

Georges P. Vanier/ École Routhier School Joint Council Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Attendance: Carolyn Giroux: VP GP Vanier, Monique Dubrule: VP Routhier, Pam Heckbert: Principal GP Vanier, Diane Benoit: Principal Routhier, Taryn Aucoin: Teacher Routhier, Karin Scholl: Trustee, Lina Lepage, Tara Lea, Stephanie Staudinger, Pauline Therriault, Alyssa Pollard, Leslie Carbone, Nicole Simard, Lena Maisonneuve

1. Welcome / Call to Order

Tara Lea, call meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

Tara called for approval of agenda.

No items were added to the agenda, Pauline moved to approve agenda as presented.

3. Review/Approval of March 2, 2021 Minutes

Tara called for approval of minutes.

Leslie moved to approve minutes as presented.

4. Financial Reports: no change.

a. Routhier -\$1056.28

b. Vanier – \$1332.40

Alyssa make motion to approve balances.

5. Old Business:

Input from COSC meeting –ASCA resolutions:

-Karin –Question of the people there and who attend to school council discussions –this is new having discussions with councils –giving HPSD voice.

If that is something that is appreciated, does it influence the way people think...? How do you feel about the change? Don't want to influence how people should vote.

Alyssa –found this year it was nice to hear from everybody, good to hear different perspectives, other parents, members, trustees. Just looking at some of the ASCA resolutions, some don't apply to us, so nice to hear from school division they apply to so can see better how to vote as would not have thought about it without that input.

Tara –enjoy the meeting and hearing everyone's perspectives, worked well as a zoom meeting. Good Information.

Curriculum resolution –better able to talk to now that draft curriculum has been posted.

Karin –going forward for next year –to be more specific in asking...is us (trustees) sharing perspective helpful?

-Taryn –yes, your respectful. Helps build picture and give context.

-Alyssa –yes, helpful. Thank you. Helps to explain more.

-Pauline –yes, we appreciate your feedback, your respectful.

-Pam –yes Karin you always do a good job.

Email from ASCA –may have to add motion 21-07, 21-10 –not sure on protocol for that. Should get more info at ASCA meeting. Concerns have been expressed with whether or not they are valid.

Discussion of Curriculum: Alyssa will attend the AGM –voting member, Tara will be at AGM and conference. Pauline is interested in attending. Registration form sent by email.

Anyone else interested? Can have another attend.

6. School Reports:

a. Routhier Principal Report:

What's New at Routhier

Leading into spring break we had PTI nights, Kindergarten/Maternelle Parent information night and Easter celebrations. Classes did egg hunts and spring art projects and virtual reading buddies.

This month.

We have completed the assurance survey with gr. 4,5 and 6 students. **Deadline has been extended to Wednesday April 28, 2021 for any parents who still need time to complete the survey.**

We completed small focus groups with division 2 students to go over the results of the survey.

The final re-entry from at home learning where we are welcoming back 2 students.

We announced the winners of our Wild Robot writing. Aidan Elliott ECS, Sune Kruger 2E and Paisley Marchildon 5F. Each student received their own programmable robot kit.

Update from the Wellness coach - Mental health literacy with a focus on Self-Care will be the goals this month

We are sad to see our student teachers leave. This is their last week.

3F students will be showing off their talents on the 29th.

The 29th is hat and tie day.

Next month we look forward to kicking off jump rope for heart and stroke.

Arbor Day seedlings will be delivered on May 31 to Grade 1 & 2 students.

b. GPV Principal Report:

March highlights

- Student Teacher Daniel Belley-spent the month with us teaching up to a max of 50% will be done on April 23.
- Breakfast Program is off and running with 7 students helping with the organization, planning and execution. Variety of options have been made available, cheese, granola bars, smoothies, breakfast sandwiches, muffins, etc....
- We have issued hat days every Friday until Spring break (this was an earned incentive from last school year).
- Shamrock Day for St. Patrick's Day
- Vanier Olympics is in full swing
- Great Easter Egg Hunt on April 1
- Senior High Registrations for next year have continued
- Spirit Day: Formal Day and Dress in School Colours Day
- Staff and Student Accountability Surveys-grades 7 and 10 have been completed
- Celebrated French Culture-French Language Week-French games, food at Cafe Vanier and celebration-Etudes Sociales 10 class.

Wellness:

- PLS-HHP -Chelsea and Sarah programming
Wellness Coach and Psychology Student providing mental health breaks to PLS/HHP as well as mental health and coping strategies programming to help students build a toolbox of regulation and coping skills to use in times of stress/conflict etc. -this will continue with online teaching
- Sarah Poirier-Psychology practicum student has continued to meet with individual students to continue with assessments

Extra Curricular:

- After school Badminton began on March 15 and has continued into April

Upcoming events:

- AHL Transition in April
- Report Cards 7-12 go out on April 22
- Picture Day-April 19
- ASCA Conference-registration deadline is April 16-Conference is April 23-25

<https://asca.erlc.ca/>

-PTI's-April 29

-Robotics Competition for Skills Canada

Alberta Education Survey:

Survey is completed with the students. Please be on the lookout for a code in the **mail** if you have a child in grade 7 or 10.

