

Rimbey Elementary School Parent Council Meeting Agenda

March 10, 2020

In attendance: Jodi Bramfield, Matilda Kleinsasser, Kathleen Terry, Robyn McIntyre, and Lana Leonhardt

1. Called to Order at 5:05 p.m. by Chairperson, Lana Leonhardt
2. Agenda
 - 2.1 Additions: 6.1 Hot Lunch Committee. Tabled due to lack of quorum.
 - 2.2 Adoption of Agenda – Adopted by Robyn, seconded by Matilda. Tabled.
3. Minutes from February 11, 2020
 - 3.1 Adoption of minutes – Adopted as presented by Robyn M., seconded by Matilda K. Tabled
4. Treasurer’s Report - Read by Jodi B., as Michelle Service was unable to attend. Expense sheet provided, but need further details. Tabled.
5. Business Arising from Minutes

None.
6. New Business
 - 6.1 Hot Lunch Meeting Notes – In January, the Hot Lunch Committee discussed it would be a favorable idea to add a mileage cost to the hot lunch volunteer who drives out of town to pick up the hot lunch supplies. All in attendance during that hot lunch agreed that \$20 would be added to Lana Leonhardt’s hot lunch reimbursement cheques. At tonight’s meeting, it was brought to our attention that Wolf Creek reimburses by cents per kilometer, and that may be a better option than a flat dollar rate. Upon further discussion, at our next hot lunch (March 12/20), the Hot Lunch Committee will have a more formal meeting, with an

agenda, having mileage as the topic of discussion, and vote, then bring those minutes to our next parent council meeting to ratify the motion. Tabled.

7. Reports

7.1 Principal's Report read by Jodi B.

School Council Principal Report March 9, 2020

Upcoming

- March 11 Hot Dog Payment deadline
- March 12 Hot Lunch: Pancake and Sausage
- March 13 PreK & Kindergarten Open House from 9 - 3
- March 17 Wear **GREEN** for St. Patrick's Day
- March 19 Crazy/Colourful/Fun Socks Day and Recognition Rally at 2:15
- March 31 Mini Hoops starts
- April 1 Board of Trustee - Overview of proposed 2020-2021 budget for WCPS

LifeTouch Fundraiser (Kathleen)

- April 22 & 23
- Looking for parent volunteers to assist

Let's Talk Budget

- Video available on District's website (can access link on RE website)
 - Video Information: As we prepare for Wolf Creek Public Schools' 2020-2021 school budget, we want to share with you about what goes into our budget.
 - [The Board of Trustees of The Wolf Creek School Division's invitation to School Administrators, Parent Councils and parents to attend an information session April 1, 2020 at Ecole Secondaire Lacombe Composite High School at 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees will be providing an overview of the proposed 2020-2021 budget for Wolf Creek Public Schools.](#)

2020 - 2021 School Calendar - RE Draft

- See Draft Calendar handout

7.2 School Trustee's Report read by Jodi B., as Trudy was unable to attend.

Parent Council
March 2020

On February 18 I attended a teleconference between Alberta Education and all school boards regarding what to expect in the budget - no real details, more of a what NOT to expect in terms of the budget and funding for education. We held a Board meeting on February 20th and some of our agenda items included designating members to attend various functions, the ATA new teacher induction being one of them. I was fortunate to be able to attend it on March 5; more importantly because a number of the new teachers were from Rimbey and there was one from Bluffton so I knew quite a few of the Administrators and mentors who were there to support and introduce their new staff.

We set dates for the ATA/Board and Support Staff/Board Liaison meetings as well as the Superintendent and Board evaluations to be held in the fall. This is done annually and has to be booked early in order to have a facilitator in attendance.

We discussed the budget but agreed that until it was made public there is no use in planning. It is on our March 19th agenda.

The Board has determined to have a review of the wards that make up the division because there seems to be an inconsistency in the number of electors in each division, division areas are perhaps not indicative of the populations and if a change is to be made it needs to be completed prior to the election in October of 2021. We are hosting two public meetings, one in Ponoka on March 10th, the other in Lacombe on the 11th. We have met with our consultant and discussed this a number of times over the last few months. More info to follow.

I had the opportunity to attend the Rural Education Symposium held (annually) in Edmonton on March first to third and learned that rural Alberta is at a disadvantage when it comes to Education - enrollments are decreasing and schools are getting older. It is difficult to hire staff for rural areas and also difficult to provide core courses for curriculum needs let alone the option classes that often keep our students engaged and in school. One speaker stated that rural schools and communities are in "a fight for our lives" and we need to defend our communities and rural lifestyles because "urban" Canada does not think about the needs of rural Canada. That speaker (Dr. Ken Coates) also stated that the most affected in our downturn are the young men because of automation and that young women dominate the service industry and are "taking over the world". He said that rural students are favored in hiring processes because they know how to work and can change their own tires. He was a very engaging speaker.

The future of education in general was discussed and it was noted that even the poor communities in Viet Nam have faster and more availability compared to the internet service on the road from Edmonton to Ft. McMurray.

8. Adjourned by Lana L. at 5:40 p.m.

Next meeting will be held April 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.