

Gateway Christian School Council Minutes  
Tuesday, February 28, 2017  
GCS Library

- 7:00pm Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions (Dave)  
-attendance sheet passed
- Prayer/Devotions - Corinna
- 7:10pm Adoption of Agenda - Dave
- By consensus
- Adoption of January's Minutes - Dave
- By consensus
- 7:14pm Caring and Sharing - Corinna
- Shared about TFT meeting she attended with teachers on Feb 8 - she is excited to see the passion and commitment our teachers have in incorporating through lines in all of their teaching
- 7:20pm Student Council/Leadership Report - Ashley Elgersma
- Soon will be having a chill evening
  - Hope to have an outdoor dance in the spring
- 7:25pm Treasurer's Report
- Reviewed the budget
- 7:35pm City Wide and Alberta School Council Report
- City Wide Report:
- Brad Vonkeman presented a report on meetings
  - Discussions about importance of literacy, equity, and high school completion goals have been a part of City Meetings
  - Build community within both our Gateway community and city wide district schools
  - Conference in Edmonton April 28-30 at Delta; funding would be available for anybody opting to go on our behalf
- Alberta Report:
- Opportunity for parents to learn, network, and have workshops that would benefit our schools and provincial education system
  - Issue resolutions - 9 different resolutions adopted at AGM (Eg. weighting of diploma exams, dealing with carbon levy applied to schools, etc).
  - Minister of Education announced yesterday that they will be allowing Jr and Sr students to register and contribute their perspectives on our education system within Alberta
- 7:40pm Citywide School Council meeting dates
- Tuesday, March 7, 7-9pm @ Gateway Christian School, 4210 59th St.
  - Tuesday, May 9, 7-9pm @ West Park Elementary School, 3814 55 Ave
  - All parents are invited and encouraged to attend, particularly at the Gateway location meeting
- 7:41 PM Playground Presentation
- Preliminary Committee has been working since September to share their background work and present next efforts that will be necessary to move ahead with establishing a new playground
  - K-3 playground serves about 235 kids/day
  - We no longer have access to Parkland playground north of the school

- Grades 4-5 field serves 133 students/day
  - Includes a field with baseball diamonds
  - Basketball courts tennis courts (in need of repair)
  - Tether balls and sporting equipment (donated by Hot Lunch Program)
- Grades 6-12 currently uses the learning commons, library, Gym, and Dem and that includes about 260 students/day
- Preliminary work has included:
  - Obtaining RDPSB approval
  - Discussions with city parks amenities supervisors
  - Connected with Waskasoo Association - they would be interested in partnering with Gateway to incorporate a playground suitable for age groups within the Waskasoo community
  - Collected feedback from Eastview School about their playground build
- Timeline - the next opportunity to put forward a proposal to the City of Red Deer is June 2017
- New Playground cost would be \$250,000 at minimum to \$500,000
- The school currently has \$50,000 earmarked for the project
- Community financial support and Grants (federal and provincial) will be necessary
- We must form committees comprised of parents to move this build forward from these preliminary steps

Caryn Ouwehand made a motion to have the School Council takes on the project of the playground build

Joleen Webb seconded motion

Motion passed unanimously

- Parents interested in being a part of the playground committee signed their name on a paper

8:00 PM Meeting Adjourned - Dave

### **Red Deer Society for Christian Education February 28, 2017 Board Meeting**

8:05pm - Strategic Plan/Finance

- Lots of discussion about equity both within the district and here at Gateway
- 2 stories were shared by Teresa
  - Kindergarten registration opened at 8:15am on day of registration and Gateway was filled to capacity by 8:27am that morning through online registration
  - 54/60 kids were from existing Gateway families
  - After much discussion we were left with a challenge to cap or a challenge to find a way to include another 20 kids within the kindergarten program - decision was made by Gateway administration to expand to a 4th kindergarten class, with 80 kindergarten students combined
  - Space will have to be utilized to make new classroom areas within rooms that are currently open - like the den or the learning commons
  - Gateway charges the highest school fees out of any Red Deer public school. It is our Christian duty to be stewards and be purposeful about how we are using the fees - and potentially reduce fees (fees include field trips, swimming lessons, etc)
- Society funds have financed scholarships, executive director TFT activities, worship director
- We should brainstorm ways to use our society money in a stewardly way

- The original intent of the society money was to support Christian education by building a new school.
- Invitation to email suggestions and ideas about ways we can accommodate our Christian education at Gateway and the increasing student population
- How can we continue our support to GCS and our district..... Let`s think outside the box..... No idea is a bad idea.

8:25pm - Upcoming - AGM March 21

- School council meeting will still be held at 7pm

8:50pm - Communication & Updates

- Executive Director Update
  - Corinna has been in the position for a month and is both learning a lot and enjoying it
- Cherilyn update
  - Postponed until next meeting

9:00pm - Adjourn meeting