

Valley Creek School Council Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2025

Attendees:

Lisa Antichow, Raye-Lynn Graham, Celeste McIlhargey, Shelley Wiart, Brandy Legacy, Angie King, Annika Triantafillou, Sarah Puddicombe, Robyn Moser, Ender Chung,

Anne Markovich (acting principal), Meghan La Barbera (Assistant Principal), Sandra Martin (new acting principal – February), Ms Nichol-Tanner (teacher)

Guests:

Adwoa – Hidden Valley Community liaison

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:46 pm by Shelley. Welcome and Introductions.
- 2) Agenda reviewed. Motion to approve agenda by Brandy Seconded by Raye-Lynn and November 20th meeting minutes by Raye-Lynn, Seconded by Sarah. All in Favour. Approved.
- 3) Administration & School updates by Principal (Anne)

a) Admin Updates

- Anne will no longer be the acting principal as of February because of contract restrictions on retiree principals
- Sandra Martin will take over as acting principal in February – they are using Jan 20 – 24 for training
- Other staffing updates – new library assistant (Bindu Sharma)
- Ms Babiuk and Ms Beard – resource teachers – taken 2 teachers from the classroom to support the registration process (internally and externally) – they should be gone for approximately 2 weeks
- Mr Graham should be coming back
- Mr Marjoram – they are trying to keep him at the school even as a regular substitute
- Vertigo theatre field trip was cancelled – it was cancelled by the theatre itself the night before the trip – they were re-booked in June but the bussing is an issue due to other large events – more details TBD
- Waste containers were purchased by VCSCS – big success – waste has been decreased and achieved their own goals for waste quantities

- Received an OLAP grant for all French Immersion teachers based on applications from Mr LaRoche – approx. \$30,000 in PD funding – working towards alignment in assessments and expectations across schools/grades/divisions
- Report cards will be available Jan 27th
- No school on January 31st – professional development day
- February 6th – dance showcase
- Feb 17th day – family day long weekend
- Feb 27th – open house for incoming grade 5s
- North Trail is now doing a lottery for all incoming students in Grade 10 – all new grade 11 + 12 will be sent to Crescent Heights (they may do the lottery based on “priorities” which can be reviewed on the North Trail website)
- **PARENT REQUEST: Can they do open house/field trip at Crescent so Grade 9s can look at it?**
- Bus routes for schools are listed on the school website
- High school registration starts on Feb 10th – students who are registered at Valley Creek based on current address will be designated to a school – OR fill out a transfer to a different school – if your child is moving (now) to a different catchment area – you should move schools now as well
- No update available on lunch periods – they are working on it for next year – Anne calculated with Guillaume and they are OVER on instructional minutes – possible solutions were to release children 5 minutes early or late for lunch – they are already starting mock timetables for next year to increase option availability
- Sandra – introduction – excited to be back – coming from Nose Creek

b) Funding Requests

- Follow up – technology request for computers and smart boards – no additional information from school provided
- No other funding requests and no additional details

c) Admin Questions

- *Payback time may impact children with short breaks already.* Teachers came up with this solution themselves, they are targeting the students who are coming 20 minutes late. They have seen a positive influence – the students are now understanding time and moving to class faster.

Anne will go back to the teachers and provide feedback about children's anxiety.

- *There has been an issue with graffiti in the bathroom.* There may be more male/female teacher presence in ALL bathrooms (not just matched genders). There is a protocol that the teachers are supposed to follow to check the bathroom. There is not as much male going into female but there are female teachers going to the male bathroom.

4) Hidden Valley School Liaison Report (Raye-Lynn)

- a) Everything is status quo

5) Hidden Valley Community Association Report (Adwoa)

- a) Membership has increased from 125 to 376 in one year period
- b) Still hoping for new memberships – membership drive on March 22/23 11 – 2
- c) Requires 5 volunteers per day for support – sign up sheet will be available on FB
- d) Still looking for **Membership coordinator and secretary coordinator**
- e) Sports update – rink is good – organizing learn to skate lessons for free
- f) Winter festival Feb 8 11 am – 2 pm (there will be a horse drawn carriage and you need to sign up for those)
- g) Volunteer appreciation – bowling – details TBD
- h) CPS is warning residents to stay off storm ponds and not warm up cars due to theft
- i) Consider composting old Christmas trees rather than throwing them in the garbage

6) New Business/Other Business

- a) VCS Chair Update
 - Newsletter is gaining reach
 - HVCA can maybe add something
 - Volunteer events
 - Coffee Cart Feb 6th – need three volunteers
 - Little Caesars – three volunteers - date will be finalized
 - Creative Pathways to Reconciliation (TBD)
 - Rebel Bean Coffee – three volunteers (upcoming)
 - We have \$1039 from Alberta School Council Engagement grant
 - Blanket exercise? - \$1500
 - Child and adolescent topic talk? - \$1000

- After school drama program – info session on Thursday – 2:45 – 4:15, program meets every Thursday – all kinds of different roles the kids can explore – grades 7 – 9
- Creative Pathways to Reconciliation
 - Dates are set
- Books are in the library from approved funds in November
- b) Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Board of Directors positions
 - There is an election coming up
 - Vice president (1 year), 3 directors (2 year), 3 directors (1 year)

7) Next meeting date:

a) **Next meeting February 18th** at 6:30 pm at Valley Creek School Library

8) Motion to adjourn at **7:52 pm by Shelley seconded by Celeste**. All in favour.

Adjourned.