

Georges P. Vanier/ Routhier School Joint Council Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Monday, November 1, 2021

Attendance: Carolyn Giroux: VP GP Vanier, Monique Dubrule: VP Routhier, Pam Heckbert: Principal GP Vanier, Diane Benoit: Principal Routhier, Tara Lea, Stephanie Staudinger, Leslie Carbone, Cheryl Lonsdale, Alyssa Pollard, Heather O'Neil, Denis Rochon, Ashley Morin, Micheal Loogman, Wendy Tokarz

1. Treaty Acknowledgement / Call to Order / Welcome & Introductions

Alyssa called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

Tara read the treaty acknowledgement.

Introductions.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

Leslie Carbone approved the agenda. Added to the agenda is AERR will apply to both Vanier and Routhier.

3. Review/Approval of October 4, 2021 Minutes

Leslie Carbone approved the minutes.

4. Financial Reports:

a. Routhier $-\$1056.28 + 150 = 1206.28$

b. Vanier $-\$1332.40 + 150 = 1482.40$

5. Old Business:

a. None

6. School Reports:

a. Routhier Principal Report: What's new at Routhier

The month of October:

- We had school pictures on the 13th.
- OH&S inspection on the 21st
- Land based learning field trip on the 25th for gr. 4 and 6
- Halloween activities with a costume parade and a virtual magic show with Marc Tardif.

Coming up in November

- Art Cards RFES fundraiser - were received today. We will try and have them completed by Nov 15th
- Gr. 4 Land based learning field trip on the 1st.
- Photo retakes on the 9th.

- Remembrance Day virtual ceremony on the 9th. Presentation will be shared with parents. Each class had a part in the ceremony and each class is making a wreath to present at the ceremony.
- Anti bullying week Nov 9 -19
- No school the 10,11 and 12
- Report cards sent out digitally on the 19th
- Virtual parent teacher conferences on the 23th and 25th from 5-7. Teachers will send out a link to schedule meetings.
- We are currently in the process of renovating the library. We have set up a temporary library in the science lab until renos are done.
- Scholastic book fair Nov. 19-25th. Students will be able to shop and purchase books during the day. Parents will have access to the online book fair.
- Mom's Pantry Fundraiser started Oct. 29 and goes until Nov. 15th.

b. GPV Principal Report

Oct Highlights-Student Perspective

-Oct 5-Terry Fox Activities took place; hope was to play Baseball vs EMS however the weather did not cooperate so we played Dodgeball in grade Cohorts instead. We played activities this year to avoid missing class as students had taken an afternoon walk the week before during TRC Awareness week.

-Volleyball: B-Girls have completed their season. Junior A Girls and Boys have zones left. Senior High: played in Peace River.

-Oct 13-Knowledge Keeper Keith Laboucan came to GPV, partnering with Indigenous Success Coach Connie Sabo to construct Wigwams with the 7F Social Studies class, further discussions were infused into the day regarding Indigenous culture.

-Halloween Dress Up and Contests took place on Oct 29- Movie with Popcorn and a pop were provided in the afternoon as the activity.

-Mentorship-Painted pumpkins that were donated from Grant and DJ Hicks, the pumpkins were shared throughout the community on Oct 27 to the Villa, Routhier, Daycare, Friendship Corner, Manoir du Lac and both independent living facilities for seniors in McLennan.

-Land Based Learning: Oct 27- 34 grade 7's went to the O'Mahoney Conservation Area with Knowledge Keeper Keith Laboucan and Indigenous Success Coach Connie Sabo- highlighting forestry practices, pest and tree health bridging a variety of social studies and science curriculum objectives.

-30-1 book club, reading "The Handmaid's Tale"-They are meeting on Friday's at lunch

-Photo Retakes were Oct 26

-Routhier/Vanier Collaborative Theme Days-Video is complete, will share with Routhier alongside a voting form this week to establish common theme days that can then be shared with the community in an effort to build greater community engagement/partnerships within the school.

-Breakfast program is offering new choices regularly-Junior High Wellness classes are helping with the prep each morning

-Van-Yay's have commenced. At the start of each week, staff identify a student that has demonstrated their efforts and growth. For the month of Oct we featured: Paige Dupuis, Sierra Embury, Eli Beaver.

