

RBSS PAC MINUTES

September 13, 2023

1. Caroline called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm
2. French Immersion Student Exchange trip presentation (Arianne Berteau, teacher champion presenting)
 - Reciprocal exchange to Carpentras, France
 - We send students there for 4 weeks in March (entire month of March), and then the French families will send student for 4 weeks in October
 - Going to Carpentras, France
 - Near Avignon, France
 - This will be for families with students in Grade 11
 - Exchange objectives
 - Developing independence and self confidence
 - Developing Intercultural capacity
 - Developing language skills
 - Students need to be flexible and willing to go outside their comfort zone
 - Families need to have their own room in their house to host student
 - Room must have a window
 - Students are paired with families that best match their lifestyles
 - Students will fully participate in the activities of the family
 - Cost \$2200 and the cost of one chaperone both ways
 - Most other expenses should be covered by host family except for spending expenses while away
 - Aiming for 15 students to start, but will see if they can accommodate up to 20
 - Goal is to bring a range of students and bring students with the most positive attitudes
 - Don't have to be "A" level students
 - There will be a parent meeting in the first week of October to learn more
3. ***Motion #1: "Adopt the September 13, 2023 Agenda as presented."***
 - Anna/Nevada
 - Approved
4. ***Motion #2: "Minutes from the June 7, 2023 meeting be approved."***
 - Caroline/Nevada
 - Approved
5. **REPORTS:**
 - **President:**
 - First year as president. Looking forward to a great year!

- **VP:**
- **Secretary:**
- **Treasurer:** *(Melissa reported our financial status as of September 13, 2023)*
 - Chequing account balance: \$810.74
 - Gaming: \$5825.97
 - Need to consider fundraising for this year if we want to offer bursaries to students

- **Communications:**
- **SPEAC:**

- **Principal's Report:**
 - 1650 students in the school this year
 - 60 kids signed up for leadership
 - Also kids signed up for athletic leadership
 - And kids signed up for grad council
 - Lots of clubs for kids to participate in
 - Anime, chess etc.
 - Started on Sept. 5 by welcoming grade 9s on the half day
 - They had had a few tours prior to the start and were more familiar with the building when they arrived
 - On Sept. 6, all 1700 students attended
 - Always a worry that there's going to be issues with the timetable, but all worked out ok
 - Kids are in class and are engaged and are back into the routine after just a week
 - Lots of props to facilities
 - We had 700 new kids to the district just this year
 - Low likelihood of a new high school being built in the next 2 years so we need to make our space work
 - 2 new portables
 - For the hub online learning and then 2 science and 2 socials in there at different times too
 - Sports
 - Huge interest in junior girls volleyball tryouts
 - Hired rugby captain of team Canada
 - Academies are booming
 - New mountain bike academy running next semester in the afternoons
 - Kids will be going to Jordie Lunn
 - 30 kids signed up this year
 - Mostly Royal Bay kids, but some Belmont too
 - Had a planning day planned for August 31, but needed to cancel due to presenter getting covid
 - Rescheduled to Sept. 18 for pro-d day there
 - Going to talk to staff about treating themselves and kids with kindness
 - Arianne Berteau
 - She's an amazing French Immersion teacher who is keen to be a part of the French Immersion program this year
 - Cell phone policy
 - Did this in steps
 - Worked with students last year to draft this policy
 - Goal is to allow kids to pay better attention in class

- Staff messaging is that cell phones are off and away during the day unless teacher is allowing them to use it during class time
 - They won't be taken/collected, but students need to understand that there's a time and a place
 - Phones are allowed during break and lunch
- Having grade assemblies this week and the kids did not even have the phones out at all
 - Super positive response to this by students
- Parking
 - Working with parents to really drive home that you can't park in staff parking
 - NO double parking behind staff cars
 - Come at 3:35 to pick up your students so that the school can clear out and the flow of traffic will be easier
- Quality Foods
 - Admin is going down at lunch to be a presence while 300+ kids get lunches
 - Trying to work with kids to be good citizens of the community
 - Be respectful of other shoppers etc.
- Space in the building
 - Not a lot of space left
 - Happy to have the portables to help
 - Online HUB is now located in the portables starting tomorrow (Sept. 14)
 - So tight on space that the conference room has been turned into 2 classrooms
 - Literacy/Numeracy tests will be written in class with their teachers this year
 - The assessments are 3 hrs long
 - Schedule needs to change to accommodate that
 - End of January and end of June are 2 days to administer those assessments
 - For grade 12 students will need to take the CLC assessment and it will be the place for those students to take those assessments in November
 - Very lucky that we have the technology to pull this off
- HUB learning centre
 - Fortunate to have online courses being offered in the HUB
 - 2 teachers who run the HUB are there to help the students enrolled in the online learning
 - They're well versed in all of the types of classes that are offered
 - Works great for students with anxiety
 - Some need half time schedules and this facilitates that
 - Have room for up to 30 kids per block
 - Not all blocks are filled yet, but some are
 - About 120 kids enrolled so far

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Elections for executive positions
 - Vice-President: Nevada Kaludjer
 - Secretary: VACANT
 - SPEAC rep: Alison Hyatt (main rep)
 - Communications coordinator: Michele Mackintosh (in absentia) and Tiffany Magionas nominated
 - Tiffany Magionas has been elected

- Hybrid meetings
 - All in favour for hybrid meetings so Melissa will look at getting our Teams account up and running
- Dry grad carnival
 - All parents in our school can participate in the committee to plan the dry grad carnival
 - Carnival is on May 4
 - First meeting is in November, date TBD (should be in 3rd week of November)
 - Need volunteers to gather donations from the community as prizes for the grads
 - Mostly in Jan-March

7. New Business

- Question from a parent: Sports team provincial banners. If the team wins provincials, how can we help them get the banner so it can be put up in the school?
 - The issue is that banners are given to sports that are recognized by BC School Sports
 - Basically every other sport except for Lacrosse has been recognized by BC School Sports
 - Because Lacrosse is not recognized, there isn't a banner to display
 - Conversations between districts and BC School Sports would need to happen to get lacrosse added to the official sport list
 - Not something the school can control
- Question from a parent: Climate change crisis is a major issue that everyone should be aware of. Is it time to discuss what level on international travel we're comfortable with given the climate emergency?
 - Students are being educated on the climate crisis and ways to help mitigate the damage that is being done to the climate
 - It is ultimately up to each family to decide whether they want their student to travel for optional trips.
 - This could be something to be discussed at the school district/board level
 - Best way to engage with the board is to write them a letter or email them with concerns

8. **NEXT MEETING:** October 4th at 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm

Attendance: Mike Huck, Martin Lait, Ryan Dube, Tanya Phillips, Caroline Aked, Melissa Da Silva, Kristen Manieri, Tiffany Magionas, Allison Hyatt, Anna Russell, Camille Currie, Charmaine Wylie, Rebecca Pacey, Alison Jopp, Nevada Kaludjer, Teresa Janisch, Fern Smythe, Marita Atwood