

# **Joint River View and FJ Rutland School Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date of Meeting – Tuesday, September 27, 2011, 6-8pm**

**Held in the River View Temporary Library**

Meeting was called to order by Ms. Sendzik at 6:00pm

Attendees: Melanie Sendzik, Principal; David Howell, Vice Principal; Lee Ann Sargeson; Kristina Sacuta; Helen Millward; Brenda Theal; Dawn Wilkinson; Marianne Hruska; Carrie Chopp; Tracy Cooper; Randy Bodendorf; Charlene Lyndon

## **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Introductions were completed around the table.

## **2. Attendance and Email Addresses**

An attendance sheet was passed around the table and everyone signed and included email addresses.

## **3. Nominations for Membership and Elections for Executive**

Ms. Sendzik discussed school council operational protocols as outlined by the school board. It was discussed that all parents are welcome to attend meetings at any time; however a list of voting members is required. All individuals present during this meeting completed membership forms to become voting members. Additional nomination forms were completed by attendees for Michelle Godzisz and Nancy Manels who were absent

It was discussed that Charlene Lyndon who was previously the council chair no longer has children attending either River View or FJ Rutland and as such, she will be unable to continue in the role of council Chair.

Ms. Sendzik then outlined the requirements for the positions of Council Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. She asked if there were any volunteers to complete or nominate individuals for any of these positions.

It was suggested that Nancy Manels has been completing all of the required tasks of the Treasurer position to date (without the formal title). It was indicated that she knows best the requirements of the financial obligations of the bingos which are run and she would likely be the best option for Treasurer at this time. No other volunteers or nominations were made for this position and it was agreed that pending Nancy's agreement, she would become the Treasurer.

Marianne Hruska volunteered for the role of Secretary. There were no other volunteers or nominations for this role.

There were no immediate volunteers for the role of Council Chair. Marianne nominated Lee Ann Sargeson for this position. Lee Ann agreed; however it was discussed that she is now an employee of the DSBN and as such, she would be unable to hold this role independently. Kristina Sacuta was then nominated as a Co-Chair. Kristina confirmed her acceptance. There were no other volunteers or nominations for the role of Chair.

#### **4. Turn Meeting Over**

The meeting was then turned over from Ms. Sendzik to Lee Ann and Kristina to run the remainder of the meeting.

#### **5. Additions / Deletions to the Agenda**

No additions or deletions were made to the agenda.

#### **6. Principal's Report**

##### Construction Update

- Construction continues to move forward
- It was noted that construction was previously delayed in the spring due to budgeting issue
- It has been a bit of a challenge operating in River View with no large area where the entire student body can meet such as in an assembly; they have been going classroom to classroom to provide messages as needed
- It is the hope that the new Learning Commons (library and computer lab) at River View should be ready for use in approximately 8 weeks

##### Progress Reports/Interviews

- Progress Reports will be sent home on November 15, 2011
- Teacher interviews will be completed on November 16, 2011; however the teachers are also welcome to schedule meetings with parents during alternate days/times which are mutually convenient

##### New Nutrition Guidelines

- New, stricter nutritional guidelines have been introduced which will have an impact of our hot lunch program
- There are guidelines for things such as sodium content, fat and sugar content and overall nutritional value (the full guidelines can be provided for review)
- The school is permitted to offer 10 'non-compliant' meals or events throughout the year; any food item/snack which is being offered *for sale* by the school is included in this (such as at the fun fair)

- Snacks which are not 'for sale' (such as popcorn given to students for wearing their costume to a movie night) are not included
- It was confirmed that the pizza lunch offered at the end of September was considered 'non-compliant'
- Charlene confirmed that they have been provided with menus from Little Cesar's and Gino's for review; these facilities are indicating that they can provide 'compliant' hot lunch options for the students
- Following discussion it was agreed that a 'compliant' pizza lunch would be offered during October to see how it goes over with the students
- Concern was raised by Ms. Sendzik that with increased nutritional value also comes increased cost and as such, we will need to look at options carefully to ensure all students have the opportunity to participate
- Ms. Sendzik indicated that she would provide further information regarding alternate options during the October meeting

