



COUNCIL MINUTES

Foundations for the Future – North Middle School

Date | time 9/12/2016 7:00 PM – 08:00 PM |

In Attendance

Council

Lisa Chin, Secretary
Faruq Suleman, Chair
Sharon Zerk, Vice-Chair
Rhonda Rempel, Incoming Treasurer
Sukhmeet Dhillon, NMS Partnership Coordinator
Jennifer (Mei Yoong Cheah) Cheah, Incoming Treasurer
Erica Oseen, Community Coordinator
Rhonda Rempel, Community Coordinator
Susan Hendry, NMS Partnership Coordinator

Staff

John Deines, Principal
Shawna Drummond, Associate Principal
Candace Kraushaar, Teacher
Danny Williamson, Teacher

Board

None Present

Guests

Ida Langston

Absent

Alka Chandiramani, Hot Lunch Representative
Raj Sandhu, Hot Lunch Representative
Erica Oseen, Community Coordinator

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Round Table Introductions

- Faruq welcoming new faces and some teacher representatives. Faruq Suleman is coming into the Chair for NMS, has a son in grade 8 and two girls in elementary. Rhonda Rempel has a daughter starting grade 5 and she is community coordinator. Susan Hendry has a son in grade 5 and a daughter in grade 10 at the high school this is her first year on council, Sukhmeet Dhillon will show her the ropes on her new role. Danny Williamson teacher at NMS, been awhile since being on council. This year Danny is doing his masters at U of Lethbridge and Candace Kraushaar and him are working on a parent partnership. John Deines is the incoming principal, returning to the NMS from a 4 year hiatus 3 years at central office, before was an associate at NMS and was at the South Middle school. Long history with FFCA, he is excited to be back here. Shawna Drummond is the associate principal, she took on her role here when John moved to the high school. Candace Kraushaar is teaching grade 5 this year and third year. Lisa Chin, recorder of everything, Ida Langston is the outgoing treasurer, son in grade 4 at NWE and daughter at the high school. Faruq thanked her for all of her work. Sukhmeet Dhillon has a son in grade 8 at NMS and is the Parent Partnership Coordinator (Volunteer Coordinator) (Co-Parent Partnership coordinator) and has a daughter in grade 12 at the high school. Jennifer (Mei Yoong) Cheah is the incoming treasurer and has a son in grade 5. Sharon Zerk is the incoming vice-chair, was involved with NWE for three or four years and took last year off and is now back in the game. Faruq is excited for eager people and working with everyone. The co positions will really help the transitions. Formal welcome to everyone. We started off really well so just a matter of continuing off all of the positive things we are doing this year.

Approval of Agenda

- No Agenda Distributed.

Approval of June 6, 2016 Minutes

Minutes will be approved at October 3, 2016 meeting.

New Business

MOTION to appoint Jennifer (Mei Yoong) Cheah as the new treasurer of the North Middle School Council effective September 12, 2016. We will be removing Ida Langston as signing authority effective as of September 13, 2016. Will also be adding Sharon Zerk as a signing authority that was approved in June 2016 and Erica Oseen as a forth person to be added as signing authority.

- Motion-Faruq Suleman
- Second - Sharon Zerk
 - All Members present were in favor, motion carried.
 - Sharon wants an idea of what is going on this year. Hot lunch is done and set up but she would like to know what the bigger picture is for the first part of the year so if we know anything this would be great. Faruq said we will put this into the October 3, 2016 meeting to give time to catch up and formulate everything.
 - Ida wanted to know when ASC and community fund is. Shawna thought that community fund changed last year and request for funding was last May but the payment for this year needs to be paid. Community fund that is \$1500.00 this year versus \$1000 from last year and the membership of \$600.00 is to be paid this year. There was a funding request for bridge building from NWE and NMS and NEE and Terry Fox. The NMS did the rope stuff at COP. The request was higher than the funds so ultimately they had a prorated formula that there were costs that were not covered. Faruq will sort this out with what we owe as council as per what ASC will

reimburse. This year is the collection of proceeds that they do as community fund and one is membership. \$2150 Ida has put aside for this year, last year was \$1000.00. Faruq said they cancelled the August meeting. October is the next meeting, they will get their money and we will sort it out when we get to it.

Financial Statements (Ida Langston)

