

## **ESSMY School Council Meeting Minutes - January 7, 2020**

**Attendance:** Michelle MacKay, Stacey Jost, Suzanne Morton, Genevieve Gray, Caren Heyza, Lori Beerwart, Greg Schell (Trustee), Cathy Giesbrecht, Monique Aultman, Nicole Schoenberger, Amelie Schoenberger, Jaden Babiuk, Hannah Jamieson, Helen Jamieson, Anita Rivero

1. Call to Order: 6:41PM
2. Welcome: Michelle MacKay  
Acknowledgement of Territories: Mme Aultman  
ESSMY acknowledges that it is gathering on the original lands of the Cree, those of Treaty 6, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation.  
Opening Prayer: Prayer led by Mme. Aultman
3. Review of Agenda: Michelle MacKay  
Agenda changes and additions; Move item #6 to item #5. Add Canadian parents for French as item 6c. Add feedback from admin for teachers speaking more in French with students.
4. Approval of the Minutes, as presented (OR as amended)
  - a. December 3, 2019- motion to approve minutes by Stacey Jost, seconded by Helen Jamieson, all in favour
5. Student Representative Report  
Jaden - Nothing planned as of yet. No meeting because teachers were sick.  
Intramurals at lunch  
December - During last week of school, shaved M. Beaudoin's beard. Activities - cookie decorating, door decorating, hockey tournament. Everyone had fun.  
School dance in March or April - in the works.
6. Chairperson Report - Michell MacKay
  - a. Resignation of Chantal St. Jean/Election of new Vice Chairperson  
Chantal stepped down from VP position  
Suzanne Morton for VC - nominated by Genevieve Gray, seconded by Helen Jamieson, all in favour
  - b. Retroactive bus fees
    - Parents not aware the fees were retroactive
    - When bus was free, parents put their kids on the bus. Now parents are frustrated with the situation.
    - Can the buss fees be retroactive to Jan 1, 2020 instead of Sept 2019? GSACRD is the only board to make bus fees retroactive to Sept. 2019. Greg will take this issue back to the board.
    - Cathy - Every school board has different financial/ budget needs/reserves.
    - If parents don't pay, the bill goes to collections
    - Next level goes to superintendent

c. Canadian Parents for French

Michelle paid \$60 membership, shared between ESSMY with EMP. EMP will donate \$45 to cover some of the membership.

Cathy - ESSMY will reimburse Michelle the \$60. The \$45 from EMP will be donated to ESSMY.

Michelle - will forward letters and brochures to Cathy to send to parents via email

Cathy - will include weekly updates on ESSMY website

7. Administrator Report - Principal: Cathy Giesbrecht

Questions about interviews:

- Break down to 5 min slots, don't want to use bells because not everyone is on the same time, keep turn over faster
- Please contact child's teacher if parents have a concern regarding their child
- Interviews broken down as follows: 2 session early in the year - 2 nights back to back, 1 session 3 hours in February and 1 session 3 hours in March or April.
- Teachers can access powerschool during interviews
- Parents please check powerschool
- Reminder to parents, that they can schedule appointments with teachers at any time of the year.

School fees follow-up

- Installments can be done starting next year - 3 installments
- Option fees - option to pay first option during first semester, and pay second option during 2nd semester. Everything needs to be paid prior to March.

Impact on funding adjustments on our school:

- Subtle changes with staffing
- Mme. Bouchard - hours reduced - 7:30-3:00 (School doors locked until 7:30)
- Mme. BK - assisting at Father Jan. Her hours at ESSMY are changed and decreased.
- Other changes are taking place behind the scenes. Everyone is impacted.
- HIGH SCHOOL IMPACT - entering 2 part consultation
- Jan 15, 2020 - Round table presentation at St Albert High 7-8:30
- Jan 22, 2020 - building session at ESSMY
- Only grades 9-12 families were invited
- Greg - Not looking to change junior high portion of ESSMY, board does not feel these families will be impacted by this change.
- Parents disagree and would like Jr high families invited as well.
- Gen - not too late to invited grades 6, 7, 8 families
- Greatest impact on single track French Immersion
- Greg - will talk to board to include ESSMY grades 7 and 8 families. Intent of these meetings is to talk about high school and not elementary. Reasonable to invite grades 7, 8 as well.
- Greg - Important to pursue single track French Immersion. We are not trying to get rid of it. Greg trying to see how single track french immersion is viable.

Panterra trip - 4 students interested, 1 student dropped out.

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Costs are really high  
Dates have been changed  
4 students will be spoken to directly regarding this trip  
SACHS was approached - but they are not interested  
Open up to a different school to cut costs?  
At this point not eligible for a free chaperone

Next week is business week

Business students advertising, setting up spots, selling their products. EMP  
grade 5 students coming on Jan 15, 2020  
No food service next week

Healthy Hunger dates in calendar on line.

8. Trustee Report - Greg
  - Implement cuts
  - Try to avoid front line staff at school
  - District office has less staff. Contractuals are gone. Assistant superintendent position gone.
  - Meeting with minister in late November. Not a large board. Did not save much money. Up to \$800,000 increase for insurance premiums. Trying to find a different provider
  - BC doesn't need their own insurance, government covers it.
  - Trying to find cost saving everywhere. The board does not want to cut French Immersion
9. Faith in our Future:
  - Consultations Jan 15, Jan 22 at SACHS and ESSMY - 2 proposals;  
Jan 15 - Viability to offer 10, 11, 12 French at ESSMY - impact, what it will look like  
What value would there be to have French Immersion at SACHS  
Both principals will present their proposals, divide into discussion groups.  
Jan 22- Recap of what was discussed on the 15th. This meeting will build on the 1st meeting. It is in the best interest for parents to go to both meetings.
10. Feedback of speaking in French
  - 50% baseline
  - Cathy wants more
  - Staff willing to speak more French
  - Considering to create an incentive program - ie. poutine coupons given to kids caught speaking in French.
  - There is effort being made to speak more French
11. Next meeting - February 4 2020 - chaired by Suzanne
12. Adjourn - 8:16pm