

September 23, 2014 School Council Meeting Minutes

Those in attendance: Judith Colter, Terry Valiquette, Karin Scholl, Karen Benoit, Murray Marran, Bob Owens, Pam Heckbert.

1. School Council Executive Positions 2014-15

- Possibility of combining school council with Ecole Routhier. It was discussed at Routhier School council and was well received. Administration from both schools will meet and discuss details.

2. Donnelly AG Proposal

- Judith Colter expresses concerns about students going to Falher at noon to get lunch and returning late, and keeping students safe on winter roads.
- Murray Marran discusses using the commercial kitchen in the Donnelly Sportex to run a canteen for tournaments and raise funds under the SGF category.
- There is much that can be done with a public food booth (work experience credits, entrepreneur club, foods modules, etc) and a balance must be struck between what is possible and what can be handled by staff and students. Growing the program will be possible once support from School Council is received.
- Council's initial thoughts are positive, but tentative in terms of organization, ordering, and food safety knowledge. If these issues are addressed, the idea is creative and has potential.

3. Varia

- Judith Colter talks about Students Union in High School. She asks how to best get support from parents in Halloween activities, dances, etc. Terry Valiquette suggests a parent sign-up sheet at Parent-Teacher Interviews that lists activities and allows parents to sign up to help out at these events.

4. SGF and Fundraising

- Murray asks about casinos and the Educational Foundation. Money needs to be made to help students with activities. Karin expresses that money need not be raised for the sake of raising money. There must be a reason to raise the money and specific items must be purchased. Bob offers that a cushion of money is required to plan activities and make deposits. Approximately \$20 000 is required to execute all student activities.
- Bob discusses the sub-committee of the GPV EF deciding how money is spent
- Sports teams busing costs are extremely expensive and SGF monies could help with that. School fundraising is a possibility to offset those costs.

- Murray asks why accounts must be zeroed at the end of the year. This results in some groups' surpluses paying for other groups' deficits. Also, can a contingency plan be put in place so deposits and bills that are "up front" can be covered? Karin Scholl will look into the answers to those questions.

5. Programming at G.P.V.

- Christine Rochon is teaching cosmetology in the morning. She will be bringing in clients in the afternoon and running a salon with work experience and RAP students. All funds raised go back to the school.
- Darcy Servant is continuing with shed building and play houses. The program is cost-recoverable and continues to be successful.

6. Personnel and Restructuring

- To address finding solutions for a smooth transition: Pam Heckbert will go into V.P. in training, Katrina Jolie and Jo-Ellen Lyslo will be working with our students as a grad coach. Jo-Ellen has committed to two days per week, and Katrina will be here for students on a daily basis. Katrina will be transitioning into this role for a half time position.
- The wellness coach, Rachel Dubrule can now take personal counselling into her repertoire. Each class has been introduced to Rachel, Jo-Ellen, and Katrina and their new roles have been outlined to students.
- Kristen Blanchette will be integrating literacy and numeracy into all subjects as a Learning Support Teacher as in alignment with the new Ministerial Order.
- Chris Reid will be spearheading a new course called Learning Strategies 15 to aid in supplementing instruction in English 30-2, and Social 30-2. An opportunity for remediation is being offered.
- Flex Pilot Project: if a school becomes part of the flex pilot project, you no longer get paid in a traditional model of credits earned. The average amount of credits obtained for the last 3 years is the model used for the funding allotment. The value of flex time has potential to be great, however, compromising the funding is not in our best interest.
- G.P. is prototyping new curriculum designed in part by Monique Dubrule, Wendy Garant, and Pam Heckbert. It is exciting, excellent PD, and also demanding of those teachers.
- FNMI initiatives are infused into curriculum, lessons and ways of teaching. G.P. Vanier is the pilot for the division. We are currently building our own resource library that incorporate FNMI perspectives into lessons to best validate students in an inclusion model.

- Technology initiatives are challenging but have tremendous potential, so teachers are being patient and working hard to navigate through glitches.
- CAP initiatives and administrators visiting classrooms regularly is becoming part of the culture of our school. Teachers are adapting well and working hard.

Next school council meeting scheduled for October 14, 2014 at 7:00pm at Vanier

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.