

Blackie School Council Meeting
April 19, 2023

Meeting called to order by Scott Sherman at 6:30pm

In Attendance:

John Evans, Chase Ellis, Scott, Amy, Natalie, Eran, Carmen, Tamara F, Lana

Trustee Report – John

- Young Authors' conference April 22 at Holy Trinity Academy in Okotoks for Grades 4-8
- FSD Summer Camps in July (info on website) for Fine Arts at Foothills Composite High School for Grades 4-8
- Alberta government removed mandatory entry level training (MELT) for school bus drivers
 - o This makes it easier for division to hire new bus drivers
 - o Current driver shortages
 - o FSD will still ensure drivers are qualified and provide training for new hires
- Town of Okotoks is looking for volunteers 16+ for AB Summer Games
 - o Also looking for adult volunteers to supervise kids that will be housed at the schools during this time

Admin Report – Chase

- Today and Monday there are Kindergarten screenings taking place at the school with SLP
- Junior Kindergarten Screening on the 27th
- Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten enrollments are up
- 5/6 and 7/8 class sizes are expected to be high for the next couple of years
 - o Bubble seen throughout the division
- Student-Led Conferences at the school on April 26 from 3:30-6pm and April 27 from 3:30-7:30pm
 - o Activities and stations to be set up for the child to walk the parents through in their classrooms
 - o Teacher will be there as a facilitator, but it will not be a 1:1 interview
 - o There may be multiple families in the classroom at once
 - o Information about booking times will be coming from the teachers
- EA Jen Murray is providing literary support for grade 2/3 class on Monday and Wednesday and is receiving training for numeracy support
- May 11 the school will be travelling to Okotoks Junior High to see the Enchanted Bookshop
- May 16-17 Pioneer Ranch Camp
 - o Parent meeting to be scheduled to talk about insurance and risk assessment
- Staff Placements
 - o Hoping to hear who is filling principal position for next year soon
 - o Staff getting anxious to hear who will be filling position

- Looking into hockey program for school next year
 - o Standalone program from school (through Method)
 - o During school hours
 - o May boost enrollment in school
 - o Working on preliminary details

Pioneer Ranch Camp – Fundraising

- Bottle drive will be at the beginning of May
- Will be collected in a trailer at the school
- Will be advertised in the community

Facebook page for the school

- Needs to be taken over by someone as admin
 - o Lana volunteered

Feedback for new principal selection

- Al reached out to Scott for any final input from parents
- Was told the new principal would be selected from a principal pool of applicants that have already had interviews for prior open positions, therefore no new interviews will be done specifically for our school

Grade 8 Farewell

- June 15
- About 100 people (8 seats/family)
- Lion's Club booked for catering
 - o May ask for grade 7 volunteers to help with food/dishes, etc

Playground Credit

- Had looked into spending remaining credit on Gaga Ball pits
- Received quote already but it is unclear if quote includes any site prep or if any site prep is required before installation (Carmen will look into)
- Need to get FSD approval to install and ask about possibility of 7/8 class helping with installation (Chase will look into)

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33pm

Next meeting May 24 at 6:30pm