

Minutes of School Council

October 17, 2017

7:00pm

| <i>In attendance:</i> | <i>Regrets</i> |
|--|---|
| Suzanne Bourque, 2016-17 Co-Chair Steve Cussons, 2016-17 Co-Chair Maria McLellan, Principal Beth Hudson, Elementary Vice Principal Geoff Mills, Secondary Teacher Jeff Sephton, Secondary Teacher (Seat Yourself) Alex Pedherney, Student Council Rep Genesis Gollab, Student Council Rep Leo Marchand, Head Caretaker Shawn Summers Vanessa McElroy Stephanie Callaghan Laura Pastrok Kathy Berglund Laurie Fehrman Shelley Murray | Sheila Slattery-Ford, ALD Hub and Our Kids Network |

Student Council Report: *Genesis Golleb, Alex Pedherney*

1) SAC update:

Planning for several events is underway for the upcoming school year.

Terry Fox run was just completed. Good participation but funds raised appear to be down. Final donations are still being tallied.

Halloweek is coming. Many student events planned throughout the week.

Movember (male health awareness) and Remembrance day events are planned.

December: There will be a food drive "Holiday for Hunger" and the "Gift of Giving" gift sponsorship program will run again to support Aldershot families who need assistance this holiday season.

January is designated a “Protected learning” month. No events offered in order to support the students’ need to focus on exams. Some discussion was held about whether parent council/the breakfast program may be able to offer a smoothie bar or something similar to support students studying at school during exam week. Tabled for future discussion

SAC is exploring the possibility of hosting a Winter Semi-formal dance.

Approval of the Minutes: *Maria McLellan*

Distributed at meeting . For future meetings they will be provided in advance of the meeting. Moved for acceptance by Kathy Berglund.

Aldershot Focus Exploration Committee Update: , *Maria McLellan*

Planning for open house at the school for Nov 13, 5 pm to 7 pm.

Teacher Update: *Geoff Mills (Secondary) and Beth Hudson (on behalf of Elementary)*

Secondary:

Potts:

- The SHIFT Innovation project - blog about their experience @ Ald
 - Innovators from the board came to Aldershot to look at the ways in which Aldershot teachers are being innovative in their classrooms to make education meaningful and engaging for students
 - See blog photocopies

- Applied students and ELLs to go to Chapters to select books to encourage a love of reading on October 25th

- Practice OSSLT for grade 10s and newly eligible kids on Oct. 27th

- LINK to go trick-or-treating to grade 9 classrooms on October 31st to continue to welcome grade 9s to Aldershot

Elementary:

Chesca LeLievre:

- We are starting this week or next our first ever Multicultural Club (elementary). Cathy Brown, Jannisse Primeau and I are looking forward to working with the students to make Aldershot more welcoming and inclusive.

Maggie Ward:

- you can share that elementary VEX Robotics is underway with 15 students participating. Most robots are half-built. We'll be attending 2 tournaments - one in November and one in December.
- We have one community volunteer (retired engineer) and one high school student getting his volunteer hours helping us out. Krishna Takman has joined me in running this club.

Jane Taylor:

- Junior Band has already had 5 Tuesday morning rehearsals and are working hard to learn their music for December Music Night which will be on Thursday, December 14. Tomorrow's rehearsal will finally have grade 7s on their instruments. 29 grade 7s have been attending since the 2nd week in an effort to earn a place in Junior Band.
- Grade 7s are now on instruments and learning how to play and read 5 notes. Soon they will be playing many melodies.
- Rehearsals for the Musical are well underway and there are a number of grade 7 and 8 students who are taking part this year. For more details on the Musical email Jeff Sephton.
- Jean Miso was in today teaching the grade 8 classes her song "We'll Never Forget" which has been adopted as the theme song for Juno Beach. They were also taught the sign language needed for this song. They will be performing this song in a special Remembrance Day ceremony on November 7.

Elementary Administration Report

1. Mindful 10

- 10 minutes at the end of the day
- students return to homeroom classes and teacher to organize themselves, review homework and reflect on the day.

2. Innovation Room

Rationale:

We are committed to fully fostering media innovation and integrated ICT across the curriculum. We will be collaborative in our efforts and develop student engagement and potential for full expression of knowledge and understanding, communication, thinking and application in all subject areas.

Who

will do it?

- All Elementary staff
- ICT Leads
- Teacher Librarian
- Elementary Vice Principal
- Aldershot Gr. 7 and 8 students

Our Inquiry Question:

How does this initiative enhance engagement in support of improved student achievement and well-being?

Current Technology/Tools:

10 Ipads

6 iPad recording stands

7 iMacs

Digital SLR Camera (2 tripods)

10 Chromebooks

2 Smart TVs (mounted)

Green Screen

VEX

Short Term Goals:

- Conduct pre/post surveys with elementary staff members to determine comfort levels with media and ICT;
- Staff to brainstorm a “First Steps Innovation” using iPads
- Participate in a collaborative inquiry with Martin Street, working colleagues and with Ian McLain: *What impact does exposure to multimedia tools have on student learning and intellectual engagement?*
- Apple Learning Series open to all staff around the use of the iPads in various ways at the Apple Store Oct. 14 and Oct. 17
- Theories of Action to be developed with IPL and partners from Martin Street the morning of October 18th; team to continue planning with specific regard to staff use of the room and “mini exploration projects”;
- Co-plan, co-teach to take place the week of October 23rd
- Debrief and sharing in November (date TBD)
- Sharing at December staff meeting
- Plan Collaborative Inquiry for staff (100% staff participation)
 - Part 1- Jan/Feb
 - Part 2- Mar/Apr

Long Term Goals:

- To develop a “hub” where students/teachers can learn, explore and express themselves creatively and collaborate with others;
- To provide resource and a starting point for teachers and students, until projects, technology and resources can be used in any classroom- with walls or without.
- To actively promote and deepen student inquiry and knowledge building;
- To empower students to feel no limitation as to how they might express ideas, communicate learning, solve problems and innovate.
- To build 21st century competencies and skill sets that will support growth mindset and a true appreciation for process; process of thought, of debate and deliberation, of communication and problem solving- of idea-making, of collaboration, of consultation, of creative and critical thinking- of innovation;
- To collaborate with secondary counterparts and continue to build capacity.

