

Parent Council Meeting MCHS

Tuesday, February 20th, 2018

MCHS Library 6:30 pm

In Attendance:

Leanne Boissonnault, Kari Christensen, Mel Christoffersen, Dineane Duckering, Krista Gratton, Joan Hughes, Kim Lavoie, Barbara Meyer, Jennifer Muzichuk, Barb Otto, Tracy Reaume, Jodi VanEssen, Velda Wall, and Cary Wiwchar. School Trustee: Noreen Radford and Principal: Mr. Don Hinks

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mel Christoffersen at 6:30 pm.
 - 1.1 Opening Prayer & Acknowledgment of Treaty Lands were made by the Principal, Mr. Don Hinks.
 - 1.2 A welcome to some new faces at the monthly meeting was made, including some introductions and an indication of what children you have attending MCHS.
- 2.0 Adoption of the Agenda was made.
- 3.0 The review of the minutes from the Meeting dated January 16th, 2018 were made. There was a clarification about the item number 6.2 in that a paved road before you begin construction of new School building needed to be accepted through the tendering process, which has been done with the Town. The adoption of both the Agenda and the Review of the Minutes was motioned by Jennifer Muzichuk, and they were seconded by Barb Meyer. The motion was passed.
- 4.0 Old business.
- 5.0 New Business/Principal's Report – Mr. Don Hinks presented the Administrator's Report.
 - 5.0. **Enrollment** – 519 total number of students is increased from the projected number of total students equaling 512.
 - 5.1 **New Parish Priest** – Father Trini is the new Parish Priest and has been a Priest for the last 12 years. His experience includes being fluent in four separate languages, and has experience teaching Philosophy.
 - 5.2 **Ash Wednesday** – This year's Ash Wednesday was the first official experience for Father Trini at MCHS, and approximately 50 students, staff, and community members attended this event.
 - 5.3 **Cheer Team** – This year's Cheer Team are unbelievable finishing 2nd at a recent tournament in Athabasca. They will be going to compete at the Provincial level in April in Lethbridge. They were a welcome addition to the Pep Rally also.

- 5.4 **Basketball** – The Senior Boys Team finished in 3rd place at a recent tournament, and 2nd at this year's home tournament. Both Teams have a dedicated coaching staff which can make all the difference between success and failure.
- 5.5 **Curling** – The Teams for Curling have been very successful at the Bonspiels they have been attending. Both Teams will be representing MCHS when they compete at the Zone level.
- 5.6 **Wynn Against Hunger** – This food drive event is in Honor of the late Constable Wynn, who believed in helping those in need, but especially in our own Community. All donations received will stay here in the Morinville area and Constable Tearle has been going to classrooms on an individual basis to explain the meaning of this worthwhile cause.
- 5.7 **CAP/Nutrition Program** – The CAP program started today for the second semester and will continue as scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Many different families and local businesses have donated food to this program and the Teenagers really appreciate it.
- 5.8 **Blanket Ceremony** – Open Invitation to all Parents – This is an interactive learning experience that teaches the Indigenous rights education and process that has been taken to reconcile this history. A total of 20 registrants is needed to run this event on March, 1st 2018, at 6:00 pm at the Notre Dame Elementary School.
- 5.9 **MCHS Graduation 2018 Questions & Answers** - There was a lot of discussion around this topic; however, the main issues Parents wanted to discuss were including; The venue, funds raised if needed, having Parents included in the conversation and decision-making process, and lastly whether to have a dinner and dance with the ceremony or not.
- 5.10 **Important Dates** – The upcoming spring timeframe is busy and everyone is reminded to review the list so that these events are not missed. Including The Open House, March 8th, and Parent – Teacher Interviews on March 1st, 2018.
- 5.11 **Students Survey Results** – There was a lot of positive feedback concerning the answers to the survey by the students in general, but there was also a noted improvement in some areas of School life for them.
- 5.12 **Business Administration Course** – A \$50,000 Grant was applied for in this program students will receive a Certificate. The program is run every afternoon for 11 months and the last month is designed for the Students to participate in a practicum. This practical real life work experience is what students are looking for. The retention rate of these practicums is 90%. MCHS is the only School in the area to have this program is received and approved.
- 5.13 **Shrove Tuesday** – There was a power point presentation made during the enjoyment of the pancakes to remind students of the meaning of Shrove Tuesday.
- 5.14 **HOWLS Lunch** – Approximately 158 students were in attendance for this month's Lunch. The Rotary sponsored this month's food choice which included; turkey/ham/corn & cookies.
- 5.15 **Pep Rally** – It is normally during the Pep Rally that the athletes on Boys Teams are recognized, but this rally was in honor of the Girls Teams. They were all very thankful to be able to showcase their talents for the entire School to witness.
- 5.16 **New View Book** – The color Welcome Book to the School is currently being updated and all updates need to be completed prior to the Open House, March 8th, 2018. The book

itself showcases the High School for Junior High students and other students new moving into the area. The books cost \$5.00 a copy and are used for recruiting students to MCHS.

- 5.17 **Council Tasks** – A current version of Approved School fees was passed around for viewing and discussion. All fees on the list cannot increase more than 4% yearly. Some fees are needed to increase and some are not really utilized; therefore, a fluctuation has occurred in some areas. Barb Meyer motioned that the fees are reiterated according to the list, and Leanne Boissonnault seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

6.0 **School Trustee Report** by Noreen Radford.

- 6.1 **Tech Fee** – This fee has a variance in is needed for access to learning software. It is currently being fine-tuned.
- 6.2 **Class Sizes** – The sizes of classrooms is based on allocations per student which is then given to the Schools. It is the individual School that has a unique formula to determine the sizes of classes.
- 6.3 **Transportation** – There are tenders being sent out to all wards to confirm the number of buses needed and the runs required. Times for pick up and drop off are then adjusted as needed.
- 6.4 **Open House – The St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy** Phase one consultation was completed and very well attended. A topic of interest was in the parking and spaces available for dropping students off.
- 6.5 **School Results Reviews** – All Schools are pursuing highly focused improvement goals and have included their individual priorities that should be communicated to their respective School communities.
- 6.6 **School Facilities Report** – This report indicated that the mental health of our teenage students is becoming a very important topic and needs to be something further discussed. The resources for students who are in need of mental health support needs to be made clear for both them and their parents. A possible activity to open up on this topic and some discussion about volunteer work should be incorporated in these discussions also.
- 7.0 **Next Meeting Agenda Items** – The meeting was motioned adjourned by Barb Meyer, and seconded by Jennifer Muzichuk. All were in favor and the motion was passed.
- 8.0 **Next Meeting** – March 20th, 2018.