

Georges P. Vanier/ Routhier School Joint Council Meeting

Georges P. Vanier School – Mrs. Giroux’s Classroom

Monday, January 30, 2023 @ 7PM

Attendance: Carolyn Giroux, GPV Vice Principal, Monique Dubrule, Routhier Vice Principal, Tara Lea, Jenny St. Jean, Routhier Teacher Rep, Terry Hogan, GPV Principal, Karin Scholl, HPSD Trustee, Stephanie Cloutier, Parent

1. Treaty Acknowledgement

2. Call to Order - 7:07 pm

3. Welcome & Introductions

4. Review / Additions / Approval of Agenda – Info Items around Vaping was added as Item E in New Business and Senior High Basketball Zones was added as Item F in New Business. Terry Hogan approved the agenda as amended.

5. Review/Approval of November 28, 2022 Minutes – Monique Dubrule approved the minutes.

6. Financial Reports:

- a. Routhier - \$1695.47
- b. Vanier - \$2132.40

7. Old Business: no business arising from the minutes

8. School Reports:

- a. Routhier Report

What's New at Routhier

- Finished 2022 in December with Christmas Concerts, PJ theme day and Christmas activities.
- Classes traveled to the Villa and performed their Christmas Concert.
- We had our report to the board on Dec. 8th.
- We welcomed students back on Jan. 3rd.
- Gr. 4,5 and 6 students have completed the HPSD student survey.
- Who Do You Tell presentation wrapped up with all classes.
- Gr. 4 students were able to participate in a land based learning opportunity and get to experience dog sledding.
- Jersey Day was the 20th with a school assembly featuring the gr. 3E class jigging and the Gr. 1/2F class singing a song.
- French classes have been fundraising and preparing for their dictée PGL. They have raised almost \$2000. Funds go to support French cultural events for the year.
- I was able to attend the Faculté St. Jean career fair on the 23rd. Along with Carolyn in hopes of recruiting teachers.
- We had a presentation Le Voyageur with the gr. 4,5 and 6 French classes.

- Gr. 4,5 and 6 Teachers are able to have PD with Chris Zarski the 27th in supporting them through the new math curriculum.
- Mondays and Wednesdays are pokemon club.
- Tuesdays are Crib Club
- No school the 30th for students as it is a PD for teachers.
- Teacher's Convention is Feb. 9 and 10 with a PD day on the 8th.
- In Feb. we have Career Day and Assembly on the 24th.
- Feb. 22nd is Pink Shirt Day - anti bullying awareness.
- No school Feb. 20th - Family Day
- We are rearranged assignments to include 4/5F class with the leave of Mme Julie.
- We still have reading buddies continuing weekly. We have Roots of Empathy in weekly with the 4E and 4/5F classes.
- Feb. 15 is Carnaval for the french classes and Winter Fun Day for the english classes.
- Feb. 16 is the 100th day of school this year.
- Feb. 17th skiing for gr. 4/5
- We still have our grade level curriculum collaboration meetings after school for teachers to meet with other teachers from the division.

b. GPV Report-

Dec 2022/Jan 2023-GPV Report

Dec

- Coins for Change-\$770
- Dec 4-Bottle Drive-Sports fundraising-was incredibly successful
- Dec 8-Board Presentation
- Dec 13-Grade 9's attended the Christmas Carol in Edm
- Dec 15-Band Concert
- Dec 16-Turkey Dinner, Activity Day, PJ/Christmas Sweater Day
- Dec 17-Jan 2-Christmas Break
- Dec 19-Parent/Student Grad Meeting
- Student Surveys-Completed

Jan

- Jan 3-Back to classes
- Jan 16-Laura Poloz met with staff for Town Hall style meeting
- Jan 17-Grade 7's participated in Dog Sledding a part of our Land based Learning at Routhier
- Jan 18-Grad Parent/Student Meeting
- Jan 19-Jersey Day and Last Day of SH Classes
- Jan 20-21-SH Boys Basketball Tourny
- Diploma Exams written this semester: ELA 30, SS 30, Math 30, Bio 30, Chem 30
- SH Tutorials/Final Exams-held during the week of Jan 20-27
- Jan 23/24-Monique and Carolyn attended Campus St. Jean for Teacher Recruitment

- Jan 27-Last Day for Mr. Bhantooa, we hired Mrs. Robyn Verreault part time, absorbing the remaining classes to Mrs. Giroux and Ms. Portelance
- Jan 30-PD for Teachers
- Jan 31-Report Cards go out

Career Coach

Semester 2 one on ones and scheduling are done. Now focus on Grade 9's getting ready for Grade 10 orientation.