- \$12,582.00 is balance, Ida Langston distributed the Financial Statements.
- Welcome back breakfast, sports day and the winter festival are the started and upcoming expenditures. Also doing the AdMazing coupon books as a fundraiser and in January we did the winter festival, Shawna wanted to propose we move it to February to get more parent volunteers. It was about \$1500.00 that the winter festival cost. Last year the cookies were donated and it was maybe \$750 or \$800.00 we used for it. We had some good donations from the bakery Mr. Woodbeck let us give him a tax receipt for what he donated.
- Sharon said chocolates, she doesn't love, the first aid kits were a big hit at NWE and she would like to see them come back. They are great to come back and for sports or in car. If her memory serves her right the return was really good. She can send out an email on it. Faruq asked if we can get the info.
- Candace: Said student council sells the chocolate: almonds and chocolate with caramel and mint, Candace said they are going through a different vendor this year. Candace said the chocolates in October and not a lot of fundraisers until the Spring. Hoping to do a Halloween dance with council help if we can take part in that. Asking for food bank donations as their entry fee to get in instead of collecting for fun. There will be different things like Pledge of Silence, they will give the students some options of what to do and let them decide.
- Spolumbos was an idea but we need to keep in consideration the audience such as pork based products. Simple Simon Pies or Coco Brooks pizzas were ideas. Table this for the next meeting so Candace can talk with SRC to see what the kids want to do.
- Faruq would like to do the two or three main events like the Math-a-thon and would like to limit it to two or three as well as the SRC
- Agenda for October: Fundraising Ideas for the year

MOTION to accept the financials as presented

- Motion – Faruq Suleman
- Second – Rhonda Rempel
 - Motion to accept the financials as presented was passed, all in favor, motion carried

Community Coordinator ()

1. **Welcome Back Breakfast:** Rhonda said hats off to Erica for what we were able to get from last year was very helpful. She wants to know where to get more details for the rest of the year. Teacher dinner for student/parent conferences for October 6, 2016. Faruq felt we spent \$500-\$600.00 for dinner. 40 staff. We did Cocobrooks pizza and trays of dessert from Costco and veggie trays. CocoBrooks dropped off and they had that twice and the last was Vietnamese. We did three learning conference dinners which was very nice Shawna mentioned. Rhonda will look into this.

MOTION that council is to supply the food and drinks for the upcoming teacher conferences on October 6, 2016 up to \$600.00,

- Motion – Faruq Suleman
- Second - Sharon Zerk

- All Members Present were in favor, motion carried

Shawna mentioned Natalie did a lot of the work last year so can get some information from her.

2. **Next Years Welcome Back Breakfast:** We need two rows of tables for sure, lesson learned, make sure to add next year. The students showed great character waiting in line. It was below \$1000.00 to put this event on so a great event. A great parent showing for volunteering. If we can get the portable speaker receipt we can reimburse for that.
3. **Parental Partnership Awards/Logging Hours and Parent Involvement:** Add in to the next meeting around Parental awards or volunteer awards. NWE did it and Faruq really likes it. We would love to see if we can get the 20 hours for parents. We should have put a plug to parents at our Winter Festival that those hours attended count as volunteer involvement so people know they can count those as volunteer hours. Possibly have a booth about how we go in and log volunteer hours. If we had a computer set up for how to log hours and show them. We need to promote how their volunteer hours help our school. It is more a parental involvement thing for logging hours when doing parent/teacher interviews. John could ask teachers to remind the parents about logging in these items. Parents may be helping off-site in the partnership of helping their child(ren) and the education of their child. Last year Kurtis had all teachers to put stuff into a database of jobs each teacher did. If we bring the database back up and put it out there and they are more knowledgeable about it then that could help. Trying to create new ideas on his Masters. Faruq felt we are trying to foster independence in these children come grade 7 or 8. With Edsby being new a parent night might be a good way to get us involved. Rhonda mentioned sign-up genius might be a good route to go. Sukhmeet mentioned that the hot lunch now asks if there are volunteer opportunities. Sukhmeet will go and try the sign-up genius website. There are different templates for the sign-up genius. Next event will be the Winter Festival. Sukhmeet will see if she can get it but she can't get on her parent partnership email and can't even see hours logged. Shawna wondered if it may have expired, she will email Wanda at Central Office to make sure she gets hooked back up. Need to update each year with the new grade 5s but then it is easy for Sukhmeet. The last previous years Sukhmeet was doing a powerpoint and displayed on the tv in the hallway and giving a graph showing in September how many people volunteer. The database they could filter and write in, a board showing the volunteer people with their names of people that volunteer. Last year Sukhmeet would give a chart to Kurtis showing how many families volunteered different amounts of time. Faruq asked Sukhmeet to bring a sample next meeting and Shawna will try to get access to getting the parent partnership. Faruq liked the recognition part of parent involvement. Maybe coffee cards at the end of the year, \$10.00 for 20 hours may be a nice thing for the people that create the hours.
4. **Ski Day:** February or March are our booked ski days.

Fundraising Coordinator

AdMazing COUPON BOOKS, formerly SUTP Coupon Books,

1. **Fundraising:** Mandeep is not here but the AdMazing seems to be picking up. The deadline is the end of September for this coupon book to end. We have two weeks into October with the distributor to close the sales. Faruq will make a few notes and ask John to make another announcement. Faruq would like to close the sales the first week in October and close the second week of October. Sukhmeet spent a few hours on this fundraiser. Every Tuesday from 9am to whatever time it takes where they will give them out to the families. Usually we sell \$7000.00 worth of books. We have sold \$1000 already. Brenda could maybe send out an email if we prepare it. Candace thinks we missed the boat as the grade 5s don't know what it is and maybe we should send out an email explaining what it is. If we send something to Candace she will have every homeroom teacher send out an event and say what the benefit is and what we make and what events it will cover that are coming up this weekend. Volunteering for

the AdMazing books Mandeep is counting money and putting books in for Monday. Monday it will be, not Tuesday. We are glad things are picking up on this coupon book.

