



211 McKnight Blvd NE
Calgary, Alberta T2E 5S7

MINUTES

FFCA North Middle School Council Minutes

Date | time October 16, 2017 | 7:08 pm *Meeting called to order by* Sharon Zerk (chair)

In Attendance

Council

Sharon Zerk, Chair
Jennifer Ho, Treasurer
Terri Sartori, Secretary/Hot Lunch Coordinator
Rhonda Rempel, Member at Large
Breanne Adkins, Community Coordinator
Susan Hendry, NMS Partnership Coordinator
Sandy Truong, Vice Chair

Staff

Shawna Drummond, Associate Principal
Danny Williamson, Teacher Representative

Board

None Present

Guests

Absent

John Deines, Principal
Shannon Middlemiss, Hot Lunch Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve October agenda as distributed.

- Motion – Sharon
- Second – Terri
 - Motion to approve the October agenda was passed at 7:09 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve September 18, 2017 Minutes as distributed.

- Motion – Sharon
- Second – Susan
 - Motion to approve September 18, 2017 minutes was passed at 7:09 pm.

New Agenda Items

- Bullying awareness week is November 20-24. They would like to do prizes for the top teams. They have proposed movie passes and gift cards. This would work out to approximately \$115. We will ask SLC first as we don't want to commit further funds until we know what our fundraising amounts will be. However, SLC has stepped away from these types of initiatives. They want to focus on global initiatives. A case could be made that the anti-bullying campaign will benefit the entire school. If SLC won't pay for it, we can look to approve it. The prizes won't be handed out until December so we can table it for now.

Treasurer Update (Jennifer)

- Financial handout provided
- Statement of Operations
 - Net receipts - \$3,712.25
- Balance Sheet
 - \$12,147.01
- Cash Forecast
 - \$5,397.01
 - Money allocated to Token economy and AdMazing

Teacher Representative (Danny)

- Trying to get more information about what the teachers would like to see in the classrooms from a parental partnership perspective. They have sent out surveys to the teachers and the project is going in a positive direction.

Fundraising (TBD)

- New ideas?
- Terri to create Survey Monkey and distribute to council about what parents would like to do for fundraising

Community (Breanne)

- No update

Hot Lunch (Shannon/Terri)

- Coco Brooks in November
 - 285 orders for a total of \$2831.50
- December is Fuel for Gold

Parental Partnership (Susan)

- Working on AdMazing books. Susan will be getting an invoice with final amounts.
- Not much to do at this time but will be picking up soon for Winter Carnival in February.

Administration Update (John/Shawna)

- Trickster was here. Thank you for supporting this. Feedback from the students/teachers:
 - They all speak highly of the experience. It was fun, entertaining and everyone learned a lot.
 - The students felt more comfortable speaking in front of a group and how to use 1 prop in many ways.
 - It was a great way to increase awareness of global issues.
- Went up to Edmonton for Charter School Conference.
 - The Minister spoke very favorably about charter schools and their success. He seemed very supportive that charter schools are here to stay.
 - The other keynote speaker, Erin Paquette, was there to speak about his experience with reconciliation as a first nations person. He told them stories about his grandfather in residential school. His presentation was very powerful and interesting.
 - In the afternoon, there were breakout sessions. FFCA facilitated a number of these sessions as did staff from other charter schools and representatives from Alberta Education.
- John and Shawna met with staff on their individual growth plans. There were some great discussions and many great ideas. They will be meeting with them in January again. They asked them to come with a question they want to answer instead of a goal. This increased attachment to their goals and the process has been very rewarding.
- On November 30 Shawna, Kurtis Leinweber, Denise Budgeon and David Townsend (consultant) will be going to Florida to present at the Learning Forward conference. They will be presenting on what they've done on their own personal growth plans and how this has been transferred on to their staff. This is an international conference and will be great exposure for FFCA.
- WE day on November 1. FFCA received a recommendation for the work they have done and the relationships they are building with the Stony Nakoda. They were invited to a special gala and breakfast for this work.
- SLC did their jacket racket and food drive and both went very well.
- Stony Nakoda date booked for December 18. They may need a few parent volunteers for this event.
- The board meeting is here this Wednesday. We are welcome to join the board for dinner (Thai food).

Board Update

- Meeting is this Wednesday at NMS.

ASC Update (Terri)

- FFCA is one of the highest achieving schools on the planet.
- PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) scores Canada as 10th in the world in math, 3rd in reading and 7th in science. This puts Canada's overall ranking at 7th. In addition to these academic

rankings Canada achieves incredibly high overall in equity. There are few differences between males and females. We also have a high achievement rate for recently arrived students. We are above average for social background as well and are trending up.

- Within Canada Alberta scores just behind Quebec and BC in mathematics. In science, Alberta is the highest scoring province just ahead of Quebec and BC. In reading we are the 2nd highest. This put Alberta as the highest in Canada.
- Within FFCA Alberta is performing extremely high on the PAT. It has not always been this way. This year in the Fraser report we were ranked 12th (13 years ago we were 221). Last year 99% of FFCA students graduated. 129 students (84%) qualified for the Rutherford scholarship.
- 80% of our students agree that FFCA has taught them critical thinking skills and 91% agree that teachers provide a safe learning environment.
- Although these results are amazing our teachers are always looking to get better and better. The commitment of our teachers is a big reason for the success of FFCA.
- Request to have the chairs take the scholarship information back to their council to confirm what each council can support. The preference is for a 2-year commitment. All scholarships are for \$1000.
- With the excellent results FFCA has achieved as presented above, ASC would like to support the High School students as much as possible.
- ASC would like to put together a subcommittee to discuss the community fund options and if it happens fast enough this may even address the shortfall for this year. This would include representation from administrators, principals and ASC. Ideally this meeting should take place face-to-face, not over email.
 - A potential solution for this subcommittee to discuss further is to use casino funds for busing as a large portion of the community fund is used for transportation.
- High School will be running a Flames fundraiser. For every ticket purchased they will get \$10. Without this fundraiser, they may not have the money to contribute to community fund. The Flames tickets will cost \$39 and \$10 will come back to the High School. The Flames will be blocking off a section in the press level for those that purchase tickets.
- Nancy has also picked out 7 Hitmen games that fall on a Sunday afternoon for an ASC fundraiser. The Hitmen tickets will be \$12/each and ASC will receive \$2 for every ticket sold.
- There will be information coming out in the near future related to the director elections.
- There are some policies for review on the website.
 - Policy 10 – Policy Making
 - Policy 14 - Uniforms
 - Policy 20 – School Fees

Next Meeting

December 18, 2017

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 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.