Upcoming

- Assurance Model Surveys should be in your mailboxes-please fill them out
- Feb 8-AM-Divisional Collaboration
- Feb 8PM-Feb 10-Teachers Convention
- Feb 13-Land based Learning-Grade 8's-Ice Fishing
- Feb 15-Carnival-SH F.I. Students will go with Routhier
- Feb 21-Grad Meeting
- March 13-14-Grad Photos

c. Trustee Report

- Annual Reports to the board from each school were completed.
- Now they are looking over this past year and looking forward to the current year.
- Continuing their search for a new superintendent. Interviews should happen soon.
- Met with the auditors
- HPSD was successful in being one of two school divisions to be part of Alberta Education Mental Health in Schools Pilot Program. Thanks to HPSD staff who worked to apply for this initiative.
- Trustees did a wage review – there was a 3% wage increase for some staff.
- Now looking at dates to bargain with the ATA.
- There is ongoing searches for bus drivers, teachers, & EA's. There has been some recruitment so that is positive.
- The calendar survey is closed. The next school year calendar will be finalized in February. There was discussion on the way choices were presented in the survey. Also discussion on the wish to have an option for mid-week stop/start options for Christmas break which were not presented. Also discussion on some of the questions included in the survey regarding the wellness coach and career coach caused some concern about why they were on this survey. Staff would like the opportunity for feedback. There was a request about a breakdown in survey results being released by location or school etc.
- Bus Driving Temperature Policy Change was adopted – The previous policy was actual temperatures of -40 would see buses not run. However due to more electrical components on buses the policy was modified to -35 temperatures buses will not run. Ultimately parents will be the ones who choose to put their kids on the bus. Bus Drivers also do have some discretion as to whether they run in inclement weather as well.

9. New Business

A. ASCA Resolution – A resolution on the topic of bussing was submitted. We can change or withdraw if needed. Another resolution on the topic of bussing was also submitted by another group. ASCA is reviewing the resolutions to see if modifications need to be made before sending them to councils for review.

B. GPV Bathrooms – Revisited the topic. There are currently issues happening in the bathrooms including vaping and vandalism. The idea of a window to see into the sink areas of the bathroom is still being considered as schools wish to prevent and deter issues from happening rather than punish after they happen. New schools have washroom facilities that are designed much differently with sinks open to halls in many cases. With the current issues happening in the bathrooms at GPV staff is concerned that kids do not wish to use the bathrooms at break times and are asking to use washrooms during class time. Currently both High Prairie and Slave Lake have windows in their washrooms.

C. Parent Question – Age for Riding Bus – There was a question whether playschool students could ride HPSD buses to Smoky River Playschool at Routhier School. Trustee Karin Scholl did some research on this topic. There were some points of concern that were brought forward.

- The playschool kids are not registered with HPSD therefore who is responsible for supervision.
- There would need to be consideration of the law requiring kids under a certain age/weight to be tethered into a seat. (Who would be responsible to buckle up if necessary).
- Insurance considerations.
- HPSD does not receive funding for students not registered as HPSD students.
- All bus drivers have the option to bring their own underage kids. Space constraints for seats.

However the issue is worth looking at again (it had been discussed several years ago) as times and circumstances do change. It may be useful for school recruitment.

D. ASCA School Council Conversations – Creating a Hopeful Vision for Public Education: School Councils can have a discussion on the question “What are the solutions you would like to see the Alberta government implement to improve education for your children and/or school?” School Councils can submit answers on behalf of the group or parents can submit answers individually as well. After discussion the following two points were brought up to submit.

- Making sure Rural Schools have similar options as Urban students to attend opportunities (career, citizenship, artistic, etc.). Transportation costs is a large issue.
- Mental Health Supports in Rural Areas that are timely

E. Info Items around Vaping Presentations – Vaping is a concern at GPV. School staff are talking to kids “Do you know what is in there?” The kids don’t know and is it good to inhale something that you don’t know what it is. Also “Who gave it to you?” The school would like to increase education on this topic and will consider bringing in presentations. It is likely going to be an issue where information will need to be given to students on a regular basis to get kids to be able to make good decisions for themselves. AHS has some information on the topic of vaping. FCSS may have information as Hillary Reid had done a presentation on vaping a few years ago when working for FCSS. This may be a topic that School Councils could use their school council engagement grant to help fund if there is a parent information component to it.

F. Senior High Basketball Zones – GPV is hosting the girls senior high basketball zone tournament and is asking for parent help for running the canteen, and supervising and tidying classrooms for teams. Some of the GPV staff will be away and they will need some volunteers to help. Contact Carolyn, Terry or Judith at GPV if you are able to help.

10. Next Meeting/Adjournment: February 27, 2023 @ 7 pm at Routhier. Adjournment at 8:50 PM.