

Georges P. Vanier/ Routhier School Joint Council Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Monday, October 24, 2022

Attendance: Diane Benoit: Principal Routhier, Monique Dubrule: VP Routhier, Terry Hogan: Principal GP Vanier, Tara Lea, Stephanie Staudinger, Jenny St. Jean, Tracy Gagne, Leslie Carbone, Colbi Alguire, Stephanie Cloutier, Wendy Tokarz, Karin Scholl, Lynn Skrepnek, Charlene Born, Dan Born, Michelle Fallowfield, Kristina Gilmer, Jenny Stenhouse, Lovena Bhanfooa, Melissa Meunier

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

2. Tara called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

3. Welcome and Introductions

4. Review / Additions / Approval of Agenda

Charlene approves agenda.

5. Review/Approval of September 2022 Minutes

Terry approves minutes of September 2022 meeting.

6. Financial Reports:

No change, expect to see deposits of \$150 and \$500 to each school from the school division for attending seminars, etc, stay tunned.

Routhier: \$1,045.47, Vanier: \$1,482.40

7. Old Business: None

8. School Reports:

a. Routhier Principal Report

-Oct. 5th Malicounda came to do an atelier de tambour. for MAT- 6e année.

-We also welcomed Dawn Lawrence and Rob Mathys as our cook and wellness coach this month.

-Our lunch program has started. The order form is for 2 weeks, allowing for ordering preparation purposes.

-Picture day Oct. 19

- Grade Level Meetings are occurring every week alternating between a focus on literacy and numeracy.
- Oct. 17 was our school wide write - HLAT, teachers will be using the Oct. 24 PD day to correct them as a group.
- Oct. 14 Gr. 4 and 5E had the opportunity to do a land based learning excursion. They were able to try wild meat.
- Oct. 31 is Halloween there will be an assembly at 2:20
- Roots of empathy are continuing every week in the grade 4E and the 4/5F classrooms.
- Nov. 3 is a presentation for MAT à 6e année. La Grande coulée is coming to meet with the students.
- Nov. 8th is the earth ranger presentation - sponsored by Cargill.
- Nov. 15-24 is a presentation workshop for students put on by PACE - Who do you Tell?
- Parent letter and permission forms will be sent out early November for two presentations/per class
 - The form outlines the content of the programs and the video to make an informed decision about their child/children's attendance.
- Nov. 18 report cards are going home.
- Nov. 16 photo retakes and class pictures.
- Nov. 10 is our Remembrance Day ceremony at 10:40.
- Nov. 17-24 is our scholastic book fair with an under the sea theme.
- We are welcoming Vanier's mentorship students every Thursday afternoon to be in classrooms with students.
- Nov. 22 and 24 are Parent Teacher Interviews from 5-7
- Oct. 24 teachers received pd from Leonard Cardinal on Cree Natural Law
- kôhkôm Connie continues to be in classrooms providing an indigenous perspective related to outcomes.
- Jesse Johnson (behavior consultant) and Janelle Delorme (occupational therapist) and Kristen Nelson (speech and language therapist) continue to regularly be in the building to support students who have referrals.
- We have some of our interventions in place and started. Speech, literacy boost and numeracy boost interventions will continue this year.
- Mom's Pantry Fundraiser has been sent out and ends the 15th of Nov.

b. Vanier Principal Report

Oct Highlights:

Collaborative Response Teams are meeting to strategize for student success
 Universal Assessments are wrapping up; Mipi is done, RCAT is done and the first round of HLAT was completed today with teachers marking and determining grade level.
 Service Providers have been in to assess student needs and continue to do so; OT, Speech/Language, Counseling Consultant and Divisional Psychologist.

Breakfast Club is running daily with Wellness classes
 Cafe Vanier-with SH Foods

Volleyball is in full swing-JH volleyball is nearly done, with zones on Nov 4-5 French Monitor was not able to come due to lack of accessible housing and transportation. There is potential for a local individual to be hired if they meet the criteria. Please see Monique Dubrule and/or myself for more information.

Oct 3-Met with Uniropa-information provided to GPV for a Quebec trip proposal to be made to HPSD Board of Trustees.

Oct 4-5-Grade 12 Campus Tour to Edm/Camrose

Oct 5-Band Parent Association meeting

Oct 7-PD Day-1 hour of Indigenous PD and 1.5 hours of Divisional Collab with Dylan Williams

Oct 12-Administrators were in HP for Admin PD

Oct 13-Fire Drill

Oct 14-Administrators and LST were in HP for CSTAG training

Oct 17-Grades 7-9 band students went to the HP Corn maze for a team building activity

Oct 19-Grade 10 students participated in the Blanket Exercise, PIES night-Parents

Engaging with Educators and Students including; Band workshop, parents vs kids in the gym, parent engagement throughout the school, Food Truck Challenge in Entrepreneurship

Oct 20-Lock Down Drill, SH Mentorship class began their weekly mentorship work with Routhier school

Oct 21-Safety Inspection with Katie Doucette.

