

# Aurora Academic Charter School Council Meeting

February 2, 2016

**In Attendance;** J. Rockwood; I. Gray; N. Gidda; E. De Gooyer; P. Mayo; A. Scott; M. Pon; S. Rana; A. Hoffman; A. Huhn; C. Thew; I. Li; L. Demskie; E. Fung

**Regrets:** R. Devji

**Parents/Guests in Attendance:** V. Tran (teacher coordinating Student Council); T. Kara Brar (Student Council Rep.)

**Board Member in Attendance:**

**1.0 Call to Order** - 6:04 pm by A. Huhn

**2.0 Addition/Changes:** No additions or changes.

**3.0 Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2015**

Motion: M. Pon moves to accept minutes as presented.

Seconded: S. Rana

Carried: All in Favour

**4.0 Student Council Report:**

T. \_\_\_\_\_ reported on the following:

- Mufti-day will be optional (as always) and is usually theme based. February's will be pin & white.
- For the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary they have asked for students favorite thought and the thoughts will be color coded depending on the number of years in attendance.
- Candy grams will help fund the next water fountain ( cost is approx. \$2900)
- Skating at Hawrelak Park

**5.0 Board Report:** R. Devji asked A. Huhn to give an update on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. On behalf of R. Devji, A. Huhn reported the following for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:

- Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – water bottles
- March 18<sup>th</sup> – dodge ball for Middle School and craft for Elementary School
- April 20<sup>th</sup> – Cupcakes
- May – planting “forget-me-nots”
- June 20<sup>th</sup> – Paid Hot Lunch
- All days students can wear yellow t-shirt
- P. Mayo is collecting recipes and pictures for Cook Book.

**6.0 Guest Report – No guest report.**

**7.0 Elementary School Principal Report** – I. Gray reported the following:

- Student Achievement – different methods to test achievement, currently using CTBS; Grade 3's have done SLA's & PAT. I. Gray reported he feels these tests are limited and would like to see the student achievement be the CAT4 (Canadian Achievement test)
- Technology – goal would be to move more to a 1 to 1 device and not a shared device. Chrome Book is a device that we could consider as it is cost effective and does everything current devices do. Cost would be approximately \$5000 for each class meaning within the next 2 years, all classes would be set up. Information is stored in "Cloud"

**8.0 Middle School Principal Report** – J. Rockwood reported on the following:

- Some staff changes recently, Mrs. J. O'Connor returned from maternity leave; Mrs. L. Williams has taken medical leave with Ms. R. Gieni taking over; Ms. J. Bebensee & Mr. B. Crockett have retired. New staff are in place and everyone is helping new teachers settle in.
- PAT's are coming up with a meeting for parents on how to help, etc..
- Math club on Mondays at lunch
- Looking at changing study period so there is more time on tasks
- Technology – teacher grade report went live
- Hosting a Google Conference on May 20 & 21
- Athletics – currently there is basketball and wrestling for junior high and the Running Room Games for Grades 5-9.

**9.0 Treasurer's Report:** A. Huhn reported that we currently have \$5129.32 in our account. Not all items that we have approved in the fall have come out.

**10.0 Fundraising Report:** M. Pon reminded everyone that the next fundraiser will be the Spell-a-thon in March. A. Huhn will work with the principals.

**11.0 Request for Funds from School Council:**

- Mrs. Van den Beuken, on behalf of Summer Sports Day requests \$1400
- Ms. Marks, on behalf of the Winter Carnival Day requests \$1000 (they are doing hot lunch to assist with this amount)
- A. Huhn, requests that we set aside \$500 for Teacher Appreciation Day

Motion: A. Hoffman moves to approve all items as listed above

Second: I. Li

Carried: All in favour

**12.0 Beautification Report:** No report

**13.0 Board Committee Reports:** No reports at this time.

## 14.0 New Business:

- 14.1 Election of School Council** – A. Huhn hands over the chair to J. Rockwood to conduct the elections. J. Rockwood called for nominations of the following positions:  
**Chairperson** – A. Huhn was nominated and agreed to let her name stand. Accepted by acclamation.  
**Vice-Chairperson** – A. Hoffman was nominated and agreed to let her name stand. Accepted by acclamation.  
**Secretary** – E. Fung was nominated and agreed to let her name stand. Accepted by acclamation.  
**Treasurer** – L. Demskie was nominated and agreed to let her name stand. Accepted by acclamation.
- 14.2 **Approval of Operating Procedures** – A. Huhn reported that everyone received a copy of the Operating Procedures by email. A. Huhn would like to thank Amal & Stephen for going through the Operating Procedures.  
**Motion:** A. Hoffman moves to accept the Operating Procedures as presented.  
**Second:** M. Pon  
**Carried:** All in favour.
- 14.3 **Excellence in Teacher Awards** – J. Rockwood reported that Alberta Education has teaching awards and the site is available if anyone would like to nominate a teacher.
- 14.4 **School Start Supplies** – J. Rockwood reported that she has been in touch with the School Start Supplies organization and would like to know if we would want to proceed with using this again.  
**Motion:** A. Hoffman moves that we use School Start Supplies again this year.  
**Second:** C. Thew  
**Carried:** All in favour.
- 14.5 **Accountability Pillar** – J. Rockwood reported that this document is sent from the government and encourages all parents to fill it out and send it in. It helps the school.
- 14.6 **Consultation Meetings** – A. Huhn reported that we often are asked by the board to provide input on various issues, an example being the meeting just held by the board to look at requests, ideas, etc... It was suggested that in order to respond with the voice of the parents of the school that it might be a good idea is School Council hosted consultation meetings and possibly at different locations to try to engage the school parents. Members in attendance felt this was a positive idea. Another suggestion was that if School Council members rotated but attended Board Meetings, this might help us prepare for issues that the Board is looking at. Decided that A. Huhn will send an email to R. Devji informing her that parents may be in attendance at Board Meetings.

14.7 **Gift for Long Term Teachers who retired:** A. Huhn suggested that we purchase a gift for J. Bebensee and B. Crockett.

**Motion:** A. Hoffman moves that we purchase a certificate for dinner at La Ronde Restaurant for \$150.

**Second:** P. Mayo

**Carried:** All in favour.

**15.0 Announcements:**

**15.1 ATB Bank within the School** – E. De Gooyer reported that there was a lot more work that the school had to complete in order to begin this program. The school is still interested but will move this until next September.

**15.2 Fundraising Society** – A. Huhn reported that the next steps is to develop Bylaws and a name for the Fundraising Society. We are working on a date and that date will be sent to everyone via email if they are interested in attending. Once we have the Bylaws we can apply for a society through the Societies Act.

**16.0 Topics Tabled for next Meeting:** Choir

**17.0 Next Meeting** – March 1, 2016

**18.0 Adjournment** – A. Hoffman moves to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm