

GMHS Parent Council Minutes

September 19th, 2017 7 PM

In attendance: Sheryl Page (Secretary), Garry Bell (Principal), Chris Robertson (Assistant Principal), Karen Lewall, Kathy Schulze (Chair), Sue Wroe, Sui Hoi Lam, Laurie Rietveld, Kelli Ellingson, Rita Wilcox, Jolene Turcotte, Winston Lee, De Weisser, Marc Wilcox

1. Call Meeting to Order: 7:00
2. Welcome and Introductions:
Kathy Schulze chaired the meeting this evening and welcomed everyone and introductions were made.
3. Approval of the Agenda: Karen Lewall motioned to approve the agenda with the amendments. All in favor.
Approval of May 16th meeting minutes: Sue Wroe motioned to approve the May 16th, 2017 minutes. All in favor.
4. Administration Report: Gary Bell and Chris Robertson
Timetable was up and running by the end of June, giving students a chance to make changes and send in requests before they left for the summer. Chris Robertson worked very hard on this and it was very successful in getting most students up and running with a working schedule before the school year started. Max requests were realized, 99% of core courses and 70%-80% of options. It was very proactive and we were one of the only schools that did this.
We are looking for student voice/parent voice – grade 9s had a pizza lunch and the admin got feedback from the students. There were a lot of structural changes to the grade 9 cohort. Focus learning time is on Fridays and literacy is on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you have donations of books for the classroom carts please drop off at the learning commons.
School Ed Plan – new course Math 15 which combines math 10-3 and 10-C, 2 classes all year math, cos-play this year, late bird art and early bird and lunch options. Students can get credits for part time jobs, horticulture class - the school is getting a greenhouse in the courtyard. You should check out the you tube – It's not about the lettuce under rockyview schools.
Grade 9 cohort was restructured FI FLA/Social in different semesters.
We have 683 students enrolled and a hockey program. Jim Reilly is organizing it
Results of the surveys and PAT diplomas are out and last year results were maintained. Issue – 79% acceptable and was flagged for parent involvement. We got excellent for safe and caring on the accountability pillar. We will discuss more in October when the results have been analyzed more.
Friday Fan – Out is a great success, we would like to see our council meetings and requests for volunteers indicated so that we can reach as many parents as possible
5. Trustee Report – No report, no trustee present Sylvia Eggerer is retiring and Norma Lang was acclaimed for Rural Trustee, we will be electing 3 Trustees in the upcoming election

6. New Business:

- a. Election of Vice Chair and Treasurer – Kathy gave a brief description of the duties of each position and then asked for nominations for both Vice Chair and Treasurer. Jolene Turcotte put her name forward for Treasurer and was acclaimed as no one else put their name forward. Marc Wilcox put his name forward for Vice Chair and was acclaimed as no one else put their name forward.
- b. Letter from Minister of Education – wants to hear from us about which education issues matter most and how our government can help – we were asked if we were interested in having the Minister come to visit us and felt that we did not need this at this time
- c. Graduation 2018 – Jim Reilly will be organizing again this year. The ceremony and banquet will again be located in Airdrie which makes it more affordable. We get the Wed./Thurs. this year and planning will start immediately. In October there will be a grad parent meeting.
- d. Overview of year – goals and objectives – We would like to increase parent involvement in the school, help at the Ride of the Mustangs – breakfast both days as well as volunteering during the 48 hours, parent team?, FI activities, local activities including Explore (exchange in Quebec), staff appreciation in either April or May and Kari Becker is willing to organize this, discuss remind app and attending parent/teacher conferences to help get the word out.
- e. SOS fundraising committee –

Shanno The Save Our Schools (SOS) Society

This Society was originally formed in 1994 with several different schools in Airdrie taking part. Currently the Society raises monies by applying for and organizing a casino approximately every two and a half years. The Society is a completely separate entity from GMHS Council and GMHS. Our AGLC 'Use of Proceeds' mandate is for the Fine Arts and Athletics Programs of GMHS. This is non-sustainable funding meaning that it cannot be allocated to absolutely necessary items for instruction in the Fine Arts and Athlete Programs of Our School.

Our current executive is Shannon Mauro as chair, Karen Lewall as Vice-Chair, Franca Broughton as Treasurer and our Secretary is Nancy Friesen. The executive will be discussing a name change at some in the near future.

- f. Questions, ideas, concerns and updates
7. Next meeting date : Tuesday, October 17th at 7:00 pm
8. Adjournment: 8:22 pm

