

AWEC School Advisory Council Meeting

Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

O2 Room – AWEC

PRESENT:

Steven Schell, Allan Birch, Elizabeth Jefferson, Susan Burnie, Paula Buxton, Paula Hafting, Rion Microys

REGRETS:

None

CALL TO ORDER:

Steven Schell called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

None, although additional topics were discussed after the agenda was worked through and they have been added in New Business

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of January 21, 2016 we reviewed and approved as submitted

BUSINESS ARISING:

- **Dances (music)** – Mrs. Burnie explained how the O2 program works in relation to DJ services at the middle school and high school dances. She talked about how conscientious her students are and how it is sometimes difficult to ensure a 'clean' version of a song is played when a request is made on site, during a dance. Much discussion ensued about appropriate music for dances. In the end, Paula Hafting volunteered to work with the Mrs. Burnie's O2 group to develop play lists made up of 'clean' versions of dance songs.

PRINCIPALS' UPDATE:

Steven Schell:

- **Calendar** – a new, interactive calendar is up on the home page of the AWEC website.
- **Course Selection** – Most students have successfully selected their courses for next year. The process is going smoothly
- **Staffing 2016-2017** – The meeting about this was postponed. Staffing is based on the projected enrollment. Some numbers are still required and these are needed before hiring can be sorted
- **Land Acquisition** – The thank you letter has been sent out to Shaw. The process is still underway and nothing is settled yet. The question was raised regarding the plans for the land. There are a number of ideas circulating about the ultimate use for the land, but the current focus is securing the land and any plans for its use are on hold. This lead to a discussion of uses for the land for track and field – Mr. Schell indicated that a work order has been put in for a long jump pit, discus pad and high jump mats (unfortunately, there is no room for a track even with the acquired land)
- **New Staff** – Mr. Jamie Inglis is to replace Mr. Duffy for the rest of the school year

Allan Birch:

- **April 13 Greenwood Field Trip** – The trip is on track. It should be fun for all

- **Parent/Teacher Meetings** – April 13th in the evening, April 14th in the afternoon
- **Outdoor Activity Equipment** – Mr. Bond is ordering new equipment for outdoor activity. The hope is to get more of the students outdoors during the breaks

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Google Docs Setup** – Mr. Schell would like to set up SAC on google docs to facilitate sharing of minutes and so everyone can post things on the agenda. We will aim to get that done for the next meeting
- **Differed Teaching Years** – Paula Buxton brought up the problem that arises when teachers take differed leave. This problem is compounded for us because our school is small and we sometimes have trouble replacing the differed staff member with a teacher with the same skill set. Mr. Schell explained that he tries to be preemptive in his planning and hiring so that the students do not suffer. He has tried to address the problem, caused by differed leave, with the AVRSB in Berwick. Not much can be done because teachers are entitled to differed leave. Mr. Schell encouraged any parents or students with concerns about courses to come to him. There is always the option to do courses on line, there is always teacher support for this. Advance Placement courses are also an option and are supported by the teaching staff. The administration and teachers are committed to working outside the box to accommodate students in achieving their course requirements

NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the AWEC seminar room

MEETING ADJOURNED:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.