

PAC

May 3, 2021 / 9:00 AM / Zoom

Attendees

Roxanne Archer, Mandy Buhler, AJ Neufeld, Jerrah-Lee Broesky, Lindsay Lepp, Charmaine Toews

Agenda

Principal Report

- Staffing changes that take effect this week
 - Mrs. Melanie Friesen is now on maternity leave
 - Replacement: Mr. Jason Grant
 - Mrs. Kara Barkwell will be on maternity leave on Friday, May 7
 - Replacement: Ms. Larissa Johnson
- Sub shortages
 - Teachers covering internally
 - Increased staffing in all of the schools this year increased the number of subs needed. Hard to keep up with demand.
 - Demand is greater than the supply.
 - Vaccine availability will result in more absences as well as isolation requirements.
 - The division continues to hire subs
 - Discussion re: remote learning scenarios and the effects on our kids
- Division email to parents
 - Detailing existing expectations around COVID-19
 - Learning Forward days on June 4 and 7.
 - Similar structure to Strong Connections
 - Students attend one day and are off the other day
 - Intent: determine where our kids are at academically, collecting information related to their current reading levels (F&P assessment), numeracy level and social-emotional survey. Next year's teachers will have a good foundation of where the kids are at so they can hit the ground running.
 - Question about class lists: will the information from Learning Forward be used to assemble class lists?
 - Class lists have started to be assembled with a similar format to previous years: strengths, a mix of current abilities, and 1 learning partner (survey sent to parents)
 - Conversations with staff have been happening since February 2021 re: what do kids need heading into the fall - numeracy, literacy and student engagement.

- Community Clean Up
 - Changes in public health orders and new restrictions - we've been advised not to proceed.
 - This event will be cancelled for this year.
- Grade 8 Farewell
 - Teaching team has started to do some planning.
 - Previous years - pizza and chicken at the park, play a few games
 - Conversations are happening to plan for a few scenarios depending on the current public health orders
- Bill 64 - Education Review
 - Presented in the legislature - lots of information online related to it. One key piece - School Community Councils vs PAC
 - Floor opened for questions.
 - How will the School Community Councils be formed and how will they operate in a way that is effective?
 - Intention of the Ministry is that every parent with a student in the school is a member of the School Community Council.
 - How it's expected to operate: AJ and Susanne have asked this question. The only clear answer received is that the government is going to engage with community groups to determine what the role should be.
 - Parent involvement is a good thing and we'd like to have that to the greatest extent possible.
 - What is the timeline for removing trustees and superintendents?
 - Now - September is for consultation
 - Expect to have the provincial education authority up and running by September.
 - Similar structure with trustees and superintendents in the 2021-22 school year.
 - Provincial educational authority effective July 2022.
 - What can PAC write on behalf of the MMS staff
 - How do teachers feel about it?
 - What do we want to change?
 - What do we need?
 - JLB to gather feedback from staff and share with Charmaine. PAC to send a letter on our behalf.
 - Website: <https://bettereducationmb.ca/>

Treasurer Update

- Just under \$1,000

Stock the Staff Room

- Idea instead of May staff lunch → Stock the Staff Room
 - PAC will pay to stock it with treats, drinks etc.
 - Add a wishlist to the survey for staff, be in by Friday, May 14.

Awards Day

- Are we doing a pizza lunch?
 - Still need info from the school if Awards Day is happening, what it will look like.
 - Are there businesses willing to take on individual packaging?
- First - the staff needs to determine what we are doing for the last few days of June as a school

Next Meeting

- Monday, May 31 at 9:00 am Zoom