Principal's Report (John Deines)

- A really good start to our school year. A background for us is one of the things they are working towards for early October is for teachers to be required to submit a professional growth plan to their administrators and they need to review it and talk to them. Administrators do that as well and they sit down with their superintendent and talk about that. Dave Townsend has done a lot of work with this. Dave is coming in with Roger this week to talk with them. His growth plans stem from three ideas. Teacher quality standard will be updated and will finally say what leaders do as well as administrators. Document is signed by the minister. John is focusing on the three points of a triangle TEA. None is more important than the other when you look at the teacher development. Three things of focus are Trust, Education and Advocacy. Trust all about building relationships, the fundamental component and organization built upon it. Second: Education looking specifically as assessment of our frame work on how we assess our students Advocacy: Talking advocacy of the students and he is promoting the students and head of charter schools. He will be talking to the teachers, students and superintendent about these three things. They will be asking what are their goals. John will build on this throughout the year and we will hear about it. There is something about having those meetings so often that proves it is a work in progress, a plan of growth works when you are continually reflecting upon it. He really wants to work with his teachers about this. Dave will only be meeting with John and Shawna regarding this, he kind of forces them to also role modeling themselves to their teachers.

Report from SRC (Candace Kraushaar)

- Shared hers at the beginning
- Rhonda may be liasoning with them. Candace can tell them more about SRC next month. They want to change the name as they have merged. Students had to fill out an application form with an essay and ask why they would want to be accepted. Then it will go out to the teachers and asked about these students. Faruq would like to build a stronger bond with SRC so we know what is going on with everyone. It isn't hard but you have to put some time into it as a student. Every year will be the same process and they will put new members in. John wants SRC and Council to also work with ASC and what they are fundraising so everyone knows what is going on. Candace thought this would be good also money wise so we aren't overlapping asking parents for too much money. Phoebe sent an email regarding tax receipts but it doesn't seem that popular at the middle school.

Report from Teacher Perspective (Danny Williamson)

- Last few years Rod Pittman and him have been doing classroom economy "Willville" teaching the fundamental basics of certain life skills such as handling money. Everyone is assigned a job right now and there is an online resume generator and they will print it off and have interviews. A few people don't realize how serious this is until they are sitting there. Throughout the year they get different opportunities where they are paying rent on their desks, etc. It is a big standout for past students where they want to do this. It is tough they are partner teachers but when it is not their homeroom they sometimes miss out. Michelle Lisiecki (Wainright) wants to do this with the guidance of Rod of how to print the money, etc. One big aspect of what they do is they have an auction where they can use their money. In his class when they get paid they have to pay for their desks and then they can get gift cards. They have paddles where they bid and have a treasure box with parent donations. Will of Fortune there was a business created, this entrepreneurial perspective is good. They don't have the money each month

to get the gift cards. We have requested \$500.00 each year from council in the past to fund this. \$1500.00 with Michelle or anything they are looking for. He has said he would be a reference for a student's first job if they have done good with this, some people do go into debt. Faruq felt like this is a great life skills process, we would likely give a \$750.00 front and see about how our first year goes with council and finances and then possible give the \$750.00 for the end of the year. This will help germinate the process at least and we can see. Danny is willing to help other teachers learn this and do it in their class if they want to. We can look at the second half of the year in January

MOTION that council provides \$750.00 (\$250.00 each) to fund Mr. Pittman and Mr. Williamson and Mrs. Lisiecki's life skills idea until January, 2017.

- Motion – Faruq Suleman
- Second – Sharon Zerk
 - All members present were in favor, motion carried

ASC (Sharon Zerk and Faruq Suleman)

- Sharon and Faruq are supposed to attend ASC but Sharon right now is going to school, and is a mom and busy but still going to do her best. They will bring back to us what is the big picture of ASC. Faruq appreciates the SRC influence and the parent partnership involvement and will take that up to the ASC level. Association of School Councils of all of the campuses. They will have the chair and vice-chair and one other body to come in to these. There is a chair with ASC as well so it is usually a couple of hours long and there was an Edmonton conference that Sharon attended and was really good as you could see and speak to council members throughout Alberta and share and talk about other fundraising ideas. Minister of Education was there and so we could bring information from us and then back to them. There are seven campuses and the Board, Superintendent and Chair and Vice-Chair always attend. Great place to show tactical work and they would like to see where we can move forward with this. Talking as one school with 7 campuses, trying to make an interest based decision and can be a challenge to breakout this year.

Next Meeting

Set for October 3, 2016

Meeting Adjourned: 8:52 pm

Goals of Parent Council...

**To increase Parental Partnership involvement and have all families feel welcomed.
To make sure that our students are number one in all our decision making.**