

**Swanavon School Council**  
Annual General Meeting Minutes  
Grande Prairie, AB  
Nov 7, 2023

**Call to order:** 3:15

**Welcome & Introductions**

**Attendees:**

**Chair:** Chelsea Norris  
**Vice Chair:** Stephanie Bokkers  
**Secretary:** Juanita Jordan  
**Treasurer:** Kukai Hunter  
Garth Paquette, **Principal**  
Arlene Foley, **Vice Principal**  
Additional Parents Attending: 6

**Approval of Agenda**

Approved by: Juanita Jordan

Seconded by: Jada Webb

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Approved by: Cheyanne Zimmer

Seconded by: Stephanie Bokkers

**Principal Report**

***Update of School within the last month.***

- Presenter of Jo Philips starting conversation of social media for grades 4 to 6, internet safety.
- Successful storm game field trip. Kids had a good time.
- Author Win Edwards, author that works with service dogs and from Edmonton, read her book to the children.
- Indigenous drummer Al Crawford came in to see the kids
- Grade 5 and 6 had triple ball tournament this past weekend. It was a student initiative. They came forward with a proposal letter to get volleyball going. Kids Self advocated.
- Basketball coming up this winter. Badminton in the spring  
This coming month.

- Remembrance, flags at half mast to commemorate the indigenous vet contributions for one day. Flag well go down again for Remembrance Day.
- Remembrance Assembly on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Poppies by donations in the office.
- Report Cards available Nov 24th. Links in the newsletter to show how to access report cards as well as sending them in backpacks.
- Nov 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> PT meetings. Links online and through email
- Trialing the meetings to line up with a weekend. Open to feedback.
- Librarian (Courtney) is organizing a book swap to happen on the nights of the PT meetings. NEED volunteer for the Wednesday night. Two people as she can only do the one day. If someone could come in to help her on Thursday too. Jada Webb has volunteered for Thursday.
- Bookswap times are the entire time of the PT times. 4-7 on Thursday. 3:30 to 6:30 on Wednesday

### ***School Improvement Planning:***

- Collaboration with other schools (Avondale and Hillside) looking at working together. Similar demographic. Single track school. Some opportunities for the new curriculum. Within the school a lot of planning is to meet the diverse needs of the children. Special needs, languages etc. Breaking down the program development to the teachers so that they can break it down to the students. Try it out. Feedback. More proactive instead of reactive.

### **Treasurer Report**

- No bank statement for this month.
- Pumpkin patch 440 that has been deposited into the account
- An estimate of 900 in account after pumpkin patch
- Future planning needs a proposal written up before taking any steps and a vote.

### **Old Business**

#### ***Pumpkin Patch***

- Would like to keep doing this for next year. Safeway has promised to give a better price for next year.
- Have the proposal written up for next year. So that it can easily move forward.
- Other options as a few of us do not agree with using safeway in the future.
- Safeway, Walmart, Save on foods, local farms? Country roads RV park?
- Chelsea wants to up the prices to bring better funding. Arlene is proposing it as NOT a fundraiser. As more of an event. Wants to keep it fair prices for families and to be mindful to make it accessible to ALL families.
- There are thoughts to include in an email that if someone wants to make donations towards other families for pumpkins they can.
- Possible pumpkin donations by Valerie McMahon's mom from farm pumpkins (not enough to supply entire event)

#### ***Childcare***

- The option has been peaking the interest of other parents to attend meetings
- Kids go directly to the gym from their classrooms for the meeting instead of parents gathering them up to the library.
- Kids need indoor shoes. So they take their indoor shoes and backpacks directly to the gym.
- Two EA's getting paid in lieu time for this meeting
- Two options for future meetings:
  - o EA's (two) council pays with gift cards
  - o Two older children to watch and get paid with gift cards
- LOOK into paying the EA's and how (gift cards, cheques) for the next meeting.
- Steph proposes to find some other type of currency to pay the EA's
  - o Approved by: Juanita Jordan
  - o Seconded by: Shianne Zimmer.
- Steph & Chelsea will be in contact with the school before the next meeting

## **New Business**

### ***Hot Lunch***

\*Committee formed: Stephanie, Kukai, Lyndsay

\* Hot lunch time proposal for possibly dates of January. End of Jan. Jan 26<sup>th</sup> possible.

Proposed hot dogs or pizza bought from Costco

### ***Christmas***

- Movie Night new animated grinch movie in the gym with concession
- Christmas lantern contest? All grades. Each grade makes one. Parade. Auction them online. Funds designated for Hot Lunch program or Christmas dance. Parents more leaning towards the movie. Free movie. Open to everyone. Bring blankets, stuffies. Concession.
- Goodie bags paid for by the auction. So instead of concession have goodie bags.
- Volunteers to clean up the mess after
- Steph proposes a classroom lantern fundraiser for silent auction to raise funds for movie night
  - o Approved by: Juanita Jordan
  - o Seconded by: Jada Webb
- Winter Carnival is in the plans.

***Lantern and Movie Night Committee:*** Kukai, Lalini, Steph, Chelsea, Shianne, Lyndsay

### ***Crosswalk Patrollers***

- Sheer chaos in the mornings for parking

- Parents parking behind parked cars, park facing wrong directions. Parking on crosswalks. Parking in handicapped parking spots. A school bus stopping behind the placard parking AND in the crosswalk to let out their child.
- Altercations are happening. It has become quite dangerous with parents and kids almost getting hit in the crosswalk
- Has been brought up numerous times in the previous year and was unaddressed by previous principal. The survey that parents had filled out last year, nothing came of it. No contact back from the school.
- Parents asking what is the chain of command.
- Possible send out a newsletter, a physical piece of paper home with the kids to inform parent of the situation.
- Parents looking for the school to find a solution. Wondering if Bylaw can be called in to do regular patrols
  - Garth Paquette, Principal:
    - o Two parts. Communicate the expectation. Addressing it when it is not being done.
    - o Addressing it by talking with the parents that are not doing it properly
    - o Garth is going to commit to figuring out a resolution.
- Put it back on the table in January to see if there was a resolution.

### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Handed out

### **Roundtable Discussion**

- There are three placard vehicles and only two spots on the South side. Is there a way to make a third spot on that side of the school.
- Garth is going to look into this. January we will review.
  - Google Drive Account
- As discussed from the Pumpkin Patch event. School to make a google drive with all the base knowledge and schedule of events from this year to make the following year easier for possible new people in positions. Hit the ground running. Better preparation, better idea of costs etc. Council in charge of keeping it up to date.

**Meeting adjourned:** 4:29

**Next meeting** Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 3pm. Childcare will be available