Oct 24-PD Day; HLAT marking, Indigenous PD on Restorative Practice, CRM/CTM/ISP's.

Oct 26-Photo Retakes

Oct 31-Halloween Activities

From the office of the Career Coach (Katie Ellwood)

The trip to Camrose/Edmonton went really well. The students were especially fantastic. It was phenomenal to be able to bring students on campus tours after the last couple of Covid years.

This month we have a University of Alberta recruiter coming on the 18th to present to the grade 10's in CALM.

I have placed GPV on the list for a Bold Eagle presentation and have scheduled a presentation from Skills on November 8th during block 2.

As I mentioned in September, I am also hoping to schedule a campus tour to NAIT for GPV. We have not yet heard back from student recruitment but I will absolutely keep you posted once we know more.

Wellness

The Breakfast Club is up and running again this year. We have received funding from the Alberta Nutrition Grant and Breakfast Club of Canada to deliver a universal free program to all students at Vanier.

Wellness has been busy with 1:1 visits with students, some classroom presentations and collaborating with community agencies.

The GSA is up and running, meeting every Thursday at lunch. We're hoping to do some education based activities across the school so that we can do our best at providing an inclusive and safe space for all Vanier students.

Upcoming Events

First Grad parent/student Meeting

Fundraising opportunities to subsidize sports fees; sausages/perogies, purdies and Calahoo meats.

Nov 7-Grade 9's participate in No Stone Left Alone

Nov 10-Report Cards

Nov 17-PTI's-5-8pm

Nov 25-PD Day

Fundraiser for Student incentives: poinsettias

c. Trustee Report –Karin and Lynn

They are both sorry they couldn't attend the first school council meeting of the 2022/2023 school year.

Advocacy committee met this year again, they meet to discuss points for the board to advocate to the division.

Points to advocate for this year that were decided:

1. Mental health and wellness –timely and appropriate access to mental health resources for our students. As you recall last year we discussed our mental health proposal, it has been turned down 2x now, however we are still advocating for it.
2. Preserving local governance.

We presented these points to the Minister of Education. She met with all school boards across the province. We made sure to present the mental health proposal to her again in person. She was surprised –which brings to question how it was read and turned down 2x. She will take it back and consider it. We are optimistic.

Board meetings are recorded live and put up on you tube channel.

There are a lot of job openings across the division –principal, mechanic, teacher, teaching aids, indigenous coach, substitute teachers, bus drivers, occupational therapist. Staffing gaps are a new problem for our division. Bus drivers are in much need. Province wide concern right now. A big barrier is the training to become a bus driver -2 months full time training required to become a class 1 truck driver. The government is comparing a bus to a semi-truck. The same training for both is a major barrier to finding bus drivers. Salary is another concern to be addressed. Combination of positions has been suggested but there are barriers to that as well. If you wanted to combine a EA position with a bus driver position, employment standards need to be followed–can only work 8 hours per day. Another barrier is a lot of frustration still surrounding covid and the gap in need for bus drivers.

Suggestion to combine busing between divisions –example HPSD and Heritage. Both parties need to agree. Hoping will engage in conversation about this again soon. Right now HPSD is trying to keep bus route to 90min and under, looking at having to extend the 90min just to get all the kids picked up and to school with the limited busing available. Student attendance is starting to be affected now due to lack of busing. Students are safer on buses. Our advocacy is in hoping to reduce the MELT training currently required for bus drivers to complete. Substitute bus drivers are needed as well.

Officially began the process of hiring a new superintended. Current superintendent has given notice that she will leave the position as of August 2023.

Terry Fox fundraiser raised \$88,000.

ASCA funding cut completely. ASCA is a provincial body that represents all the school councils in the province. They are now having to fundraise to keep the council open. It was mentioned at a board meeting to give the school council \$500 to ASCA. Math on that is- 1.2 million if every school board did this. ASCA is the only way for parents to get their voice heard provincially.

Call for resolutions will come out soon for ASCA. For anyone who isn't aware, school councils can submit resolutions to the committee and then it is brought forward to the provincial level for advocacy. All resolutions are presented at the ASCA AGM at the end of April. Anything you think may need to go further than this room, this is the way to do it. The president of ASCA attends the provincial meetings who has the ear of the provincial government. With ASCA, we retain the ability to have a direct voice to the province.

