

Minutes of the Featherston Drive School Council

October 13, 2020

In Attendance:

Maha Albari, Brian Chiasson, Sarah McKnight, Maja Strika, Lisa Bishop-Spencer, Marlisa Tiedemann, Faten Fawaz, Simona Wagner, Maram Zubi

Call to Order

The group was called to order.

Financial Update

The Treasurer's Report was provided and reviewed with the status of opening balances across council and school accounts with council funds.

It was also confirmed that the financial report for School Year 2019-20 was submitted, as required.

Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves and provided some background information.

Elections

Elections were held for the positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. The following people were elected:

Maja Strika – Chair

John Holgate – Treasurer

Lisa Bishop-Spencer – Secretary

Parent voting members: Simona Wagner, Marlisa Tiedemann, Faten Fawaz

Principal's Report

Class Configuration

Class configurations for 2020 are set at:

1 Kinder

6 English

6 Middle French Immersion

4 ASD classes (including 1 virtual)

1 full-time, congregated grades 6-8 English Literacy Development

New Staff

New staff have been brought on at Featherston to offset those teachers who are teaching within the Ottawa Carleton Virtual School (OCV). Featherston teachers who are teaching via OCV will be granted the right to return once schools resume as usual.

COVID-19 Protocols

COVID-19 safety protocol firmly in place at school. Some additional support may be sought to assist with end-of-day/leaving school, to ensure distancing protocols continue to be met.

Meet the Teacher

There will be a virtual Meet the Teacher event on October 15th.

Custodial shed

A new custodial shed was delivered today

Parking Lot

Parking lot paving has been postponed

Equipment

25 new Chromebooks and 20 iPads have been donated. Some Chromebooks that were distributed last Spring are still being used at home.

Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)

IEPs are due to M. Chiasson on Friday, October 16 and will be going home on the 26th

T2 Goals

Due to Learn-At-Home last spring, several term 2 IEPs goals for students were not met. Therefore, some of those goals will likely be repeated for term 1 this year depending on individual student needs.

Fire Drills

A fire drill will be conducted on Thursday, October 15th. Featherston will have three drills in the Fall and three in the Spring.

Lockdown Drills

Lockdown drills have been suspended for the time being, although teachers may still discuss them (the routine) in class.

Equipment

The use of sports equipment for physical education and recess is still prohibited.

Poppy Sale

Featherston will not be selling poppies – students and faculty will be encouraged to make their own

Constitution

Featherston School Council requires a constitution. A version from another school will be distributed to volunteer Council members and a draft will be created for Featherston as quickly as possible.

Anti-Racism Club

Two students in Grade 8 MFI have approached the administration about creating an anti-racism club. Given current restrictions, this is difficult to commence in the regular manner. The administration is evaluating the ways in which this can be accomplished. The Council commended the efforts and enthusiasm of the students and support the initiative, provided it can meet the parameters of the current environment.

Funding Opportunities/Grants

A brief discussion was held about grants and grant applications. Council members will investigate opportunities and present them at future meetings. In the meantime, some applications will be made, and a more comprehensive list will be made available at a future meeting.

Future Meetings

The Council agreed that meetings going forward will be held on the second Thursday of every month. These will be added to the Featherston calendar.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.