3. Math and Literacy Plans

Math Goals:

Grade 7 and 8:

Increase student achievement in number sense, bringing students working at or closer to grade level in number sense and numeration.

Increase student confidence in oral communication and sharing in math classes.

Literacy Goals:

Grade 7 and 8:

Develop students' proficiency

with the writing process, specifically revision, so that students will increase from level 2 to the provincial standard, based on the previous June report card score.

Increase student engagement through Writing Workshop structures and practices.

Facilities Report: Leo Marchand

Firedrill: completed evacuation in under 2 minutes which is outstanding.

New white boards were installed in the newly designated "Innovation Room" and rooms 141 and 241.

Breakfast Program Update: *Shelley Murray*

Program is going well. New fundraising initiative via Facebook auction is underway.

Aldershot Hub Update: *Sheila Slattery-Ford*

Sheila was unable to attend. Nothing new to report

Treasurer's Report: *Laurie Fehrman*

No change since last meeting

Administration Reports: *Maria McLellan, Beth Hudson*

Aldershot Vision: Aldershot is an inclusive environment that develops and challenges individuals to learn and live respectfully and responsibly in a global community

1. Welcome to our new Executive! I hope the year is a fulfilling one for you!
2. We will be holding an Evacuation Drill this year on October 24 at 1:30 p.m. LaSalle Park is our destination. This drill is based on a perceived threat to the school in the form of a bomb or suspicious material or device.

3. A Robert Bateman original watercolour (1969) has been reframed and is hanging in the Library. It is secured for safety reasons to the brick wall.
4. Aldershot's Student Senators for this year are: Kian Mitchell (elementary), Sydney Harkness and Nadia Wahidi (secondary). They attend regular meetings at the Board office that are run by the two elected Student Trustees. Elementary meets first and then the secondary student meet. There is an overlap period so that both groups have an opportunity to interact.
5. The **Focus Exploration Committee** will meet for the first time on October 24, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. here in the Library to learn about and discuss the suggestions that have been sent into the Board. As you know Steve Cussons and Kathy Berglund have volunteered to sit on this committee. Our staff reps are Kerry Sagar and Wade Richardson. Student reps are Abby Stevens and Kaitlyn Hale.
6. This year we are bringing the **No Stone Left Alone** (NSLA) Program to Aldershot in collaboration with Jean Miso (Author, Composer, Singer). NSLA is an educational program that involves school children placing poppies at veterans' headstones in the week before November 11. There will be a service of remembrance in the veteran section of Woodlands Cemetery, 700 Spring Garden Road in Burlington on Tuesday November 7, 2017 at 9:45 a.m. Our grade 8s and grade 10 history students, staff, military staff, Board reps will participate.
7. Now that the Burlington PAR is over, the **Seat Yourself Committee**, which is an Ad Hoc Committee of School Council, is moving forward this year with the goal of raising enough funds to complete the replacement of the seats in the Auditorium by the end of the school year. We have just under \$60,000. And need approximately \$125,000. for the seats. I would like to suggest that School Council helps with this so that we have an united focus. Jeff Sephton is here to speak to re-invigorating this initiative.....

Domino's Pizza on Plains Road is ready to start the year with their \$1.00 donation per pizza campaign that was so helpful in 2015-16.

8. **Principal Profile** – There are forms that can be completed by the Council Executive so to provide your opinions should the principal be transferred this year.

Fundraising

Much discussion as to prioritizing Seat Yourself this year to get this fundraising goal met and put to bed. Staff are in agreement that this is the priority. Approximately \$70000 still required to complete the project.

The Seat Yourself subcommittee was represented at this meeting by teacher Jeff Sephton. He spoke of the need/goals of the project. Council was informed that the subcommittee is currently working on a re-brand and re-launch of this fundraising initiative now that the secondary PAR is complete.

There was discussion about how to attract student engagement to Seat Yourself and how to reach the broader community to support donations. Council unanimously agreed to make this the fundraising priority this year. It was clarified by Shelley Murray that the breakfast program has sufficient support this year and will not require additional fundraising by council for this area.

Action: SYS committee will provide an information package at the November meeting so council can identify specific areas where they might provide support to this initiative.

Breakfast council people are acknowledged as “AWESOME”.

| Executive Members of Council | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Co-Chair | Steve Cussons | Co-Chair | Suzanne Bourque |
| Treasurer | Laurie Fehrman | Secretary | <i>T.B.D</i> Interim: Suzanne Bourque |
| Members of Council | | | |
| PIC Representative | Shelley Murray | Focus Exploration Committee Representative | Kathy Berglund Steve Cussons |
| Fundraising | Shelley Murray | PRO Grant | Suzanne Bourque |
| Breakfast Program | Shelley Murray Elaine Jutras | Community Engagement | Suzanne Bourque Shelley Murray Kathy Berglund |

Please know that parents are always welcome at School Council!

Council Meeting Dates for 2017-18:

Tuesday Oct 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Nov 21 @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Feb 20 @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Mar 20 @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Apr 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday May 15 @ 7:00 p.m.