We pre-approved the order for new busses to replace the old buses. This year busses will be delayed, and you have to pre-order not knowing what the price is. We pre-ordered 4 busses, and when price comes in we will decide on the budget. Previously would order 5 busses per year but since covid the busses were used less and so didn't

need to replace as many busses the past 2 years. Full approval will come to board before any full order is made.

We track incidents at each board meeting. Example –suspensions, aggression, drugs, vaping. We track these so that our wellness team at each school can address the specific concerns. This year -drugs, vaping, cigarettes. They focus their support for students around these things. Get monthly reports and yearly compilation of trends.

Teachers have settled negotiations with the province, so we expect local negotiations soon.

9. New Business

a. French Programming

Last year Carolyn and Monique requested money from OLEP (Official Language Education Program) for the schools. Example, mentorship bus to come to Rouhtier, immersion local for HPSD.

Requested a French activity evening –will happen during school council meetings. This has been approved and planning is in full swing. This applies to ALL students, not just French immersion. Expected to start at the next school council meeting. Information hand out given at the meeting.

b. Cyber-bullying

Cyber bullying is happening, wondering if HPSD has a policy?

What should a person do?

With any situation-go to the closest source, teacher, principal, central office –superintendent, then delegation to the board. There is a HPSD policy online.

What are the schools doing to educate the students about cyber bullying? The Social media presentation spoke to it a little. More through everyday actions of teachers and the curriculum. Digital citizenship. Bullying in general is addressed daily in the schools. We have dealt with it in a few cases, at this school (JPV) it seems less than other schools. Please bring any concerns forward. Wellness coaches are involved in addressing these concerns through presentations to individual classes. Seems to be dealt with on a case by case basis. Provide opportunity to do teaching.

JPV this year has made a rule no cell phones in the classrooms. Would like to have no cell phones in the school ideally, leave the cell phone at home. If you need to contact your child at school, you can call the school.

Highly recommend no cell phones at school. No problem helping from the office with contacting students.

We will do our best in the school to make sure they are not on phones in class.

Do you think there needs to be more education opportunities brought to parents? As a school council can we bring in more seminars?

The folks that are feeling bullied is there a way for them to reach out without speaking to an adult? Yes we have a questionnaire at the beginning of every year which addresses this and gives the opportunity for the student to reach out without stepping out of comfort zone. It is anonymous.

Tracking access to the use of the policy for example, we can say we are doing these things to support kids but are the kids using it?

The trend data is just beginning again. Some kids don't ever speak about it and are heavily bullied. Often offering program is mandatory so we know the students have access to that when offered. Wellness coach visits are also tracked.

Removing the stigma –making it apart of the everyday school day and culture. Rather than a special topic that is talked about 2x per year in a major presentation.

Within the grade 7-9 day this is a part of their everyday activity.

If you know about it and the school doesn't, that is a problem. Please bring it forward to the school and there are multiple ways the concern can be addressed. Teachers are beginning to find ways to create this environment, example circle time.

Are the students in each school aware of steps to take if have a concern?

Routhier –Grade 4-6 –are involved the code of conduct making. Grade 1-3 share circle time.

JPV –Address new rules and how disciplines will be dealt with and shared with all students through presentations in the classrooms.

New policy is that if there is a threat made to your child then we will let the parent know who made the threat and that the threat was made. This is a new policy.

Steps to follow are in step by step format available online HPSD website. Also a lot of other information is available on this website if you are interested. Wellness coach is available, but does the wellness coach have enough time to get to all students? They make an effort to meet each student but no, there isn't enough time to seek all students daily. Most of the time they are seeking out the students who have an identified need. Adults in the school can all have the responsibility to make connections with the students so that the students may feel comfortable reaching out to several different adults if needed.

Would be ideal to have equitable funding for wellness coaches and then the service could be offered routinely to all students.

Teachers are going above and beyond everyday.

This could be a good ASCA resolution.

Can address further at another meeting as well if required/desired.

ASCA website always has courses –online offered as well

c. Setting Meeting dates

The last two meetings have been the last Monday of the month –what do people think? Last Monday of the month seems to work. November 28 –ERS, January 30 JPV, February 27 –ERS, March 27 –JPV, May 1 –ERS.

d. Engagement Grant

-\$500 grant given to both schools that we can use to engage our parents. Last year we spent it on the social media presentation. We could give it to ASCA and use the conferences offered by ASCA for the parents. Can also work with other schools across the division and use the funds together. We have the year to spend the money. Think about it and bring ideas to next meeting or email them into the school council. The biggest school council role is advisory.

10. Next Meeting/Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm. Next meeting November 28, 2022 at 7:00 in person at Rouhtier in the meeting room with a zoom link.