

Rockwood School Council Meeting

Minutes February 12, 2014

1. **Motion** to approve minutes by Kerri Merriam motion approved by Elizabeth Graham

2. Old Business

- Reaching out Grant Ideas : Ken Taylor not available
- Council Secretary is waiting for confirmation from Sharon Reese with the Phoenix centre.
- Council Secretary spoke to Family and Children Services IT Manager at this time they do not offer this service, however they recognize the need and may provide this service in the future.
- The OPP designate is currently involved with the schools; no other Officer or Service is provided.
- Council Secretary has left a message with Algonquin College
- If Council is not able to find a local service/community provider a private source is willing to facilitate the presentation.

3. New Business

- Science Fair Request
 - A request was brought forth for Rockwood School to host their own science fair. This parent felt that students should have the opportunity to be a part of a science fair. Mrs. Mullen had spoken with staff regarding this request. The staff view was that, in the past, student topics did not always coordinate with curriculum expectations. If the fair preparation took place in the classroom, then much time had to be set aside for its completion which left less time for actual curriculum coverage. If the preparation was sent home, then it could not be used for evaluation of student work. As well, many parents had expressed concern in the past regarding the amount of home time required for their child to participate in this type activity and found that much of the work fell into their hands for completion.
 - Given that any child can participate in the regional Science fair, it was felt that a better avenue would be to highlight the upcoming Regional fair in our newsletters and weekly message for those families who might be interested.
 - There will also be an opportunity for regional participants to showcase their projects at the school and our older classes will be looking at possibly offering a science showcase of their class work at the end of the year.

4. Curriculum Connections

- 81 I Pad minis have been purchased for the junior and senior wing (22 designated for Primary). School and School Board are moving away from computer labs. I Pads are Portable

- and have Wireless capability connect with the school website; go in to Safari www.rck.rcdsb.on.ca sign in to the newsfeed, review calendar and events.
- Olympics held at Rockwood are posted in the photo gallery. This will allow Rockwood to keep event calendar as current as they can. The children can keep a file of their work so they can access it from home.
 - The school hopes to purchase I pad minis for the Kindergartens so they can have their own cart downstairs.
 - Technology advances, smart boards have been installed in every classroom. The Kids to. Apps will need to be purchased for the entire cart.

5. Principal Report

- Completed enrollment for Kindergartens for fall 2014: full day K 34 students and 27 existing JK moving to SK. Renovations are scheduled for this summer to revert two grade two classes in to one large classroom for Kindergartens. Renovations and painting to the other two classrooms which will give Rockwood three nice sized open Kindergarten classrooms.
- French Immersion info night for Grade 4 parents who may wish for their child to take part in the Grade 5 immersion program. No policy around who can and cannot participate, if the parent wants to send their child they have that option. The information night will provide parents and students with options around what is best for the student: French Immersion or Core French, which model best, suits the child's needs.
- 403 students are anticipated for enrollment in the school year for 2014/2015.
- Olympic day organized last week which included open ceremonies on the first day February 12. More Olympics days have been scheduled.
- Secret Santa day was a great success. A big thank you goes out to Kerri for organizing this fundraising event. The goal was for the kids to have fun and to have the opportunity to shop for their family (loved ones) without their family having to help. The outcome was extremely positive for students, staff and peer helpers. The event raised \$599 towards school trips.
- Little Caesars Fundraiser wraps up today 12/02/2014.
- Electronic libraries provides students to down load a book by using their student password to access Renfrew County School Board not just the students community school. All personal devices fit under the current policy, procedures and supervision with the Board.

- Parent involvement committee is offering dinner and a wide range of workshops for parents on April 2, 2014. This event is typically over by 8:00 pm. The guest speaker begins at approximately 5:30 pm, dinner is served at 5:00 pm. Please contact the principal if you are interested.

6. **Fundraising Committee Report**

- Pizza sales are going well

7. **Fun Night**

- May 30 2014.
- Battle of principals Raffle tickets 4 great gifts prizes
- Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of April
- Recycling containers for fun night are booked
- Same basic activities as the past years as well as the BQ which goes over very well

8. **Book Fair**

- Scheduled for April 23 24 and 25, 2014

9. **Book swap**

- For the children and families: cookies, milk and fruit will be provided.
- Parents can purchase books from the author
- Books will also be raffle off that evening to participants.
- Possible contacts 'Gems of the mind' the group meets at the Pembroke Public library and may be able to present for meet the author night.
- Typically done in April. Date to be determined.

10. Council confirmed skating was not scheduled for this year and hopes to offer the family skating event next winter 2015.

11. **Correspondence**

- People for Education

12. Next meeting: Wednesday April 23, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

13. Meeting adjourned

