

Georges P. Vanier/ École Routhier School Joint Council Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Attendance: Carolyn Giroux: VP GP Vanier, Lynn Skrepnek: Trustee, Monique Dubrue: VP Routhier, Pam Heckbert: Principal GP Vanier, Diane Benoit: Principal Routhier, Taryn Aucoin: Teacher Routhier, Karin Scholl: Trustee, Charlene Born: parent, Kelsie Fournier: parent, Lina Lepage: parent, Tara Lea, Stephanie Staudinger, Lena Maisonneuve, Vitoria Korpan

1. Welcome / Call to Order

Tara Lea, call meeting to order at 7:07pm.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

Tara called for approval of agenda.

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

3. Review/Approval of February 2, 2021 Minutes

Tara called for approval of minutes.

Lina moved to approve minutes as presented.

4. Financial Reports: no change.

a. Routhier -\$1056.28

b. Vanier – \$1332.40

5. Old Business:

None.

6. School Reports:

a. Routhier Principal Report:

What's New at Routhier

-Last week Science in Motion - daily presentation and challenges.

-First week of March is lever du drapeau celebration. Students are engaging in activities throughout the week.

-One book Two Schools reading is still going. -Story is about a robot that finds herself on an island and must adapt to her surroundings. We have a life size robot that circulates around to each and the class is responsible for making changes to the robot depending on what happened in the story. We have daily trivia prizes and a weekly virtual meeting with another class to discuss the book.

-Snow club started - they are making molds for carving snow sculptures

-Winter Fun Days - March 5 and 10

-Class photos went out

- Festival du livre Scholastic Virtuel /Virtual Scholastic Book Fair 8th - 14th
- RFES meeting march 15
- 1E and ½F showcase talents March 26th
- Formal day on the 26th
- Wellness update: February's focus was relationships and conflict resolution which aligned with the standing up against bullying campaign for Feb. March focus is to continue promoting healthy positive relationships.
- Students (4,5,6) completed the division survey this past week.
- We would like to welcome our two student teachers Nuoy Gauthier and Meagan Aubin they are in the 4/5E class and 3F class.
- March 25th - Report cards are going out as well as our first PTI night 3:45-5:45
- March 29th 4:30-6:30
- Kindergarten Registration night the 31st 7-8pm

b. GPV Principal Report:

February Highlights:

- Breakfast Program is kicking off with 7 students helping with the organization, planning and execution. Breakfast began today.
- We have issued hat days every Friday until Spring break (this was an earned incentive from last school year).
- Heart Day, Candygrams, Valentines for Seniors!
- Moosehide Campaign
- Cree words of the month and prizes
- Grad Pictures
- Grad Meetings-Grad plan was established
- Pink Shirt Day-Feb 26
- Daniel Belley-Student Teacher started on March 1

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
- Zen Den with the support Dog "Noah" is available to all SH students for now every Friday morning as a pilot project.

Report from Career Coach

- 9 students have completed all graduation requirements and have moved on
 - 1 has a new RAP placement -as a Heavy Equipment Technician with Gibert and Richard Owens
 - 1 has moved to Camrose to start an apprenticeship in plumbing
 - 1 is working with Careers:Next Generation to find an apprenticeship.

- 5/9 have met all their requirements and are still attending additional courses
- Careers:Next Gen has a new promotion for RAP placements where they will pay a portion of the students' wages for 4 months.
- We will host an online career fair in May along with an alumni fair where past graduates share their education and career stories.
- Course selection for next year is planned for March.

Extra Curricular:

- Afterschool basketball is happening
- Badminton will begin on March 15

Upcoming events:

Formal Day-March 11
 Youth Council Among Us Tournament March 12 - Registration closes March 5
 Tell Them From Me-Surveys-First week in March
 Shamrock Day
 Vanier Olympics

7. Trustee Report:

Karin: Bus cancelation information –concerns bus cancelations were not done early enough and perhaps online not up to date. Response: We can assure that transportation department will work hard to get notices out early and have website up to date.

Plug ins for students will be discussed at a later date, not an issue for the rest of this year. School can address on a case by case basis until further discussion is made by the board.

First ever board evaluation meeting over zoom, went well.

Lynn: strategic planning Monday and Tuesday to set the end of the year and the new year coming. We do have some information from the board with regards to the ASCA resolutions but will wait until comes up in agenda meeting.

8. New Business

- a. REFS update –moving forward with playground update. Pauline has applied for grants, working on another one. Getting designs and quotes based on some of the ideas presented. Would like to thank Routhier school for allowing REFS to conduct fundraiser –moms pantry and others. Fundraiser for July to Sept quarter –depend on Covid. March 15 by zoom next meeting.

- b. COSC (council of school council) March 17 meeting –need to register if want to attend. Contact Tara if would like to attend and can pass name onto Sue. Should have received information in email from Tara. Discussion of ASCA resolutions will be discussed.

ASCA Resolutions:

P21-01:

Continue support and advancement of technology:

Supportive of this resolution....maybe would say no after more discussion. Maybe better to encourage through the school division.

Karin -Digital literacy is something that HPSD strives to engage our staff and students in. Prepare for the future. It's in our future. We can't spend more than what we have, in these matters, it's all about where we want the money to go. Only so much funding so what is the priority.

Lynn –funding for technology pays for the licensing that's all. Providing hardware to kids doesn't get you to where you need to be. Need to know how to use it and use it effectively.

All people entitled to the same learning opportunities. Ensure funding is adequate.

