

AWEC School Advisory Council Meeting – Unapproved Minutes

Thursday, September 22, 2016 - 4:00 p.m.

Seminar Room – AWEC

PRESENT:

Stephen Schell - Principal, Allan Birch - Vice-Principal, Elizabeth Jefferson – Teacher, Sue Anne Cooper - Teacher, Susan Robinson-Burnie - Teacher, Ashley Barteaux – Support Staff, Paula Buxton - Parent, Rion Microys – Parent, Rachael Robinson - Parent, Silvia Jonitz - Parent, Georgia Trimper – Middle School Student Council Prime Minister

REGRETS:

None

CALL TO ORDER:

- Stephen Schell called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Copies of the minutes of May 26, 2016 were provided, reviewed and approved as submitted. Mr. Schell advised the group that the minutes from previous meeting are posted on the AWEC website.

SAC CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY POSITIONS:

- Mr. Schell requested that parents volunteer to fill the role of chairperson and secretary. Paula Buxton and Rion Microys offered to continue in the shared position of chairperson. Rion Microys offered to continue to take and submit minutes. Mr. Schell said he would submit the information to the appropriate party.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- **Gym Floor** – Mr. Schell reported that there has been a busy start up to the school year. The most exciting news is the completion of the new gym floor over the summer. Bleachers are still in the works. Mr. Schell is consulting with David Ford on bleachers that will not compromise the floor or sports equipment.
- **Staffing** – Mr. Barnes is in for Ms. Arnold in middle level science and math. Mr. Atwell is in for Mrs. Fraser for 9/10 science and 11 biology.
- **Fire Marshall Visit** – Mr. Schell described a thorough visit by the Fire Marshall and his protegee yesterday morning. Some formerly overlooked areas have been revisited, and the school will now be even more fire ready than ever.
- **Air Quality** – The school was tested two weeks ago. The three test locations that were an issue last year are now completely cleared.

VICE-PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- **Chrome Books** – Grade 6 students will receive Chrome Books, but they will stay at the school. Bins for storing/charging the Chrome Books are on the way. Grade 7 and 8 will be allowed to take their Chrome Books home.
- **Middle School Student Council** – Elections for Student Council were announced today. Georgia Trimper is the Prime Minister. Everyone congratulated Georgia.

STUDENT COUNCIL:

- **Middle Level** – No report – Election results just announced
- **Senior Level** – No report

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Time of SAC Meetings**– Parents brought up the 4:00 pm start of the SAC meetings being a problem for working parents to attend. Meetings used to be scheduled at 6:30 pm. Mr. Schell expressed his disappointment in parent participation in the SAC and expressed that the reason that the meeting time was changed to 4:00 pm was because no parents were attending the meetings. Discussion ensued. It was decided that meetings will alternate between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Meetings, to be held on the third Thursday of each month, for the rest of the year are as follows:
 - October 20th, 2016 - 6:00 pm
 - November 17th, 2016 – 4:00 pm
 - December 15th, 2016 – 6:00 pm
 - January 20th, 2017 – 4:00 pm
 - February 16th, 2017 – 6:00 pm
 - March 23th, 2017– 4:00 pm (fourth Thursday of month due to March Break)
 - April 20th, 2017 – 6:00 pm
 - May 18th, 2017– 4:00 pm
 - June 15th, 2017 - 6:00 pm
- **Invoicing** - Paula Buxton inquired about the possibility of getting an invoice for the monies submitted to the school. With multiple children in school the beginning of the year gets complicated. Is there a way to make it clear what is being paid and has been paid? Paula Buxton suggested a wall of 'shame' for people to be able to keep track of what they had paid and not paid. Susan Robinson-Burnie suggested that information about the fees be posted on the AWEC website: school, band, sports. This way parents, especially new ones to the school, could be clear on what they needed to pay. The issue is also complicated by the fact that the volunteer coaches are responsible for collecting the sports fees from their players (the money does go to the school). All fee money that comes to the school gets a receipt.
- **Gym Lockers** – Susan Robinson-Burnie asked about the use of lockers in the gym. The decision has been made not to use the lockers because it is too complicated.
- **Monthly Newsletter** – Silvia Jonitz asked about the possibility of an AWEC-produced, monthly newsletter. Mr. Schell explained that we have a calendar on the AWEC website and he would prefer to continue to use that. Parents agree that the calendar is a good idea, but the problem is that it is not always updated. Mr. Schell said he would ensure that the calendar gets updated on a regular basis. Parents appreciated all the efforts that teachers have made to send out informative emails about homework, events and activities at the school. Rion Microys said that the booklet that staff at ARRA produced and distributed in Grade 6 was informative and useful. The problem of the automatic email system was also discussed. Some of the 'News from AWEC' emails are not getting to parents.

NEXT MEETING:

- October 20th, 2016 at 6:00pm

SHARING TIME:

- **The AWESOMENESS of AWEC** – Sue Anne Cooper expressed how pleased she is with the gym floor and how lucky we are that Mr. Schell and the rest of the staff pushed for the more expensive hardwood floor. Ashley Barteaux reflected on the family atmosphere of her workplace and what a pleasure it is to work at AWEC.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- Mr. Schell adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.