

Micheal Strembitsky School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 8, 2016

Location – Michael Strembitsky School – Learning Commons

President: Lindsay Peddle

Vice President: Sarah Jane Barriage

Secretary: Stacey Houston

1. Call to Order

President Lindsay Peddle called the meeting to order at 6.33pm on November 8, 2016 in the Learning Commons at Michael Strembitsky School.

2. Attendance and Establishment of Quorum

Quorum in attendance – attendance sheet circulated see attached.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Ashley van Beuningen

Voted: All in favour

Motion Carried

4. Approval of October Meeting Minutes (held on October 11, 2016)

Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting: Lorie Laybolt

Voted: All in favour

Motion Carried

5. President's Welcome

Lindsay Peddle introduced the concept of a conversation café may introduce more interaction into the School Council meetings.

6. Special Presentation

Conversation Café introduced by Lindsay – *“What are your greatest challenges in raising happy, healthy and active children.”* Darlene Schindel facilitated this session.

NSTEP (nutrition, students, teachers exercising with parents) is a registered charity

Darlene explained the history of NSTEP.

Participants engaged in conversations around the tables about what parents may struggle with in their relationships with their children. Sessions noted by U of A students at each table.

Feedback included:

- Picky eaters
- Awareness of a healthy lifestyle
- Lunches
- Extra-curricular activities
- Adjustment for home schooling for 6 years – returned to study and kids have entered the school.
- Dealing with traumatic events

7. Reports

7.1. Principal’s Report – Mary Michailides

Two Remembrance ceremonies are planned for November 9

Winter break is planned and will be reviewed by Edmonton Public Schools each year.

Carla Babachuk talked about the Telus Wise Program. Together we can help kids rise above cyber-bullying. This provided an opportunity to understand the consequences of digital mistakes, the ethical implications of usage. Recognition of your digital footprint – what you do now could have ever-lasting effects. Phone and online safety which bridged the immediate behaviours with the potential for long-lasting outcomes.

7.2. Teacher Representatives Reports:

Karly G3 teacher and Vanessa (G3 and Junior High) were November’s teacher representatives.

Parent Teacher conferences – (Div 1) a great opportunity to goal set and reflect on the year so far. Including 2 stars and a wish. A perfect chance to show off the kids work and their portfolios.

Junior High worked on setting goals but more short term eg what would be achieved by the end of term. Teachers talked about what success meant for the students. Also had a chance to share projects and strategies and problem solve.

Co-constructive criteria is being explored in school – an example for the grade 3s was *'what does a good conversation consist of?'* This was eye opening for faculty.

Co-construction in the classroom can look like just small projects. An example of which could be the development of classroom expectations / rules and understanding of what their finished projects should look like.

This work allows for classes to buddy up with other classrooms.

Other examples include work with Junior Highs – doing short stories with an eye to make Claymation videos.

In JH science, the class will construct and test a device that will use heat to melt cheese on nachos.

7.4 **Divisional Representatives Reports**

7.4.1 **Grades 1-3 Ashley van Beuningen**

- Concerns about mud - Lindsay Peddle to provide written summary of parent comments to Principal MM.

- Some parents were asking how long they were to wait for the yearbooks. MM confirmed that it shouldn't be much longer. MM would make sure that Schoolzone was updated to reflect this.

- Field trips – is there an option for a lump sum yearly payment for fieldtrips? Faculty commented that the arrangements may not be fully finalized until much later in the year. Is there an option for all trips to be added to Schoolzone? MM to make inquiries but acknowledged that this may be a logistical nightmare for the office staff.

7.4.2 **Division 2**

Nothing to report

7.4.3 **Junior High**

- More dances, requests from parents and students to hold more dances during the year that were Junior High specific. Perhaps a Christmas dance or a Christmas activity before the break during the school day?
- Suggestion for more monthly activities eg. yoga / swimming / bonding activities.
- MM responded that instructional time is precious and asking the faculty to cover even more extra-curricular activities may be a challenge.
- Near the end of the school year, there is a swim day, beach day etc.
- MM to make inquiries and have conversations with other Principals and talk to the students.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

None

10. Next Meeting to be held on Tuesday January 10, 2016 @ 6.30pm

NOTE there is no December School Council Meeting.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Wendy Westren 7:45pm

Voted: All in favour

Motion Carried

Approved by: Lindsay Peddle, President, Strembitsky School Council

Meeting Attendees

Stacey Houston
Lindsay Peddle
Sarah Jane Barriage
Ashley van Beuningen
Esther Chapple
Tanya Johnstone
Miriam Fierbach
Lisa Raczynski
Wendy Westren
Melissa Syrenne
Stacy Jackson
Ajesh Chadha
Lorie Laybolt
Kristin Shandro
James Rehman