
New Horizons School Council Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2016

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Learning Common, New Horizons School

Bring/ Read: Please be aware that a limited number of paper copies of meeting minutes and agenda will be available. If you are able, please bring a device to view agenda online.

Attendees: Kim Johnson, Brandy Cox, Manda Wilde, Dena Freed, Sandra Dargis, Ted Zarowny, Vicky Qualie, Sherri Jensen, Darlene Groten, Jessika Campbell, Sarah MacDonald

1. Call to order 7:03pm
2. Welcome and introductions
3. Review agenda
4. Approval of Minutes from the last meeting to be carried over until next month's meeting.

5. Reports

- Principals' report 20 minutes Mr. Zarowny
 - see attached
 - There has been a smooth start to the school year. Traffic hasn't been too bad, especially given the construction. Ecole Claudette-et-Denis-Tardiff started classes this week. The NHS and Tardiff students have separate recess and lunch times. Discussion that the administration consider sending another communication to parents highlighting that there are now 2 rounds of busses which impacts the timing that the front parking lot is open for drop off. The timing of the gym renovations is still uncertain.
 - New Staff: Michelle Stephens (Kindergarten); Shayel McKinnon (Grade 1) previously a student teacher at NHS, is covering mat leave; Savanna Wygiera (grade 4 half time) also a former student teacher; Jesse Craig (Junior High); Cheri Unterschultz joined the office staff at financial admin, Mrs. Panas now teaching grade 3, Mrs. Vigfusson (VP and half time grade 4) is back from mat leave.
 - Mr. Zarowny provided an overview of restitution self-discipline and encouraged parents to attend the Dianne Gossen guest speaker night on September 15th.for more information. He also described how the principles of restitution self discipline have guided the development of the NHS Student Code of Conduct. Mr. Zarowny would like all parents to review the "bottom line behaviors" on page 4 of the code of conduct and communicate to him any feedback on the items that are included on this list.

- Financial Officer's report 5 minutes Manda Wilde
 - Nothing to report until next meeting

- FANHS' report 5 minutes Sherri Jensen
 - See attached
- Communications Officer 5 minutes Dena Freed
 - Please email any suggestions to increase parent attendance at meetings
- Chair's report 5 minutes Kim Johnson
 - Welcome and thank-you to the parents who have volunteered for executive and attended the meeting

6. Previously Tabled Business

- Nothing to address

7. Items for Discussion/Input 40 minutes

- Review Fund Allocation process.
- Fund Allocation Model review. History behind the model and the monetary values for 2016/2017 year.
 - Kim Johnson provided overview with assistance from former finance officer Darlene Groten, and then discussion occurred. School Council's purpose is to support the school through deciding where funds should be allocated and making decisions about larger money related issues such as field trip funding. FANHS is our Fundraising Association and they are the ones who do the actual work of fundraising. Last year we changed the idea of a "Budget" and renamed our working spread sheet a "Fund Allocation Model" because we don't actually hold any money. Parents were polled on how they thought their fundraising dollars should be spent and this formed the basis for the allocation. For example, funding is no longer provided for field trips. Council votes on how the money should be spent and then requests money from FANHS and forwards it on to the school once its' all approved. The 2016/17 Fund Allocation was approved last year and is available on the School Council section of the NHS Website. The funding items are organized by category such as "School Support, School Enhancement etc." This provides flexibility to reallocate funds or add new items mid-year provided the expenditures fit under one of previously approved categories. Classroom incentives changed to \$5 per student that than based by classroom, also teachers have discretion to purchase individual prizes or use funds for a class prize such as a party. May need to rent facility for phys-ed or sports teams during modernization. Spending from the 2015/16 allocation was less than the approved budget. The remaining funds were carried forward and comprise part of the funds approved for 2016/17 spending. This compensates for the reduced activity of the FANHS in the current year.
 - Ted Zarowny suggested renaming the line item academic support to curricular support

- Sherri Jensen highlighted that the \$20,000 of Chromebooks can only be funded with the Casino funds NHS is to receive from the AGLC for first quarter of 2017. These funds won't be received until near the end of the school year.
- Discussion of possible School Council sponsored events this year.
 - Movie nights will not be feasible when the gymnasium is under renovation. Per Mr. Zarowny, the exact timing when the gym will be down is not yet known.
 - Activities suggested included winter carnival, year-end BBQ, pinewood car derby, family campout (if feasible), family dance perhaps followed by junior high dance, family games night.
 - Consider having family events start earlier since younger students and siblings have earlier bed times.
- Discussion about how to get more parents out to School Council meetings.
 - Mr. Zarowny suggested combining the meetings with a presentation on topics of interest to parents, the new report card format might be a good topic for next meeting
 - Highlight on the agenda and website/email communication if there are specific matters where we are requesting feedback from parents
 - Highlight to parents that their presence matters and that the executive wants input from parents. Let parents know that they can request items be added to the agenda
 - Have a coffee/socialization time before the meeting so parents can get out and meet new people, say between 6:30 and 7pm. We could take turns providing coffee and treats
 - Personally invite other parents in your circle of friends to the meeting
 - There is a budget for babysitting

ACTION ITEM: Manda Wilde to coordinate with Mr. Wilde about putting a poster etc for the junior high students to look for potential council-night babysitters.

