

Notes

RMSS SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM – In person at Library

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 7pm

MISSION: Through a co-operative partnership, the school council will work through actively supporting staff, students, programs, school events, and the school division.

Objectives of School Council:

- A) Support and enhance student learning
 - B) Provide advice to our principal
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- 1. Call to order at 7:03pm
 - 2. Welcome and Introductions
 - 3. Adoption of agenda
 - 4. Please see attached Meeting Minutes from September 26th school council meeting.

Attendees:

Murray Marran (Superintendent and CEO)
Kris Hebert (Principal)
Marla Lee (Secretary)
Cory Hughes (Trustee)
Joy McGregor (Trustee)
Kennedy Lukan (Teacher)
Carley Evernden (Chair)
Stuart Adkins (Parent)
Fatmina Kamar (Educational Assistant)
Selina Noskiye (Parent)

Adopted agenda as is.

New Business:

1. Superintendent's Address - Murray Marran:

- Pleased with the progress being made with attendance and late policy.
- Parents are asking for greater accountability for their kids.
- New attendance policy is a great first step to addressing these issues.

2. Trustee's Message – Cory Hughes

- Public school board conference – made amendments to some policies.
- Started community consultations. There have been two consultations completed now. The objective is to try and make the school board better by getting different perspectives.

- Will be doing a community expose to feature what they have been working on and discussing. There are 6 people invited to these consultations. People who would like to attend need to sign up.
- School Engagement Sessions – emails sent to parents and it is also advertised on the radio and on social media.
- There will be an online component for parents to answer one question online.

3. School Report – Kennedy Lukan

- Please see attached 'School Information'

Additional Information:

- For Curling - Practices will be on Tuesday from 5pm to 6pm, Mixed practices on Mondays, Girls on Wednesdays and Men's on Tuesdays.
- For the Elf Performance – There is no time set yet for this performance.

4. RMSS Attendance Policy – Review

- Joy McGregor – Very pleased with the new policy. Parents have also voiced their approval with the new policy.
- Kennedy Lukan – As a teacher, it is very frustrating to have consistently late students and having to explain aspects of the lesson to those who are late regularly.
- Kris Herbert – Working with the communication officer for ways to communicate the new policy. This will be shared on social media and throughout the school.

5. RMSS Cell Phone and Electronic Devices Policy – Review

- Kris Herbert - Took advice of school council and staff and made it more clear, concise and direct.
- Parents and teachers are very supportive of this policy.
- 'Electronic devices' includes ear buds.

Additions for November Agenda: Revisit the code of conduct

Next meeting November 28th, 2023 at 7pm, in-person at the RMS Library

April 16, 2023 School council meeting will be at 6pm instead of 7pm.

Adjournment: 8:01pm

NOTES

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Tuesday, September 26th, 2023 at 7pm

MISSION: *Through a co-operative partnership, the school council will work through actively supporting staff, students, programs, school events, and the school division.*

Objectives of School Council:

- A) Support and enhance student learning
- B) Provide advice to our principal

Attendees:

Carly Evernden (parent)
Kennedy Lukan (teacher)
Natasha Kolibaba (teacher)
Stuart Adkins (parent)
Kris Herbert (principal)
Corey Hughes (trustee)
Murray Marran (Superintendent & CEO)
Joy McGregor (trustee)
Kyle Nichols (Communications officer)
Rosalina Lamason (parent)
Kathryn Adams (parent)
Maria Lee (parent)
Selina Noskiye (parent)

1. Call to order @ 7:02 pm
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Adoption of agenda
 - a. additional agenda items added by Trustee McGregor: 9) vaping; 10) cell phones; 11) volleyball

New Business:

- 1) **Superintendent's Address** (Mr. Murray Marran)
 - a. Accountability Pillar survey
 - b. Literacy & Numeracy goals
 - c. Obtaining a lot of data to make confident judgements in the future
 - d. Discussed post-pandemic reality and concerns
- 2) **Trustee's Message** (Joy McGregor & Corey Hughes)
 - a. Joy attended a national trustees conference in Banff over the summer, very beneficial
 - b. Alberta is in great shape in comparison to a lot of other provinces
 - c. Excited to welcome the new superintendent on board
 - d. Board is currently focused on governance and planning each month, visiting with the Minister of Ed. in October, meeting with various Ministers in November in Edmonton
 - e. Board meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2 pm
 - f. Looking at parental and community feedback
 - g. Reminder to reach out to trustees with questions or concerns (but also be aware of following the right channels before getting to the trustees)
- 3) **School Report** - what great things have been happening (Natasha Kolibaba & Kennedy Lukan)

Indigenous Education

1. **Orange Shirt Day** (September 29th for our school)
 - In honor of Truth and Reconciliation Day (September 30th)

Events Taking Place For Orange Shirt Day:

1. Morning announcements- Traditional honor song in replacement of O Canada & A small story on why we wear orange .
2. *Optional* Walk during lunch hour to the Native Friendship Center (stew and bannock)
3. *Optional ALL WEEK* Free virtual event during lunch hour (Lunch and Learn)
4. Class sign up: Fire outside with an Elder and Smudging- not mandatory, but will be happening
 - Students and staff going will write a letter answering 4 questions and give them to Mrs. Gautier
 - 1 Minute of silence for Residential school victims & Optional smudge
2. **Youth Council For Reconciliation *Poster***
 - First meeting was September 19th
 - Next meeting is October 3rd during lunch hour 11:30-12:30

Goal: *Awareness and promoting reconciliation among our school and students on Indigenous cultures.*

- Create informational and awareness videos for our school
- Traditional beading and sewing classes
- Host events and fundraisers

Wellness

- Snack programs and classroom bins are being utilized and we are going through lots of snacks.
- This month's topic Community Resources and introductions to Wellness Program
- Grade 7 transition support presentations went well
- Stress presentation delivered to CALM Class
- Rose Cantada Practicum student learning with Wellness.
- Volunteer Welcoming Committee established grades 7-12
- Monthly Mental Health Blitz happening tomorrow, September 27th
- World Suicide Prevention Day Bathroom Blitz
- Staff Wellness - Get to know you BINGO
- Food teachers are planning to meet with the Wellness team to make lunches that will be available in the cafeteria for students who need it.

Drama

- Junior High students (with support from HS Drama students) will be performing "Elf Jr" in December at the Legacy Centre.
- EGW have been invited to the dress rehearsal and the community will be invited to come and see the show
- Auditions have been done and the show cast. First rehearsal is Wednesday 27 September.

Fundraising for show:

- Drama students will be fundraising to cover the costs of putting on the show (costumes, props, etc)
- Also asking the community to purchase advertisements in the program as a donation.
- A chocolate drive is planned in conjunction with the sporting teams

Band

- We have 91 junior high students in band this semester, which is an amazing increase of students!
- At this time instrument use seems to be okay, but semester 2 might be tricky with having JR. and SR. high students both in band at the same time.

Band Performances:

- Performances are not scheduled yet
- winter concert, festival in May, and year-end performance at minimum.
- A calendar of band events will be created and shared with parents by October 18th.
- October 18th is the Roland Michener Music Support Society (RMMSS) meeting. At the meeting, dates will be announced and we will have an opportunity to appoint several vacant board positions.

Clubs

1. Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA)

- up and running again in the next few weeks (just waiting for the weather to turn a bit as students prefer to be outside as long as they can)
- Our goal is to create a safe, welcoming space where all students are able to drop into and feel accepted.
- Donation from West Fraser that will help fund some fun activities which will be open to all students (last year we had a colouring contest, a Halloween party at lunch, and an ornament decorating challenge)
- Hoping to host some guest speakers to speak with the group on topics they are interested in learning more about.

2. Dungeons and Dragons Club

- First Meeting: was on Thursday Sept. 21.
- There were 8 students which is quite a bit less than last year's start up but this might be due to the BBQ and awards night being on the same day.

Athletics

Sr. High Volleyball

- 1 boys team, 2 sr high girls teams
- Tournaments in October / November

Jr. High Volleyball

- Girls team up and running

Cross Country Running

- Tryouts happening currently

Football

- Currently ongoing
- Practicing lots after school

Basketball

- Jr and Sr beginning in November

Curling

Beginning in October once we get thumbs up with ice and booking times.

4) Election of New Executive: All positions are open.

- Chair - Carley Evernden (nominated and accepted)
 - Vice-Chair - Kathryn Adams (nominated and accepted)
 - Secretary - Marla Lee (nominated and accepted)
- Stewart Adkins brought up needing to get school council information shared with parents better