GPV-In the Background highlights

-Mipi-Math standard exams, Edubest-reading and comprehension testing and HLATs-writing assessment- are now completed-we are currently working via Professional Development days on the next steps and strategies with the results that were presented.

-Collaborative Response Model-we continue to meet regularly for targeted intervention

-Oct 27-Minister of Education announced that diplomas will be 10% instead of 30%

-See the 4 minute video that introduces the intent of land-based learning:

<https://cass.ab.ca/indigenous-education/learning-from-the-land/>

-AERR data presentation and Input (Pam)

-OH&S Inspection

From the office of the Career Coach (Katie Ellwood)-Carolyn/Pam

-Indigenous Success Coach, Connie Sabo, reached out to our indigenous High School students regarding a University of Calgary mentorship meet and greet. The intent was for Indigenous students interested in entering into a Bachelor of Education program to meet current Indigenous students in the program-We had 6 students attend.

Upcoming from Career Coach:

-Lunch and learn via the U of A virtual recruitment session for High School students. (I am hoping to open this up to Jr.High as well, there was interest for younger grades and I would like to capture interested parties if I get the go ahead)

Wellness-Pam/Carolyn

-Gay Straight Alliance (GSA)-is meeting weekly and working on some education pieces to put around the school

-Virtual GSA Conference will be attended by those that are interested.

-Counseling Consultant-Jessie Johnson is on sight meeting with approved students

-Thank you to our community partners IGA and Coop for helping us with Breakfast club

-1:1 Wellness services have been utilised, Miss. Chelsea is focusing on relationships with new students to our school and continuing to build on the existing ones.

Upcoming Events-Coletin

-Nov 1-18-Poinsettia Fundraiser

-Nov 3-Grade 8's will attend Land Based Learning

-Nov 4-Grade 8's will clean up at dumps as a fundraiser for YoWoCHas

-Nov 5-No Stone Left Alone with the Grade 9's

-Nov 5-6-JH Vball Zones

-Nov 9-Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:23-Virtual-link will be shared publicly

-Nov 9-Report Cards go out

- Nov 12-13-SH Vball Zones
- Nov 15-Dec 10-FCSS Coins for Change Campaign
- Nov 15/18-Parent Teacher Interviews (Virtual or Phone) 4:30-7:30pm
- Nov 22-26-Provincial GSA Conference-Virtual

c. Trustee Report

Karin and Lynn were not able to make it.

First, let me apologize for both of us not being available for tonight's meeting. It was not the plan, but other matters have come up for each of us.

1- We're excited to welcome a new Board of Trustees. AS you probably know, both Lynn and myself were acclaimed in this election, and are honored to continue serving you in this capacity. Also acclaimed were incumbent trustees Lorrie Shelp representing Kinuso/Joussard and Adrian Wong representing High Prairie, as well as returning trustees Joy McGregor from Slave Lake and Tammy Henkel from High Prairie (following a tie vote, resulting in a draw from a hat situation) and new trustee Cory Hughes from Slave Lake. Joy McGregor has been elected as Chair while Tammy Henkel has been elected as Vice-chair.

2- We went through a thorough, and yet to be completed, trustee orientation. We also held our organizational meeting on October 20. Our first regular Board meeting was held on Tuesday, October 26.

3- We've gone through our Board year plan and have set dates for future meetings, including setting our regular Board meetings to be held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month (4th if the need arises)

4- Both Lynn and I received long service awards from the Alberta School Board's Association – Lynn for serving 2 terms and Karin for serving 5 terms, thus far.

5- ASCA AGM is being held April 24/2022. The deadline for submission of any resolutions from school councils is January 15, 2022. Please sign up on the website in order to be able to vote on resolutions as well as to access any information regarding the conference or resolutions. Also, due to a drastic reduction in government funding, changes to ASCA needed to be made. Workshops that used to be offered at no charge to member boards, now have a charge. HPSD Board of Trustees has paid the \$1000 fee to allow for 3 workshops throughout the division. These can of course be used by individual councils or groups of councils. Contact HPSD main office for any further information.

6- The Board of Trustees have voted in favor of adding a Health Spending Account opportunity to Board members, to match benefit offerings of HPSD employees. This would be a benefit of up to \$860/trustee, with any unused portion returning to HPSD, and will only come into effect for September 2022, barring any changes.

