

## **Aurora Academic Charter School Council Meeting**

**April 5, 2016**

**Members in Attendance:** J. Rockwood; I. Gray; N. Gidda; E. De Gooyer; P. Mayo; A. Goddard; A. Huhn; A. Hofmann; L. Demskie; E. Fung; I. Li; C. Thew; Y. Gebrewold; H. Chan, C. Ho; C. Au

**Regrets:** R. Devji

**Guests in Attendance:** V. Tran (teacher coordinating Student Council); M. Sharma (Student Council Rep.);

**Board Member in Attendance:** None

**1.0 Call to Order:** 6:02pm by A. Huhn

**2.0 Additions/changes to the Agenda:**

- 14.6 Choir

**3.0 Approval of Minutes from: March 1, 2016**

**Motion:** A. Hofmann

**Second:** A. Goddard

**Motion Carried:** All in favour

**4.0 Student Council Report:** M. Sharma (School Council Rep.) reported:

- Book Drive, Mustard Seed and Schools In Need April 15
- Spring Dance April 22 \$2
- Mufti-day April 27 – Touch Of Class
- Hot Lunch April 27

**5.0 Board Report:** No Board report

**6.0 Guest Report:** No Guest report

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

- Spell-a-thon
- Registration is almost done; Kindergarten filled
- Teacher Evaluations and Intentions
- School Surveys (Elementary and Middle School): input, questions to add; will be sent out in May
- Calendar has been approved: available on website and newsletter

- 8.0 Middle School Principal Report:** J. Rockwood reported the following:
- Report cards went out more successfully online; Power School is very effective with communicating with parents
  - Parent Teacher Interviews were different for all of Middle School with scheduled times instead of drop-ins
  - Citadel shows: just had one and then another for end of month
  - PAT night: information for parents of Grade 6 students of what to expect and how to help students prepare
  - Drumheller trip with E. De Gooyer
  - Junior High Dance
  - PD Day on 15<sup>th</sup>: discussing options being offered for next year
  - Copy of Middle School Survey passed around; purpose of survey is to get feedback from parents of what they like and don't like; where improvement can be made; from homework to uniforms to administrators, etc.

- 9.0 Treasurer's Report:** L. Demskie reported the following:
- \$5,199.00 in account

- 10.0 Fundraising Report:** A. Huhn reported the following:
- Spell-A-Thon
  - Test on Friday April 8
  - Money due on Thursday April 14 and count at 4pm

- 11.0 Request for Funds from School Council:** No request for funds.

- 12.0 Beautification Report:** A. Huhn reported the following:
- Concrete planters & flowers, cedar tree
  - A. Wiewel usually takes care of it
  - Ask for \$100

**Motion:** A. Hofmann

**Second:** A. Goddard

**Motion Carried:** All in favour

- 13.0 Board Committee Reports:** No Board Committee report

**14.0 New Business:**

**14.1 Alberta School Council Association Conference April 22-24**

**14.2 Assessments:** I. Gray reported the following:

- Student in-take is still on a 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> serve basis
- There is no immediate plan to change it but there is ridiculous wait list and people still registering; there is no real purpose for people to do that
- It is a great burden for support staff
- Systems: want a fair system; Stratford and Crestwood do entrance exams;

- Want to do a survey and see what parents' feedback are
- Low attrition at Aurora is about 10/600 per year while other schools it's up to 10%

**14.3 Parent Engagement Meetings:** A. Huhn reported the following:

- A. Huhn, A. Hofmann, I. Gray and J. Rockwood met in January
- Hard to represent the voices of 350 families with just 4 people
- Would like to have 2 meetings per year to engage families
- Programming: study period, parking/transportation, fees, uniforms, fundraising, etc.

**14.4 Elementary Choir:** A. Goddard reported the following:

- Send out a survey to parents (hard copy) regarding the idea of having a choir
- For grades 2 to 5 to start up in the fall
- Will send copy to I. Gray

**14.5 Orienteering:** A. Goddard reported the following:

- In-School Field Trip idea
- Company sends people into the school to do a program (1-2 hours) that covers mapping, directions, flags, compass use, etc.

**14.6 Director of Technology:** A. Huhn reported the following:

- Letter was sent out to parents on Friday March 18<sup>th</sup> after school was out for Spring Break; as not everyone received the letter, it was sent out again on Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> after the break
- I. Gray reported, as per the letter referred to, he has taken the position of Director of Technology starting the next school year (2016-2017); thanked parents and teachers for their support in the past; it's a new opportunity and looking forward to working with the whole school, kids and administration
- Discussion took place: Statements from parents – reaction and feedback
- Outcome: Letter will be written up and sent to the Board to open line of communications

**Motion:** A. Hofmann

**Second:** P. Mayo

**Motion Carried:** All in favour

**14.7 Thank-you Party for I. Gray:** A. Huhn reported the following:

- At the school after school
- Gym or community hall
- Sub-committee set up: A. Huhn, I. Li and A. Goddard

**15.0 Topics Tabled for next Meeting:** None at this time

**16.0 Next Meeting:** May 3, 2016 6pm in School Library