

Micheal Strembitsky School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 17, 2017

Location – Michael Strembitsky School – Learning Commons

President: Lindsay Peddle (sends apologies)

Vice President: Sarah Jane Barriage (Chair)

Secretary: Stacey Houston

1.0 Call to Order

Vice President Sarah Jane Barriage called the meeting to order at 6.35pm on January 17, 2017 in the Learning Commons at Michael Strembitsky School.

2.0 Attendance and Establishment of Quorum

Quorum in attendance – attendance sheet circulated see attached.

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Robin Homulos & Ashley van Beuningen

Voted: All in favour

Motion Carried

4.0 Approval of November Meeting Minutes (held on November 8, 2016)

Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting: Gale Harwood

Voted: All in favour

Motion Carried

5.0 REPORTS:

5.1 Principal's Report – Mary Michailides

Happy New Year – some great conversations held with students on the first week back.

Fun homework assignment was set before Christmas break by the Principal.

1. PJs on for a full day
2. Fresh air every day – get outdoors
3. Read a book over the break

Highlights to mention

- Miss Justine Porter has been hired and is now in the classrooms spending time in Grade 3
- District-wide focus on reading – reading saves lives.
- Miss McGillivray has been hired to do reading interventions with students in smaller groups

- EAs have been hired to support the reading focus.

5.2 Teacher Representatives Reports:

5.2.1 Kyle Yakemchuk – G2

5.2.2 Amanda Hagerman – G5

5.2.3 Amy Hagman – G1

December and January at MSS – Amy Hagman

- Operation Christmas Child, delivered differently. Each Grade brought an item. 140 boxes were packed and sent. Boxes were packed by Grade 6 students and demonstrated a school-wide effort.
- 9 concerts were performed successfully
- Student Leadership Team led the fundraising for the Food Bank. Bake sale and movie night \$1112 raised.
- Boxes set out at the front of the school for collection of 2000 items to be sent.
- Thanks to parents for generosity

District-wide Focus on Reading – Kyle Yakemchuk

- Resources for teachers are available
- Reading is critical for all parts of school not just in language arts
- School is part of a pilot program
- All students will be identified as reading at, above or below grade level according to the Alberta Program of Studies
- Working to support all demand of students

Artist in Residence – Amanda Hagerman

- Secured an Artist in Residency – Aaron Paquette
- Premier First Nations Metis artist in Canada
- February 13-17, 2017
- Grades 1-9 will have the opportunity to work with the artist. Some storytelling, art with Div 2 & 3.
- Aaron will do art lessons with the older students. Very exciting for the school.

5.3 Vice President's Report

Sarah Jane echoed thanks for the winter concerts on behalf of the group and parents and distributed a list of special guest speakers that we have attending future meetings (attached to end of minutes) and encouraged all attendees to come along.

- suggestion to promote the guest speakers on the Community League Facebook Page
- request to have a MS School Council social media presence was rejected for redundancy.
- suggestion to move the next meeting

5.4 Community League Report – Ashley van Beuningen

- New Social Director is Ashley van Beuningen
- Snowflake Festival will be held from 12-4 at MSS

Sleigh Rides, Face Painting, Crafts, Market Stalls is just an example of what is going on.

Community League is looking for volunteers (contact Ashley).

City is going to install a 'No-Stop' sign on Savaryn Drive, South of 22nd Ave

In relation to crime in the area – Community Liaison Officer recommended residents to:

- Lock vehicles and Garage Doors
- Take garage door opener indoors if you park your vehicle outside
- If a crime is in progress, then call 911
- Vehicles being targeted are Honda Civics and Ford F150s

5.5 Divisional Representatives Report

5.5.1 Grades 1-3 Ashley van Beuningen

Nothing to report

5.5.2 Division 2 Esther Chapple

Esther not available – no reports received

5.5.3 Junior High Calee Gibb

Dan Knott Junior High School have a rule that electronics are not allowed outside of lockers. There was a survey sent out to parents at that school to test the water to see if the technology ban was supported.

Ms Michailides explained the challenges facing MSS. Technology can be embraced within the classroom. The skill is in encouraging responsible and respectful use. Ms Babichuk noted some students use technology to remove barriers.

Group work – raised by a Junior High student. There is a lot of frustration around being grouped with people who aren't challenging them. Key messages will be shared with faculty. Ms Michailides recommended speaking with her.

Sports tryouts – discrepancies on whether grade 6 get to try out for teams. Ms LeCaine explained that Grade 6s were allowed to try out and given an opportunity to be part of a team if there is room left once the Junior High kids have been exhausted. This is the last year that Grade 6 students will be able to try-out as there will be a large enough pool of students from 2017 / 2018. Going forward skill will be significant

factor, especially coach-ability of the child.

6 Old Business

No Old Business

7 New Business

School Yearbooks – there has been a significant amount of lost revenue coming from curriculum budgets. Yearbook contracts insist a minimum order which was done by MSS resulting in a loss of \$3000.

Andrea Thomsen to bring some options to the next meeting for yearbooks for the future. To be added to Old Business.

Cold weather and access for students through designated entrances. There are 1000 students of all ages. Parents have to be mindful that there needs to be designated doors to ensure safety.

8 Next Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday February 14 , 2016 @ 6.30pm

This will be confirmed.

*Amended to February 22nd, 2016

9 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7.35pm– Wendy and Ashley

Voted: All in favour

Motion Carried

Meeting Attendees:

Lorie Laybolt
Kristin Shandro
Ajesh Chadra
James Rehman
Joanne Bullock
Gale Harwood
Wendy Westren
Ashley Van Beuningen
Andrea Thomsen
Stacey Houston
Sarah Jane Barriage
Amanda Furman
Kristen Topolnitsky
Erin Walker
Robyn Homulus
Jennifer Ky

Minutes approved by:
Sarah Jane Barriage

Michael Strembitsky School Council Guest Speakers and Presentations 2016/2017

February 22nd, 2017 - **Emergency Preparedness** presented by Don Bowridge with EPSB

March 14th, 2017 - **Mindfulness**: An interactive experience that will explore the emerging research followed by a conversation of how we can cultivate our own mindfulness practice. Presented by Catherine L. Phillips, MD, FRCP(C) Founder and Director, The Mindfulness Institute.ca

* please note this presentation will take place over the course of an hour and commence at 6 p.m. to accommodate staff who may like to attend. Our regular meeting will follow at approximately 7 p.m. *

April 11th, 2017 - Saffron Center: To further help parents understand internet behavioral trends, social media trends, and online bullying issues, we offer a presentation just for parents called **Cyber-world – Internet Awareness For Parents.**

May 9th, 2017 - **Study Skills**: How to best help your children with their homework and to prepare for tests.