

William Aberhart School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday September 28th 2015

1. Meeting called to order 19.02hrs
2. Approval of May 26, 2015 meeting minutes motioned by Cinde Little and seconded by Michelle McAdam.
3. Student Council Update : Emma and Mackenzie Meyer.
 - Each grade had motivational talk from Stu Saunders September 1.
 - Welcome back BBQ, sponsored by Leadership Club.
 - Terry Fox run and BBQ September 24 with pajama theme.
 - Student Council rep Holly Basiuk to go to CBE Chief Superintendent Senior Advisory Council, CSSAC.
 - Library being transitioned to Learning Commons. Ms. Cummings has been especially good at showing students how to make the best use of the facility.
 - Filthy Friday is not an official school activity but seems to be a traditional event at the start and end of the year. Students dress in not stylish fashion ensembles for the Friday.

4. Principal Update: Tamie Annis-Johnson
 - 1537 students, 475 grade 10, 525 grade 11, 537 grade 12.
 - 175 special needs students, 60 emotional needs students.
 - Classes with more than forty students Math 10-2, Bio 20, ELA 10 11, FLA
 - Netherlands exchange students here now till October 3. Grade 12 French immersion students going to Amsterdam and Paris.

Made possible by "Water is Life" charity.

- Gregg Wesley is the new Assistant Principal.
- Gregg will set up and publish on the Abe web site the January exam schedule by the end of October.

5. Learning Commons Update: Shayda Cummings
 - secummings@cbe.ab.ca email for inquiries about learning commons.
 - space previously the library.
 - Balance books with electronics and furniture.
 - e-library and virtual commons available.

- Display new fiction books.
- Crowfoot Library is the model.
- There have been, to date, up to 40 students in the commons area during their spare.
- Teachers can send half their class to the commons to research and discuss topics.

6. Wellness Centre Update: Gregg Wesley

- Gregg has set up the wellness centre at Forest Lawn High School.
- Centre is place to go for anxiety, stress, addictions, bereavement, thoughts of suicide, or emotional items.
- They can send students to agencies and professionals approved by CBE.
- They can also set up one on one sessions with a councilor.
- Sessions in yoga meditation available.
- Teacher referrals are the most common way to get students to the wellness centre because students tend to be afraid of going.

7. Treasurer Update: Michelle McAdam

- \$3900 in "Friends of Orange" athletic account.
\$3151.66 to be used for new volleyball posts, nets, and antennas .
- \$6602 in total including parent \$10 fees at start of year.
- Ms. Annis Johnson's wish list includes:
learning commons - \$50,000. \$12,000 for furniture
however there is a potential to get surplus furniture.

8. Other items –

- Parents complained about a gap in math algebra being used in the Science 10 course. Math 15-5 should have been taken first to get the students to the Science 10 math level required.
- Parent sad about many non-fiction books being culled out of the learning commons for space reasons.
- Ron Ramsaran volunteered to be Vice Chair of the School Council.

- Volunteer parent required to go to CAPSI, previously Council of Parent Council, meetings, Wednesday night once a month.
- Peer tutoring by grade 12 students Wednesdays before school, noon, and after school.
- Parents asked if there were non credit physical activities for grade 11 and 12 students who do not take Physical Education. Dance, drama, work experience, yoga are available.
- Teacher required for debate club.

9. Adjournment 20.43hrs , motion by Cinde Little and seconded by Greg Spence.

Next meeting Monday October 26, 2015