

William Aberhart School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday April 27, 2015

- 1) Meeting called to order 19.06hrs
- 2) Larry Adorjan volunteered to take minutes.
- 3) Approved March Council minutes. Motioned by Sue Bennett and seconded by Greg Spence.
- 4) Treasurer Update: Jennie Kwan

\$7478.02 is available in the school council fund. \$1400 is income from this year. Very low as the donation cannot be captured when people pay their fees on line. Those who paid by cheque were the only ones who could contribute the \$5.00 donation. Recommended float of \$2000 to \$5000 should be kept for emergencies.

- 5) Discussion on students needing time during class to stretch or walk for physiotherapy reasons. This could be done in non-lecture time. Suggested that students discuss the need to move with teachers to decide on best approach to minimize disruption to the class.

- 6) School Society Update:

- There will be a Friends of Orange Society (FOA) meeting May 26, 2015 at 18:30hrs prior to the School Council Meeting. There is a minimum of 5 person quorum required and the plan is to elect key roles at this meeting. Delay in setting meeting date was that FOA had to finalize their financials. This has now been done.
- Sheila to follow up with FOA to ask them to bring financials, any paperwork re filing with AB registry, previous meeting minutes and any other documentation that will help with the transfer. All Parents are welcome and invited to attend.
- Only one casino per school is allowed. The school band society WAMPA will continue with the casino.

- 7) Principal Update: Tamie Annis-Johnson

- a) Trustees have voted to use the reserve fund, through School Trustees of \$18 million, in order to balance the budget and hire

the required teachers. This should maintain the same level of instruction as this school year. Wm Aberhart is still analysing exactly what the new budget will mean to the school and resources.

- b) Belgium Battlefields trip went well with 44 students. This trip is done through the Social Studies 30 program usually every two years.

There is another trip, MEI which is 40 days in Europe, organized by the Social teachers and gives grade 12 credits . “S” trip is not affiliated with Wm Aberhart school. It is a privately organized trip by an outside agency whereby interested students pay on a monthly basis with the hope that there are enough participants that the trip becomes reality.

- c) 18 international students mainly from China and Korea will be attending the school next year. The families of these students pay high amounts for their children to attend the school and for home stays. More home stay families would be welcome. Ideal hosts would include homes with children of similar age, elderly people who may enjoy the company and extra income. The students tend to work hard and be no trouble. Please ask if you are interested in hosting a child in your home for the school year.
 - d) School wireless wifi needs upgrade.
 - e) 42 computers are required for the provincial exams. Council asked if a new room with the 42 computers would be used all year and not just at exam time.
- 8) Brent Parker, regional school representative, attended the meeting for a short while. He was at the school to meet with Tamie regarding student transfer applications. There were 211 requests for transfer, Aberhart is able to take 48 of these applicants. Valid reasons for transfers can be mental health needs, siblings at the same school, specific program unavailable at designated school eg French Immersion, transportation. Projected to have 1530 students at Aberhart for 2015- 2016 school year.

9) Volunteers for positions on School Council for 2015 – 2016 school year are:

- Chair Susan Bennett
- Vice Chair Open
- Secretary Larry Adorjan
- Treasurer Michelle McAdam (tentative)

Thank you very much to those of you who have volunteered.
Together we can and do make a difference.

10) Meeting adjourned at 20.06 hrs.