

Vanier/Routhier Joint School Council Meeting
March 17, 2015

Those in attendance: Alex Brochu, Annette Ouelette, Lynn Skrepnek, Karin Scholl, Aimee Andersen, Karen Benoit, Cheryl Tardif, Bob Owens, Pam Heckbert, Colin Colett, Nigel McCarthy, Terry Valiquette, Melissa Portelance, Chantal L'Abbe, Dione Guerette, Peter Sutton, Doreen Horvath, Jackie Cuthbertson

1. Meeting Called to Order 7:04pm
2. Approval of Agenda: Annette Ouelette approves the agenda
3. Approval of Previous Minutes with the addition of Natasha Smits on the attendance: Terry Valiquette
4. Presentation : "Tell Them From Me" survey results delivered by Colin Colett
5. Routhier:
 - Family Literacy Night – great turnout and a success
 - Carnaval/Winter Fun Day – EC Bar Ranch was great, they plan to go back. Carnaval was wonderful as usual
 - Fruit in February – many cases were ordered and the funds raised were great
6. Vanier:
 - Communication via website/parents/staff – some people still talk about not knowing what activities are happening and when. Bob stresses that checking the website and teachers keeping their pages up to date is important. Karin talks about effective ways of communicating, and suggests that there is no magic bullet.
 - Bank Account: bank account was switch from ATB to Credit Union
 - Science Fair: went well and Regional Science Fair is March 28 at Peace River. Students will be attending.
 - Parent-Teacher Interviews will be April 1 and will include our Vanier Showcase and orientation for grades 7s and 10.
 - YoWoChAs: was a wonderful experience again, and the kids are still talking about it.
 - Band : Strike Up The Band is March 28. Dugout Dunk tickets will be sold at the Tradeshow in Falher on March 21
 - Colour Night : Speaker in June will be replaced by mini camps for Basketball, Volleyball and Badminton. This year it is scheduled for June 9 and includes a supper for all guests
 - Day Off in Lieu: Mr. Owens suggests that the Day Off in Lieu be changed from May 1 to June 1. Karen Benoit moves to move the Day in Lieu from May 1 to June 1. Second from Jackie Cuthbertson. All are in favour and motion is universally carried.
 - Curling Zones were hosted in Falher. And many teams won gold. After Provincials, our senior boys were declared provincial champs.
 - Vanier Art was showcased at an art fair in Canmore where Vanier art was a focus.
 - Junior High Ski Trip is moved to this Friday.

- Terry talks about changing the date for valediction. Terry wants to teach students they have a choice and graduate after the work is complete. She also stresses that there is
- too much emphasis on diploma exams and anxiety is raised in children over them. Bob suggests that it is impossible for students and teachers to give a quality grad at the end of June or in August. Nigel suggests splitting the school ceremonies and the party/banquet portion of grad.

7. Routhier Items

- Parent Teacher Interviews have been rescheduled to Wednesday of this week due to freezing rain. The gym format seems to be working well, save for a few phone calls with concerns. These are being addressed by Mr. McCarthy
- Teacher Appreciation Meal discussion will be tabled until next meeting. There will be a meal cooked tomorrow afternoon by 35 kids as part of a gratitude project.
- Science and Art Fair – coming along well. Vanier will be delivering tables (25). Water bottles and iTunes cards will be “incentive” prizes for grades 4, 5, and 6s. Judges are provided from Vanier. Looking into tech club from Vanier doing some interviews and bringing some mics for announcements. Doors will open at 6:00pm and everything should be done by 8:00pm.
- Grade 6 Bottle Drive collection date: March 25. Actual sorting date in McLennan will be April 19.
- Mr. Nigel McCarthy is happy to be back at Routhier. He thanks Richard Fournier and Melissa Portelance for stepping up in his absence.

8. Correspondence:

- COSC – Council of the School Councils : Vanier is hosting April 14 . Routhier used Becky Sasseville for catering at last meeting, and would recommend her again. We would like to use the Learning Commons. Anyone from school council can attend, but you need to RSVP by April 2 so final numbers can be determined for the caterer.
- Alberta School Councils Association, Deadline is March 20 to register. The actual conference is April 24-26 in Edmonton.
- REFUS Casino needs volunteers, and we are happy to accept help from anyone... contact Lynn Pele.

9. Trustees Report :

- HPSD PD was excellent.
- Trustees will be meeting with FNMI groups and trying to establish communications and relationships to discuss transitions from other schools to HPSD.
- Are still in talks about transportation of pre-kindergarten students, more information will be obtained by May.
- Still tracking bus fly-bys. It has improved over the last few years, however, there is still a problem and we are working to address it.
- Diploma exam weighting will be 70%/30% school awarded to diploma exam come September 2015.

10. Treasurer's Report for Routhier: \$3038.98.

11. Meeting Adjourned 9:35pm. Next meeting will be the COSC meeting at Vanier at 5:00pm. The joint school council meeting will be held May 12, 2015 at Routhier at 7:00pm.