7. Trustee Report:

Karin: Discussing board priorities and goals, things we would like to see, budget considerations, strategic planning. Not yet fully approved. More discussion needs to happen. It takes time for all to come to the same conclusions. Admin working on budget for the upcoming school year, board meeting planned to review further. Final budget meeting planned for May 5th but have until May 31 to submit the final budget. Anxious to hear opinions on proposed curriculum.

8. New Business

- a. COVID: any thoughts, open discussion: HPSD seems good, HP school may have outbreak. All in all good in comparison to other schools.
Pam –we have experienced that our students and staff are honest. That helps a lot, so they tell us if they have testing or if they are a contact. Because AHS cannot keep up. That's made a difference.

- b. New Curriculum:
Alyssa –question –after releasing the curriculum, then what happens?
Karin -Schools pilot it. Some schools are against that because they are not in support of it. HPSD have not yet met to discuss their opinion on the draft.
Tara –who decides about the piloting? Karin –it is not a school board decision. Maybe administration would know more. Have school staff been approached? –Darby –we are asked to give feedback at this point, that's all. Taryn –would HPSD as a whole take a stance? Or each school has the ability to decide? Karin –as far as I know it's a decision for the schools and not the whole division.

Tara –concerns with new curriculum:

Pauline –if parents have concerns with curriculum –what is best course of action? Karin –best place to send concerns is MLA and Minister of Education. We at the HPSD do not have a voice with this.

Pauline –I know it doesn't affect JPV and high school now, but won't that be next? Shouldn't we all be checked in?

Monique –yes it would have to be. The outcomes move and it's a ripple effect. So yes it will affect them.

Tara –last year at the end of grade 7 the children were learning about Canadian history including Rupert’s Land. Which is all the way down in grade 2. Start local and then spread out was how I thought it always was and not to learn about other cultures in the younger grades.

Nichole –I think it is interesting to learn about other cultures in the younger grades. Don’t like the duplication idea. But feel interesting to keep the kids engaged by sprinkling in other cultures.

Tara-there has been a lot of drafts before, what is different in this one? I wish I had kept the previous one so that I could compare.

Pauline –I went in 2018/2019 –the NDP invited parents to come. Parents had more flexibility. Built onto their skills. Lots of documents out there, they do compare previous drafts with this one. Can send out doc in email.

Tara: Resolution P05: Now do you still agree that we should hurry the new curriculum up or put on hold.

Nichole –put on hold.

Pam –two separate issues, 1. Hold because of covid vs 2. People are in disagreement with this curriculum. We don’t want to pilot something we don’t agree with.

A few parents at COSC meeting shared view of putting the pilot program on hold for this resolution.

Pauline agrees and it’s not a covid thing, it is just a terrible curriculum

Carolyn –it just needs to be worked more, there are some good things in this curriculum and some bad things, we need to re-work it and pilot it and then pilot it again.

Karin –community hat: social study section seems to be where most people had concerns. Appreciated seeing financial literacy introduced into each grade. Kids need to understand numbers in economy and financial implications.

Tara reading from the P05 resolution.

Karin –submit proposal to eliminate the aspect of tying it to the covid pandemic. You can support as a school council all but that one point. Just because it is written that way now does not mean it has to stay that way.

Tara: ok will agree with that resolution now if re-worked.

Taryn: everything that’s been said –agree. The lack of voice. Social studies piece stands out. Teachers feel not heard, left out, we should be a part of the conversation. Instead of piloting it needs conversation and molding

and input from the fields connected. Open to feedback. Teachers are ready to do what's best and take things on.

Tara –lack of respect in a way.

Carolyn –from a secondary perspective –social studies -hard to take and opinion on some of this because I don't know where it is going. Don't know what the expectation will be for 7-12. If could see it all could see where they were going with it and then form an opinion.

Democracy can be taught in grade 2 yes –but it needs to come back later for further in depth learning.

Scope and sequence would help me form an opinion as a secondary teacher.

Social studies –liked how it was done in lower elementary grades and then in higher grades source analysis. A lot of good stuff in our current curriculum, don't want to see it ruined, want to see it improved.

Taryn –in grade one, we are all about our local community and they are understanding they are a part of Alberta. It is great. Good parts there now.

Tara: would it be helpful for the school council to write a letter?

Nichole –says to leave it up to the individual. That way if we feel passionate about it we can take action. Appreciate the feedback from this group and discussion.

Tara –any letter written and the survey online would all be helpful to do.

Karin –as the HPSD having that concrete information from letters is helpful. Board meeting next Wednesday.

Taryn -Laura is open to teachers offering feedback.

If you are going to write a letter send before Wednesday so that you have the information for the discussion at that meeting.

P21-05:

Renewal of Alberta Curriculum:

Asking should it be delayed past next fall due to pandemic.

We would like to see it implemented sooner, no delay.

Do not support this resolution.

May depend on how much trust you have in this government. Feedback from administration was valuable at last meeting.

Pam-I think it's political, it may never get done if we delay. Education first and politics second. This level of change in government is new and that wasn't there in the past.

As long as proper engagement with teacher and parents the sooner the better.

9. Next Meeting – May 4, 2021

10. Adjournment at 7:59pm by Tara Lea.