École Secondaire Ste. Marguerite d’Youville, 51 Boudreau Rd., St. Albert, AB.

Virtual School Council Meeting – November 3, 2020

1. Call to order at 6:32 pm
2. Virtual Attendees: Cathy Giesbrecht, Monique Aultman, Suzanne Morton, Lori Beerwart, Michelle MacKay, Joan Crockett, Helen Jamieson, Stacey Jost, Francine Savinkoff and Mary Addison.
3. Welcome, Acknowledgment and Prayer

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. Thank you Creator.

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Approval of October 6, 2020 Minutes, as presented:

*Proposed by Lori Beerwart*

*Seconded by Michelle MacKay*

1. Chairperson Report – Suzanne Morton
   1. Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) Regular General Meeting and Advocacy Resolutions Summary:

Suzanne Morton attended the meeting as our ESSMY delegate. At the Regular General Meeting each School Council is allowed one vote on the Proposed Advocacy Resolutions presented. ESSMY families were given the opportunity to vote on the ten proposed resolutions via Survey Monkey. Eleven parents responded of which 90% were in support of the resolutions package therefore determining our delegate’s vote to be in favor.

It should be noted that Resolution 20-04 “Achieving Equitable Public Education” received much attention during the RGM, resulting in a heated discussion lasting over four hours and proving to cause much division between the attendees.

The full list and descriptions of the resolutions can be found in the Advocacy Resolutions Package 2020 located online at <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/107705>

The resolution results can be found online at: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/156366>

The 2021 School Councils Conference and AGM is April 23-25. The deadline for submitting a proposed advocacy resolution for next spring’s AGM is January 15, 2021.

Should any ESSMY parents have a resolution suggestion, please contact our chairperson Suzanne Morton.

ASCA is conducting a second survey to measure the “pandemic pulse” in the return to schooling with Covid-19 implications. All parents / guardians in Alberta with children in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are invited to participate in the survey. The survey closes on Friday, November 6, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

ASCA is promoting the Alberta Education sponsored Respect in School Program. An online bullying, abuse, harassment, and discrimination prevention training tool, developed for School Leaders: teachers, administrators, educational assistants, counselors, custodians, school bus drivers, parent volunteers, or any individuals who interact with students.

This uniquely crafted curriculum provides the information and skills that School Leaders require to understand, prevent, and respond to incidents of bullying, abuse, harassment, and discrimination (BAHD). To accessgo to: <https://abed.respectgroupinc.com/>

* 1. School Council Operating Procedures – November 2020

Final review and approval of the document, as presented:

*Proposed by Michelle MacKay*

*Seconded by Lori Beerwart*

* 1. School Council contact information: Suzanne proposed to set up a generic school council email account for contacting the chairperson. The email address will be posted on the school website and provided at the next meeting.

1. Trustee Report – Joan Crockett

See attached report at the end of the minutes

1. Administrator Report – Cathy Giesbrecht
   1. COVID Updates @ ESSMY

* We had our first confirmed case (we hope it will be our only, but we are being realistic)
* All students and staff who were isolating due to that case are now returned in the school and we welcome them back.
* We are making some changes to our scheduling to reduce the number of contacts and need for isolation.
* This will impact teacher scheduling and the delivery of options. Students are going to be moving to new ‘homeroom’ classes when necessary.
* Teachers have been amazing in quickly changing their teaching assignments and adapting - this is a huge event for teachers as so much goes into their long-range plans.
* We have worked hard to pair teachers with their areas of expertise and have achieved that.
* We are going to work together to ensure the highest quality of teaching for our students.
  1. Lunch Break
* We currently have students eating in their classrooms and then heading out. We will continue this but are looking to rearrange supervision to tighten it up.
* As soon as it is safe to allow them to return to their previous lunchtime routines, we will do so.
  1. Parent-Teacher Interviews
* Process should be pretty slick, and we are looking forward to ’seeing’ our parents.
  1. Catholic Education Sunday - November 8 - 5 PM Mass @ HFP
  2. GrACE - we are looking for parent volunteers to take part in this committee. We have sent out a message shoulder tapping some parents who we thought might be interested, and it also went in the newsletter. If you would like to participate, please let us know.
  3. New isolation code - when teachers are putting their attendance in they can choose SI Present or SI Absent. This will allow our teachers to keep track of who is in the building and also who is in the meets. Parents who are at work, want to know if their children are in the meets, to ensure that they are participating in their learning.

1. Unfinished/Business Arising
   1. Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Virtual Conference Summary – Michelle MacKay

Keynote speaker Clara Hughes

Campus Saint-Jean financial situation

* + - All membership fees have been extended for one year at no cost (due to COVID)
    - Supporting linguistic security for language learners, students, and teachers. More information to share at the next meeting.
  1. Yearbook pricing options for next year

– Monique checked with the yearbook supplier and was told the pricing is based on the following: number of pages and the number of copies sold. Last year our yearbook had 64 pages and we sold 125 copies at $40. If we went to softcover and kept with 64 pages and sold the same amount, the cost would be $29.27.

-Option for students to send in their own photos seeing that no activities and sports are occurring this year. M. Paret and M. Beaudoin are the yearbook organizers.

-Last year’s book should be ready to distribute this month.

* 1. Suzanne asked if there were ways to make lunchtime less boring and that perhaps some activities could be explored.

Cathy: Yes the lunchtime feels very long. The students are walking aimlessly, either going to Shell or gathering together at doorways.

Suzanne: Could the students be allowed to use the gym, workout room or library during lunchtimes?

Cathy: The suggestions are great however supervision is limited. The cohorts have to be maintained so scheduling for everyone to go to one location is difficult.

Suzanne: Can the sports equipment be used?

Cathy: Yes, frisbees, footballs and soccer balls are available. Basketballs are not given out as the sport is difficult for social distancing.

Suzanne: Can students go home with a friend for lunch?

Cathy: Unclear how to manage that. Parents may or may not be aware of their child’s plans. School cannot be regulating or endorsing this.

Suzanne: With winter approaching and masks filling with condensation, students should be reminded to bring a spare mask.

1. Next Meeting: December 1, 2020
2. Adjourned 7:45 pm