 - Perhaps putting names of attendees into a draw for a prize (like front row seats to the Christmas concert)
 - Kim Johnson has been looking at Apps and on-line services used by PTA's in the states.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Zarowny to confirm whether we have authorization to send emails regarding the council to parents or if we need to request approval from parents to be added to an email list.

- Approval of the 2016/17 executive:

MOTION: Dena Freed moved to approve the appointment of Brandy Cox as Vice Chair for the 2016/2017 school year. Seconded by Manda Wilde. Motion carried.

MOTION: Brandy Cox moved to approve the appointment of Kim Johnson as Chair for the 2016/2017 school year. Seconded by Manda Wilde. Motion carried.

MOTION: Brandy Cox moved to approve the appointment of Dena Freed as communications officer for the 2016/2017 school year. Seconded by Manda Wilde. Motion carried.

MOTION: Sandra Dargis moved to approve the appointment of Manda Wilde as Finance Officer for the 2016/2017 school year. Seconded by Dena Freed. Motion carried.

MOTION: Dena Freed moved to approve the appointment of Sandra Dargis as Secretary for the 2016/2017 school year. Seconded by Brandy Cox. Motion carried.

8. New Business

- Future meeting dates: Plan for the 2nd Thursday each month. Consider moving the November meeting to the first Thursday (the 3rd) as not to conflict with people heading out of town for fall break. Oct 13, Nov 3, Dec 8, Jan 19, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11, Jun 8.
- Friendship bench: A parent suggested that NHS designate a friendship/buddy bench where students feeling lonely at recess can sit to let their peers know that they are looking for someone to play/hang out with. Discussion: There was much support for this proposal. Mr. Zarowny suggested using an existing bench just adding signage (would have to be weather proof, perhaps wood finished with lacquer). Perhaps a parent or local business would construct or donate a bench for this purpose, students could decorate it, it would have to be secured to the ground in some fashion. An existing bench could be used for the time-being. Staff could communicate how the bench works to students or if could be explained at the next assembly.

ACTION ITEM: Mr Zarowny to arrange for someone to contact the county to see if we need approval to add the signage to an existing bench.

ACTION ITEM: Jessika Campbell to speak with family friend about possible donation of Friendship Bench

MOTION: Brandy Cox moved to allocate \$50 towards the signage for a friendship bench. Seconded by Dena Freed. Motion carried.

- ASCA (Alberta School Council Association) is looking for parents to be part of a School Council Engagement Task Force. Submit contact information by September 30, 2016. <http://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/?page=SCTaskForce>

9. Future Agenda Items

10. Mail/ Communications

11. Adjournment and confirmation for date of next meeting, second Thursday of the month, October 13, 2016

Adjournment at 8:49pm

New Horizons School Council

Principal's Report

September 8, 2016

1. The First Few days

- **Information:** Update on how the school is functioning in the first two weeks of school.

2. Restitution Self Discipline (RSD)

- **Information:** Introductory remarks in preparation of the Diane Gossen presentation on September 15
- **Action:** Review and agree upon "bottom Line behaviors."
 - a. **What is a social contract?**
 - i. Our current social contract was developed in through the use of RSD and is the basis of our school's code of conduct.
 - ii. To view our code of conduct and social contract, [click here](#).
 - b. **What should the bottom line behaviors be at NHS?**
 - i. Earlier in the year, staff have given feedback on "bottom line behaviors"
 - ii. It is important for parents to provide input into what constitutes "bottom line behaviors."
 - iii. "Bottom Line" behaviors are identified in our code of conduct.

FANHHS Report
SC Meeting September 8, 2016

At our last meeting (June 22, 2016), FANHHS approved the 2016/2017 School Council Fund Allocation as presented in the amount of \$48,250, less the amount of \$20,000 for Chrome books which are to be purchase only once funds are received from our upcoming Casino.

Fundraisers for this year include:

Hot Lunch

- new ordering website – munchalunch.com (www.munchalunch.com/schools/newhorizons)
- now accept credit card payments
- order deadline is 8pm on Wednesday, September 14th
- if paying by cash or cheque order deadline in 3:15pm – September 14th.

Mabel's Labels

- runs continuously (www.mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser)
- make 20% of the sales
- orders delivered directly to your home

Scholastic Book Fair

- 3 book fairs in the year - October, February and June
- earns a credit for the school which can be used for anything in the Scholastic catalogues (books, furniture, educational toys, etc)

Casino

- Monday, February 20th and Tuesday, February 21st, 2017 (3pm – 1am) at Camrose Resort Casino

We need lots of volunteers for these fundraisers - we'll have them posted shortly on www.signup.com/group/337901136014 (formally Volunteer Spot), or you can email nhs.volunteer.coordinator@gmail.com

FANHHS Meeting is Friday, September 23rd at 7:00pm at the school