- 5) **RMSS Attendance Policy - review**
 - a. Kris shared the school policy
 - b. Explained that coming out of Covid 2 years ago there was a need to make a solid policy for staff, students and parents
 - c. Kris wants school council to be aware of this policy and its importance because our goal is to have students in the building
 - d. Parents raised a concern about robocalls and their accuracy. Explained they go out 2x per day. If a student arrives late, it's not always changed to present. Sometimes there are errors or a teacher hasn't had time to fix attendance after a student enters in the middle of a lesson.
 - e. Carley asked about students that miss a significant amount of school and what happens with them. Kris explained there are different types of absences.
 - f. Joy brought up concerns with late students that she has noticed when she is present at RMSS. Asked some questions:
 - i. what are the consequences if a student is late?
 - ii. are students allowed to go into class if they are late?
 - iii. teachers shouldn't have to catch up students for walking in late
 - iv. RMSS should have a late policy
 - v. suggested that if students are more than 10 minutes late, they should have to go to an alternative location to learn, can't enter class after a certain amount of time
 - vi. do we have a formula for something like 3 lates = an absence or 3 lates and loss of a lunch hour?
 - Each item was discussed and clarified that we do have a late policy within the attendance policy but we will firm that up and discuss ideas shared at this meeting.
 - Once these items are reviewed and edited, we will share with Kyle to share with the school community
 - Discussed increasing the frequency of robocalls
 - Discussed possible consequences and what could be implemented with the resources we have?
- 6) **RMSS Student Code of Conduct - review**
 - a. Kris brought forward the Code of Conduct for review & discussion
 - b. School plans to update this with staff and students, put it in line with our RAMS values
 - c. Discussed definition of bullying, versus mean versus rude
 - d. Question about involving student council in this process, ask SH students questions in their classes (assembly wouldn't give very accurate or open answers)
- 7) **New bus lane, parking and drop off zones - feedback**
 - a. Murray brought up holding buses until a certain time before they can depart to alleviate some of the safety issues
 - b. Discussed going back to 1 way traffic around the school and reopening gate at the back
 - c. There will be a future meeting between school and transportation department to revise bus pick and drop off
- 8) **Vaping:**
 - a. Trustee McGregor asked if there are consequences for Vaping?
 - b. Kris reported we have zero tolerance for vaping as per the Admin Procedure 173
 - c. Shared Holy Family news article and how they've eliminated the issue of vaping in their schools with vape detectors
 - d. Board is looking into this for all of our schools
 - e. Parent question re: education around addictions and trauma, yes this is a part of our health and CALM curriculum
- 9) **Cell phones**
 - a. Trustee McGregor shared her concerns with students using their phones during class time, has observed this while doing presentations in classrooms, some rooms have strict policies, some do not, it is a major distraction, parents are also an issue because they are sending messages or calling during class time
 - b. Trustee McGregor said the board is considering a division wide policy
 - c. Asked about RMSS cell phone policy and consequences, Kris shared RMSS Handbook with Cell Phone and Electronics policy
 - d. Discussion re: updating this policy, too many steps and gives students too many chances
 - e. Kris will bring this back to the staff for feedback and update
 - f. Murray suggested this be done expediently
- 10) **Volleyball**
 - a. Trustee McGregor contacted by parents concerned about players chosen for the volleyball team
 - b. 39 students tried out, many disappointed girls
 - c. Trustee McGregor asked if we can prevent students who play outside of school from participating on school teams?
 - i. we are not allowed to prohibit certain students from playing because they have a higher skill level and more opportunities
 - ii. there were multiple adults/staff/coaches who were a part of the team selection process and due diligence was followed (there was no favouritism)
 - iii. students playing ASAA can not play on a private league team at the same time (it doesn't start until after school volleyball season is over)
 - iv. an extra varsity team was creating to allow for more students to participate (so approx. 30 of 39 students are participating)
- 11) **Set meeting dates for the year**
 - a. last Tuesday of every month (except Oct. 24 because the last Tuesday would be Halloween)
 - b. Meetings will be online for cold months (January, February, March)
 - c. In person October, November, April, May

Additions for October Agenda: not discussed

Next Meeting: Oct. 24, 2023 @ 7 pm

Adjournment: 9:47 pm

RMSS School Council

Meeting Date: Tuesday October 24th, 7:00 pm

School Information

1. Year Books

- Yearbooks for NEXT year will be going on sale soon. They will be \$37 each.
- There are still a few yearbooks left over from last year that are for sale.

2. Fundraisers (for Athletics, Drama, and Music Programs)

1. *Perogies / Sausage*: Due Friday October 27th - in conjunction with EGW
2. *Purdeys*: Due December 2nd

3. Science / Social Collaborative Project

- ***The grade 7 Don't Die! Guides*** will be completed by Halloween and students will be presenting them that week.
- After presentations, we are hoping to post their hard work on social media, and also will have it visible during parent-teacher interviews.
- Students have been working SO hard on these, we would love to have family come see what their students have been working on.

Wellness

1. October Wellness Update:

- Honored World Mental Health Day as well as Mental Illness Awareness Week (informative posters in both staff and student washrooms, as well as the bulletin board which focussed on providing mental health information).
- At the end of this week, Wellness Team's mental health blitz video will be sent to all students on the topic of *The Big 5 plus 1 for mental health*, which is a list of basic lifestyle factors to sustain a positive well-being.
- We also had the chance to present to all grade 9 PE and fitness classes to address bullying within a physically active environment and will be presenting on this topic to grade 7 & 8's in the month of November.
- The classroom and office snack bins are still ongoing and the wellness team will be planning a variety of taste tests for the next couple of months.

Drama

1. Elf Performance from Jr. High students- December 13th at the Legacy Center

- Community invited to come watch *No time set yet*
- Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser due December 2nd.

Athletics

Fundraisers:

1. Perogies / Sausage (Due Friday October 27th)
2. Purdeys (Due December 2nd)

Sr. High Volleyball

- 1 boys team, 2 sr high girls teams
- Tournaments in October / November

1. Jr. High Volleyball

- Girls team up and running, tournaments in October/November

2. Cross Country Running

- SH won their zone banner, they had a blast at provincials in Trochu.
- JH won their zone banner, and hosting zones was very successful even due to being last minute!

3. Football

- First home game was successful, even despite the rainy weather the team played hard.

4. Basketball

- Jr and Sr beginning in November

5. Curling

- Beginning next week! Practices on Tuesday 5-6.
- All three teams are signed up to play in league nights.

Mixed on Mondays

Girls - Wed.
Mens - Tues.