7- At the regular meeting on October 26, the Board discussed the idea of holding 'live' meetings; either live or updated at the end of the meeting, depending on bandwidth capabilities. Since our meetings are almost always held during school time, the bandwidth capabilities could be overextended to run live, as was evidenced with some of our graduation streams last year. This would lend well to accountability and transparency as well as offer a great resource opportunity for Social Studies units including government. WE are currently looking into costing out and gathering information on logistics of this to be reviewed at a future meeting.

8- Another discussion was held regarding the mandatory vaccination policy for adults within HPSD. Suggestions were made to push the implementation to a later date and to reconsider altogether. Discussions included the sufficiency of safety measures already being taken as well as the plans for possible shortages of bus drivers, educators, support workers, etc. Some see a potential for a gap in services while others aren't sure this problem will come to fruition. At this point, no further vote was agreed to and we await the Administrative Procedure that will address this. We will keep you apprised. The Board was advised by our admin team that both our legal counsels and insurance recommendations guided us to the current decision as it stands, citing a potential for significant increases in premiums or legal liabilities, but there are Boards (ex. Peace River School Division) that have opted to not enforce the vaccines. We will continue to keep you apprised of anything to do with this as well. Lynn and I continue to be focused on decision-making through at least 3 lenses: 1- What are we hearing from our constituents? 2- What is our Mandate as an educational organization? And 3- What is in the best interest of the education of the students we serve?

7. New Business

a. AERR (Annual Education Results Report) - (survey goes out to kids and parents and teachers and pulls data from standardized testing, completion rates).

Vanier: Very happy with most of the results. A few out of our control –not applicable. Student growth and achievement, high school completion rate –happy with these results. Teaching and leading –education quality –at 92%. Access to supports and services -10% above the province –ex: if kids need access to occupational therapy, behavioural therapy, learning supports.

Input: 3 year completion, 4 year completion, 5 year completion. Dropout rate is extremely low. Parents gave input, it seems most agree that kids will graduate at own rate but require the proper supports to attempt graduation in 3 years.

Citizenship –overall looks good but some numbers are concerning.

Routhier: Compared to the province, doing very well. Look for areas where we can improve –citizenship.

Discussion:

1. How important is it that our children complete high school in 3 years? We need to see kids be able to complete high school in 3 years and we need to focus on getting them to where they need to be to get there. The majority that can graduate in 3 years should but there are some that will need the extra time and it's good for the schools to give them the extra time. Talk to the graduated people and ask how effective they feel the education was and if it helped them in their job choice/career. Most people seem to agree to sliding scale –some will graduate in 3 years and others will need longer. Consider how covid may have longer impact with children being behind. Advocating for enough resources for kids so that they can finish on time more often.
2. What can we do, to ensure parents, staff, and students are in partnership in citizenship? Be kind. Citizenship awareness? Core values that focus on being good citizens, talk about the values in class and use examples of that to help teach students.
3. What does an active citizen look like in grade K-6? Discrepancy –do kids help each other and respect each other –the kids thought they were doing a good job but the parents did not. When kids come home there is always more to the story and so parents can then take that time to discuss more and teach. Maybe that means that kids are resilient and more so than parents think. Possibly it's more related to the transition from grade 6 to grade 7 and they are maturing more –less parent involvement.
4. What can we do to involve more parents? Suggest to have grade level nights where parents could come in and engage. Not sure what the answer –reach out to parents, bring back parent teacher interviews, ASCA board seems to be putting an emphasis on parent involvement –parent-school connection to get the child able to move forward. Call and ask, more personal reach out and then possibly parents would be more inclined to join boards. Maybe the school could do a parade of programs. Parents also need to seek out opportunities based on their interests and resources. Push out information, people are more likely to pay attention than the website.
5. Do you like the social media pictures? Does it make you feel more connected? Yes –parents like this.

b. School Council Engagement Grant

Superintendent said we were eligible for grant. Up to school and school division what to do with that funding. ?no plans yet for division wide...might be up to the schools or school councils to spend the money. We will get 1000\$. Any ideas what we could do with that money?

First meeting in the New Year January 10th (second Monday).

8. Next Meeting/Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm. Next meeting December 6, 2021.