These resolutions are asking for funding for a certain ask –doesn't give anyone the flexibility to use for what would better your individual school. Less options for use for needs at the local level. Many trustees across Alberta have asked to step away from marked funding to allow for school divisions to choose where they spend their money. It's like moving backwards in some ways. Depends on parents and how they feel when they vote. Maybe might change what you vote for because of that point, want to allow the school the flexibility to use funding to their needs.

P21-02:

Acknowledgment of CoSC/DSC in the Alberta Education Act:

HPSD puts high priority on COSC and gives voice. Pam reports –moving from accountability model to insurance model –gives more chance for impact from communities. Karin –as an idea it's a good point, maybe COSC could have a more direct voice. There is ASCA has a joint voice of many different types of school voices. Whereas if we get a COSC we get a more direct voice for what our needs are. This supports the concept of local decision making.

We agree.

P21-03:

Restore PUF Funding to Alberta Schools:

We agree.

? Higher priority than technology.

And if restored not necessarily tied to early intervention as it was previously.

Nice to have focus on early intervention.

Karin-no doubt it's good and needed. Focus needed and funding needed. HPSD has faith in that concept that we are funding full time kinder throughout the division. To support early intervention. Specifically to PUF –not sure, if it was brought back it might look different. I can see why parents would want it back. Maybe boards can get creative and think outside the box. What can be created aside from PUF funding?

P21-04:*** Concern for Rural Communities****

Transportation – Maximum Time Limit Students can be on the Bus:

We cannot support this resolution

Lynn- would have to purchase more buses and hire more drivers. Not enough drivers now.

Would have to take money out of classrooms to pay for buses.

Karin –it's like denying kids access to education because some do live 45-60min away from school. This highlights further the need for local ability to use the funding.

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.

P21-06:

Addressing Barriers to Student-centred Public Education:

Choice for some people but not for all.

Political

Student centered education? Any clarification for that term? Thought we were doing that already. What happened?

Do you remember the resolutions from last year when one was asking for a student representative from each school? Lynn –HPSD does a good job and teachers at being student focused already. We are student centered. Career coaches, wellbeing support.

Taryn –seems like they are saying we aren't on the same page, what organizations are they referring to?...

Wait for clarification.

Are parents saying they have no voice? A direct line to the minister when there is already methods in place to deal with any issues.

Band the use of isolation rooms. Maybe some kind of pressure. Speculation.

P21-07:

Respect for ASCA's Bylaws, Values, and Members:

The board will abide by the bylaws so that the policies will be resented.

ASCA seems to do a bylaw review yearly. Needs to be determined if that goes against bylaws. If ASCA is requiring school councils to buy a membership then ASCA should advocate on behalf of all of their members. If they would not like to advocate for all of their members then they need to change membership criteria.

Does publicly funded mean public? That's the question to be answered.

ASCA with the bylaws and members it has at present may not be the right place to fight this battle.

Tara agree with this resolution. If charter schools are a membership within ASCA then we shouldn't be fighting against them

ASCA not specific to any school, any school can buy a membership.

?should charter schools be included in public education definition from Karin.
This goes with #10 resolution.

You can be publicly funded but is it truly public education.

A public school takes all, non-public can potentially turn away students.

And identity associated with public school vs francophone school for example.

Private schools are publicly funded for example. So need to decide what exactly is a public school.

Pam –Is ASCA the place to fight this fight. Don't think so. Why ask ASCA to change their mandate.

When ASCA is speaking on behalf of many voices, gives them more weight to engage with the government.

P21-08:

Accountability and providing information is always a good thing.

Hear more about it at the meeting.

P21-09:

Equal Opportunity of Access to All Public Schools:

Sounds like every school has to have a gym, cafeteria, no matter who opens it.

So anyone can open a school and then have it supplied.

A lot of questions about this one.

City schools, have waitlists and lotteries.

How long would it take for our school to get an improvement if they are funding every school in the city.

Ideally every student would have the perfect choice for them but we have what we have and that would take a lot of money and not realistic.

No wait times and no lottery –how can you control that. You cant.

Quarter system of learning –student, parent, teacher, school. All have to work together.

Are we actually creating equal opportunity with this or are we excluding students.

We do not support.

P21-10:

Achieving Universal Public Education:

Karin –if you are so similar then why do you need to be separate? Do you want to stand alone or be all encompassed in public education.

Accessibility in relation to social economic status.

How many education systems do the other provinces have?

Alberta, ?Ontario and Sask are only provinces with publically funded Catholic education.

ASCA is not the right venue for this ask.

Outcome of this will depend on outcome of 7.

Similar to 7.

P21-11:

Allocating Public Funds to Public Education:

Private schools specific to kids with special needs –need to be clarified.

Schools that serve a specific need of the student. Kids meet the requirement and can go to that special school and might otherwise fall through the cracks.

Could turn out badly if private schools would become charter schools to get funding.

Huge conversation that the province of Alberta and parents of Alberta students should have, can an organization like ASCA lead this? Not sure.

Too much grey area, not their role.

Conflict of interest.

Would be good to hear from other schools and what their thoughts are.

Input will come from the actual meeting on April 25 and the COSC meeting.

April 23-25 –online conference. Must register. Let Tara know if you want to go.

Karin –anyone who might be interested there is funding for 2 people per school council to register. Our council can send 4 because we are 2 schools.

ASCA –if you would like to send votes by proxy, there is a deadline to submit.

9. Next Meeting – April 13, 2021

10. Adjournment at 8:41pm by Tara Lea.