> <p>-ECO School-many thanks to Mr. Stewart and staff for coming together and drafting the application-hope to go to ECO Gold-feedback already has been positive</p> <p>-already have one hydration station-near the gym, with Gold Status we will get another one and it will go upstairs</p> <p>-Sensory garden is in-Mr. Wellhauser initiated it and it is very successful-it is a good jumping point for other teachers to do the same- (apply for a grant, i.e. Like Mr. Wellhauser did-the Tim Walker grant)</p> <p>-3 fire drills scheduled-first one next week</p> <p>-libraries are now called Tech Lounges or Library Commons-the technology needs to be seamless and part of a pilot project where we are giving up a number of desktops for chrome books and iPads</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">-103 chrome books and 15 iPads are deployed in a pod system</p> <p>-on Friday Mr. Carbonne, the Chief Information Officer will be visiting Sandhills to assess how to move forward thinking in technology and utilize it more effectively and how we can stay relevant and current</p> <p>-goal is to reduce paper usage</p>



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-our school already does attendance electronically
-yearbook is almost ready to go to printing-email to come out shortly-cost is \$15.00/book

SCHOOL UPDATE

Silvana/Christine

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Sabrina -Finance

DISCUSSION

-WEFFA Account -\$1000.00 can go towards greening
-Bussing Account- \$5500.00 (latest figures end of May)
-Greening Account-\$4400.0
-Fundraising-\$20,000 (\$10,000 goes to next school year's bussing, \$4000 for Family Fun Fair)
\$6,000 left

GREENING INITIATIVE

Della

DISCUSSION

-Sensory Garden is a wonderful accompaniment to the greening
-weather dependent -will complete soft scapes
-\$2000 donated from Sandhills School
-Rob Seeley raised the elevation so now it shouldn't flood
-total cost to complete will be about \$6500
-volunteers needed for watering the trees during the summer months-Rob Seeley indicated that he has a group of students that will assist with the watering during the Summer-Silvana assured that Rob Seeley has committed to ensuring that all the trees will get watered daily
-if the students can't do it then we will need to get volunteers for the summer
-need at least 5 gallons'/day minimum
-official opening of the greens -chairs vs outside classroom-outside classroom was decided upon-some dignitaries are attending
-Della stated outside learning is an essential learning tool and need more funding to continue and expand

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Della/Beth (Kelly absent)

DISCUSSION

-Family Fun Fair upcoming on June 22, 5:30-8:00pm
Beth is Team Lead on the project
-still need volunteers-pls help out
-Mr. Stewart will get birdhouses for the fair
-MJ Seaman going on medical leave and returning in September-Della will pick up popsicles and will determine if popcorn machine is working and will advise

FUNDRAISING SUB-COMMITTEE

Sabrina/Christian

DISCUSSION

-hoping that the lunch program will become part of the annual fundraiser so we only need to do one other one
-Della raised clarification whether the Boston Pizza fundraiser was school or council driven-donations will go to Fort McMurray -raised \$300.00



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OTHER BUSINESS

Della

DISCUSSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Melissa Roberts from the Lunchbox discussed their food program, they have many restaurants that partnered with them to choose from-parents can make changes up to 48 hrs. Lunchbox coordinates all food orders. Milk is the only one where we would need volunteers to assist in the delivery. Silvana to post for volunteers to assist in the delivery of milk and/or food.-Sandhills will try this company beginning in September to determine if we like it. No set cancelation time if we are not interested or does not work out-only one vendor per day so as to alleviate confusion will be delivered to the school-will start to advertise the last week in school and post on School Day so that deliveries can start in September already-the monies made will go to School Council so that it will limit the amount of fundraisers throughout the year, if a parent volunteer can assist-the milk program is not very successful and onerous process for the amount of orders-Silvana to contact ESNS to cancel -next school term Beth addressed that bullying is a topic that needs further discussion-the language used, promotion of anti-bullying, strategies used when being bullied, further discussion whether the school can sell clothing relating to anti-bullying, more focus needs to be on education

END TIME:	8:20 PM
NEXT MEETING:	Wednesday, September 7, 2016