## **7. Vice Principal's Report**

- Extra-curricular activities are well underway
- The cross country team has participated in one meet to date on September 26, 2011; 6 out of the 9 participants are on track to move to the next level of competition and there is one additional qualifying meet on October 4, 2011
- Intermediate volleyball is underway; the girls team has been selected and the boys are doing their try-outs at the current time
- The school is working on completion of an EFN grant application to request physical education equipment for the primary grades; they are looking at equipment which is mobile and can be used in various locations while students do not have access to a gymnasium
- The DSBN parent conference pamphlet was distributed; this conference is being held on November 2, 2011 and all were encouraged to attend

## **8. Discussion Items**

It was noted that there is significant congestion in front of River View during morning drop-off time. The bus drivers have also reported difficulty getting out of the parking lot due to the cars parked on the street. Some of this congestion will be relieved when the remainder of the front parking lot is opened by the construction company. Ms. Sendzik confirmed that she would look further at the difficulties of the bus drivers.

Marianne Hruska suggested that we look at having a graduate of FJ Rutland come to our council meetings to provide supervised child care in an adjacent room. This would allow a greater number of parents to attend and would also provide community service hours to the student or students providing the child care.

Carrie Chopp enquired regarding the status of the ELP classes. Ms. Sendzik provided the following outline:

- River View had a significant increase in ELP registrations than had been anticipated based on registrations completed by June 2011; this resulted in two ELP classes with student numbers in the mid-30s
- On September 16, 2011 the school applied to the DSBN for a 3<sup>rd</sup> ELP class
- A representative from the DSBN came into the school to review and assess the classrooms
- Approval was granted for a 'ministry regulated hybrid' ELP class which has been capped at 15 students; this classroom will not have an ECE
- As a result, the school was granted approval for an additional 1.0 teaching position; the shifting of staff during this process was outlined by Ms. Sendzik
- The decision on which students to move into the 3<sup>rd</sup> classroom was made based on recommendations from the Board representative who had observed the students in both their original classes as well as with consultation with the ELP teachers
- It was the hope that students would be chosen who they felt would not be affected negatively with another change to their routine
- Ms. Sendzik confirmed that there was positive response from the parents who were contacted regarding transfer of the students to the new room
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> classroom was opened as of Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

Carrie Chopp also enquired regarding play equipment which is available for recess. She noted that her children have indicated that there is a shortage. It was discussed that some of the equipment from River View had been put into storage prior to the construction starting and as both Mr. Howell and Ms. Sendzik are new to the school, they cannot confirm what other equipment there is. It was confirmed that there is new equipment on order for the new ELP play area. It was also discussed that the school staff will look too at FJ Rutland to see what is available there.

Helen Millward suggested that we look at holding a movie night at the end of October 2011. A date of Friday, October 28, 2011 was agreed upon. It was agreed that popcorn will again be provided to the children who come dressed in Halloween costume. We will still sell extra snack at this event, and this will count as our 'non-compliant' (according to Ministry guidelines) day for October (our October pizza day will serve compliant pizza) It was agreed that suggested movie titles will be circulated by email prior to that date for comment/selection.

It was agreed that the Council meetings will continue to be the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month to coincide with the school staff meeting date.

**(con't)**

## **9. Tour of River View**

Ms. Sendzik provided a tour of River View including the new ELP classrooms and Learning Commons (which is under construction).

**The meeting was adjourned following the school tour.**

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Ms. Sendzik to provide further information during the October meeting regarding healthy meal choices
2. School staff to look at playground equipment/options which may be available at Rutland for the River View students to use at recess
3. Selection of movie for October 28, 2011 movie night; suggested titles to be circulated by email