

HJ Cody School Council
October 25, 2011
7pm – school library

Call to order: 7:06 pm

Welcome and Introductions: Attendance: Sherry Erichson, Dave Elwood, JoeAnne Knispel Matejka, Denise Kennedy, Bonnie Branton, Alexis Tucker, Tracy Villeneuve, Kristine Stebanuk, DeeAnn Daniels, Brenda Trudel, Shelly Suggett, Linda Wagers, Anro Myburgh, Jas Payne and Tricia Schmitz

Approval of Agenda: presented and approved (Note: In order to keep meetings running at the one hour time limit, please contact council chair – Sherry Erichson – one week prior to the meeting to have things added to the agenda.)

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (September 20, 2011): minutes approved as presented

Old Business:

Robert's Rules of order: Sherry has read these rules and would prefer that we keep the meetings casual to foster an open sharing of information between parents and administration, all agree

Bylaw changes: change 8.b) to read “The school council will meet a minimum of 6 times, including one AGM (Annual General Meeting) during the school year.” It is discussed that the school has begun the process to change its name to “Ecole H.J. Cody School”. This change is not yet official so council defers officially changing the name on the bylaws to next year.

Sherry moves that we make changes to the bylaws as discussed and identified at the AGM, Shelly 2nds. All agree.

Continuation of Application for Society: Tracy Villeneuve has the application complete, just waiting for a copy of minutes stating that we wish to proceed. Jas Payne indicates that he would like there to be two separate groups, keeping money matters separate from the council's advisory role. It is understood that both groups may be made up of the same people. Brenda questions what the group is for; all school fundraising or just casinos. Jas Payne points out that all fundraising in school is purposeful, citing examples such as Coats for Kids, business donations of calculators, and a Grad committee sponsored dance which supports Grad Students in need to allow them to attend grad in full. Council wishes to form a Society that would be responsible for school wide fundraising efforts that benefit and improve the school as a whole, but want to continue with purposeful fundraising as is. There currently is no society in the school – one allowed only.

Tracy Villeneuve moves that we proceed with the application to form a society. Brenda Trudel 2nds. Tracy needs 5 parent signatures to indicate parental interest. Motion passes, all agreed.

Administration Report:

Student involvement: the school is finding that many more of their students are getting involved. Attendance is up, as shown by the 167 students who received a T-shirt for making it to 30 consecutive days of school in the Hawaii 5-0 challenge. Students who make 40 days will attend a pizza party, and those that reach the goal of 50 days of perfect attendance will receive a day at a water park. Dozens of students from all grades have volunteered to participate in the HJ Cody Haunted House, which Jas Payne informs us is truly scary (he cried a little at last years!). The feeling is that with the addition of many young, energetic new teachers and the approachability of the Superintendent and his Leadership team, the atmosphere of the school is greatly improved.

Well attended Parent/Teacher night.

Budget: balanced! The school will need some more money next semester to pay for comp courses, but it currently balances.

New Business:

Nomination of budget rep to help Dave: Deanne Daniels nominated.

Nomination for 3 year plan rep: Denise Kennedy, Bonnie Branton, Alexis Tucker and Sherry Erichson are nominated.

Communication: Goal of improving communication between school and parents. New website will be easier to update which will improve real time communication. Powerschool has the daily update, but you have to be logged in – the banner on the HJ main page is not refreshed daily.

New school website is in the works.

Survey – proposed calendar. Not a done deal, in the discussion phase. There were comments for and against the week long breaks being proposed.
Against – 5 day week all the time is too long for some students.
For – like the weeks off, everyone agreed that the week in February is great instead of having a 2 day week.

Next meetings are November 29, January 24, and February 28 (Dave's birthday)
Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 pm Alexis Tucker moves to adjourn and Tricia Schmitz 2nds.