

WA Day Parent Council Meeting

November 19, 2019

6:00pm

Welcome and Introductions: Jackie Nelson

Approval on Minutes from October 19th: Motion to Approve – Ashley
Second – Jumai

Seven Habits Message: Presented by Laura Pearce – Talked about Habit # 4 Think Win Win. Children are learning how to work positively together to reach end goals and be rewarded as a group. Talked about the importance of the Synergy Groups and how they encourage children to form lasting bonds to help each other as they grow. Children will be filling shoe boxes in learning on ways to be good Samaritans

Principle Report: Dave Fender – Talked about the survey the division put out looking for input on the new vision and mission statement they are working on. Showed WA Day 2019-20 Annual Plan, current vision and goals. Team created goals on a live document allow for the ability to add notes and comments and adjust goals if necessary. Is going to share with council so they can make comments if they wish.

Skiing was discussed with teachers, and consensus is to no longer continue this activity. Too few students attend, they want to find another winter activity that can include the entire school. Possible “Winter wonderland days”, could include skating, or snow shoeing. Open to ideas currently.

Trustee Report: Lacey for Jim – Below is the details of the Trustee report taken from the LRSD website: <http://www.lrsd.ca>

Following are the Board of Trustees Key Messages from the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

1) Budget Impact – Jeff Perry, Associate Superintendent, Business Services presented information on the Provincial budget announcement. The following areas were impacted by the Provincial budget announcement and other information received recently: The Budget Announcement saw the removal of three grants - Class Size Grant (1,342,890), Funding in place of school fees (129,000), Classroom Improvement Grant (471,000). In its place a onetime transitional grant was introduced which provided \$356 per full time equivalent (FTE) student for \$1,152,906. The net impact was a decrease in funding of \$790,000

The Board had anticipated and prepared in the spring for this type of budget and along with the increase of 83.25 FTE students from projections the net impact was a positive \$200,000.

Unfortunately, we also received the news that our liability and property insurance premiums would be going up significantly (30% and 274% respectively) due to the many fires, floods and other claims over the past few years. This increase would result in a \$540,000 increase to our costs. The net result is that the Board will increase the planned deficit and use of reserves by \$340,000. The final LRSD budget update will come out at the end of November.

2) Advocacy Committee – The Board of Trustees moved to create an Advocacy Committee. Advocacy is a key role of the trustees, especially with the current political climate in Alberta and Canada as a whole. It is important that the Board is strategic and timely in the advocacy work it engages in. Advocacy is an area of high priority and was highlighted during the October 2019 Board evaluation. The committee will help facilitate this work to gather the information, develop a plan, and present it for approval.

3) Accountability Pillar – Chad Kuzyk, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Innovation updated the Board of Trustees regarding the annual Accountability Pillar. The Accountability Pillar uses 16 Separate Measures to evaluate our division as a whole including separate data for our individual schools. The October 2019 summary indicates that; overall our division is rated excellent in two categories, good in four categories, acceptable in six categories and issues in four categories. LRSD is pleased to report that students writing Diploma Exams and Provincial Achievement Tests in the Division are showing year-over-year improvement in exam scores. In five high school diploma exam courses, LRSD students scored higher than the provincial average. LRSD continues to focus on Literacy and Numeracy, Success for all students and Transitions in 2019-20.

New/Unfinished Business:

Feeding the Bands – Plan is to cook for 500. List of volunteers for various needs has been organized. Pincher Meats donated 30lbs, working on getting donated amount to 55lbs.

Santa's Gone Loonie – Date set for December 11. Set up will be evening of December 10.

Lighting in the Playground – Concern was raised about how dark the back playground is. What can be done? Dave said to start with an email on behalf of council in which he can forward to the head of maintenance. It was also noted due to budget cuts, it may be better to look at fundraising for the lights. Talked about also asking Mike Bourassa with the co-ed volleyball if they would be interested in helping pay.

Proposed Operating Procedure – WA Day School Council Operating Procedures have been updated. Motion to pass new procedures – Tasha, Second – Ashley.

Next meeting set for December 17th at 6:00pm

Adjournment – 7:10pm