



Cochrane Christian Academy
School Council Meeting- AGM

September 28th, 2017

7:00pm

CCA Learning Commons

In Attendance:

Vanessa Johnston, Ellen Covey, Abby Blough, Fiona Gilbert, Brandice Weatherbee, Skye Spidla, Beverly Walker, Trisha Swan, Rachelle Prud'Homme, Allan Elkin

Minutes

- A) Call to order : 7:03pm
- B) Opening Prayer
- C) Approval of agenda- approved
- D) Approval of Minutes/Summary of June 4, 2017- Approved by Ellen Covey
- E) Committee Reports:
 - a) Rocky View School Board Trustee Report: Fiona Gilbert:

Trustee Report – September 2017

- Students were welcomed at 50 Rocky View Schools this September. While official enrolment numbers are not yet known, we do know that RVS continues to grow in all of the major municipalities, with some growth also being seen in Springbank and Crossfield
- Fireside School students are being housed at Mitford/CCA for the time being, until the new school in Fireside is operational which is anticipated to be mid-November. Windsong Heights School opened on time due to the hard work of school and admin staff over the Labour Day weekend to pull it all together. Addition on to Heron's Crossing School is not quite ready.
- Transportation fees increased this school year and the rules have changed as far as who pays and who doesn't. This has caused much confusion. The Board continues to discuss Transportation services and will continue to look for efficiencies as the transportation budget deficit is not sustainable.
- The Ministry of Education recently started a School Act engagement. Alberta Education has held consultation sessions with stakeholders in anticipation of possible amendments to the School Act being tabled this Fall. Topics being looked at are:
 - a. Age of access
 - b. Common entry date for Kindergarten

c. Transportation Fees / Walk distance to school (current is 2.4 km)

d. Service agreements between School Boards and First Nation communities.

e. Joint Use Agreements

- The Board recently passed a revised Policy 10 – Policy, which addresses how policies are made for the school/district and the process for all stakeholders to follow. For more information, see the RVS website on Policy 10.
 - School Board Elections are coming up on October 16th – nomination day was Monday Sept 18th. There are 13 school board nominees for 6 wards. Three wards were acclaimed: Patty Sproule (Ward 2), Norma Lang (Ward 4), Fiona Gilbert (Ward 6), so elections will take place in 3 wards (Airdrie: 3 Trustees, 5 candidates; rural Cochrane/Bearspaw/Springbank/Bragg Creek: 1 Trustee, 3 candidates; and City of Chestermere: 1 Trustee, 2 candidates). The new board will be sworn in 24th of October. Mayor and Councillor election too so be sure to get informed and remember to vote on Oct 16th!
- b) Administration Report: Rachelle Prud'Homme and Allan Elkin: Entertainment book sales have finished and the total money collected to date is \$10559 with 22 books outstanding. The profit at %40 will be around \$4223 for the school!

There are some new leadership opportunities available for students grades 4-8. Applications have been sent home with 70 + students today! There are 6 areas of interest for students to serve in and each area will be staff supported. There are 12+ staff interested in helping run these 'mini' student council groups. Looks like an exciting new program. The school is hoping to accept all students that apply and assign 1-2 student reps from grade 7 or 8 from each of the 6 areas of interest to form a student executive.

Staff updates: there will be a new friendly face in the main office in a part time role. As well as 1.5 new learning assistants and 2 support assistants to be added in the future. Hoping to have these new staff help with the community inclusion focus of the school.

Culture building: Middle school retreats to continue. We would like to possibly have a CAMP 'visit' this year. The overnights are difficult due to assignable time for teachers and cost to families.

3 Way Conferences- next week! Early this year to accommodate student goal setting.

Remembrance Day Chapel: November 10th. This year's Chapel will look more like Fire Place Chapel and be a shorter due to the fact that there are 3 schools sharing the space for Remembrance day this year.

Christmas Production will look a little different this year. No musical is planned. The focus will be on community connections this Christmas season.

- c) Chair Annual Report: Michelle Copithorne- This is the official AGM as there were not enough parents present on June 15th for quorum. Last year was a year of transition and this year will be a year to move forward with new ideas and the new members of the council.
- F) Regular Business
 - a) Board Position Nominations:
 - Chair- Ellen Covey- All in favour
 - Vice Chair- OPEN
 - Secretary- Erin Neilsen and Debra Clarke to share the role- All in favour
 - b) Fridge/Food Program Update: Liz Brandt and Trisha Swan are heading up this project. It was reported a \$1200 cost for providing food to children in Mitford school last year. These are children who didn't have enough lunch or didn't have a lunch at all. The idea for the food program is that in the 4 fridges placed throughout the building, students will have access to healthy food like fruit, cheese, yogurt, granola bars and will be open for all to take as needed. Students will no longer need to go to the office to ask for extra food, but can help themselves if they need it. This is a building wide program and fridges are available to students from both Mitford and CCA. There are some grant applications in the works for funding the program and some money has been accepted already. Proposed that Friends of CCA could get involved and parents could contribute financially to this ministry.
 - c) Meeting Dates/Time: 4th Thursday of the month at 7pm
 - d) Food ministry for the teachers- 3 way conferences: pot luck dinner provided by parents for the teachers one of the evenings of the 3 way conferences. Will be organized for the Wednesday session. Michelle Copithorne to contact organizer from last year and get the email and sign up sheet out to parents.
- G) New Business:
 - a) Feedback that having the students classes and teachers announced in June with the report cards was so helpful! The children and parents were so much more at ease on the first day of school in September knowing which class they were in ahead of time! Thank you!
 - b) Feedback regarding the Open House on the Friday before classes started in September- Great to see the classrooms and meet the teachers. The time slot wasn't convenient for working parents, maybe a late afternoon/evening open house before the start of school could replace the Thursday one? Also, it would be helpful for middle school parents to be able to help with the transportation of the school supplies to the school at the Open House date to ease the load on the first day of school.
 - c) Cross walk supervisors- parent wondering if the program will resume this year. It was reported that it was a Mitford program run by staff when Mitford was a k-8 school. There are not plans currently to run it out of CCA.
 - d) Parents Prayer Group- Beverly Walker is interested in starting one up! Thanks Beverly! A Facebook prayer and community page was proposed as well. Parent led initiative.
- H) Adjournment: 8:30pm
- I) Next meeting date: Thursday October 26th at 7pm in the CCA Learning Commons