

Gateway Christian School
School Council & Red Deer Society for Christian Education Minutes
September 20, 2016
(GCS LIBRARY)

7:00 - Welcome and Introductions - Dave - call to order
attendance sheet passed around

7:03 - Devotions - Carolyn - talked about the direction of TtT for the year within the classroom
- Boxes being made up for classrooms to support teachers with themes/
devotions in the class (verses, questions, banners, etc)

7:10 - Adoption of Agenda(s) - Dave
All in favor

7:10 - Adoption of Minutes, May 16, 2016
All in favor

7:12 - Caring and Sharing

- Introductions around the table
- a classroom story shared that reminded us that our students are hearing what we are sharing with them. We need to keep sharing God's truth. It is being remembered by them
- parents excited to be a part of such a vibrant school
- so thankful for Teresa and her caring, open and positive leadership
- appreciation given for the awesome staff who are very open to talk with parents and to help students

7:17 - Student Council/Leadership Report

- Ashley Elgersma reported this year
- Their role to build community within the school community through events
- Starting with a cake walk fundraiser to earn money for these events
- Will have a few dances, Christmas event
- Abigail from gr. 7 represented Leadership group and told of a few events they are
- Planning (finding waldo.....)

7:20 - Joint School Council & Red Deer Society for Christian Education Initiatives

- Staff Appreciation- hoping to have lots of parents who would take part in planning and/or organizing
- Staff appreciation times (involves good food provided for teachers throughout the year)
- Community Prayer Time -establishing a regular Wednesday morning prayer time for parents before the Wednesday chapel time

7:25 - Treasurer's Report

- Setting Budget
- Meet the Staff BBQ expense (total cost \$1502.06, half = \$751.03)
- PBIS Request Lucille spoke on behalf of Mike M. for Positive Behaviour Intervention System
 - Requesting money from the school council to fund prizes for this program. Last year the Council gave \$500.00
- asking if the Council would be willing to donate the \$500 and money for the large year end prize(around \$250)

- discussion followed about uses of revenue monies as to how they can be used. Dave will check with Brad V. about how budgets for Council must be set up. Tabled until next meeting when information is available.
- Dave put forth motion that for now we pass the \$4000.00 balanced budget as presented. Cherilyn seconded the motion. All in favour.

7:30 - Feedback/Discussion:

Elections for School Council:

Chair - Dave Tilstra

Vice-Chair - Cherilyn Strom

Secretary - Corinna Van Niejenhuis

Treasurer - Maria McMann

All by Acclamation

8:00pm - SC - City Wide Meetings for 2015-16

- Tuesday, October 4, 2016 @ Annie L. Gaetz -open for parents to attend
- monthly meeting where schools in district get together to share what is happening in the schools

8:02pm - SC - ASCA report

- Brad V. sent in his report from the last meeting. Carolyn read it to the group and will include it in the minutes:

Alberta School Councils Report to Gateway School Council

September 20, 2016

Some of the items that the Alberta School Councils Association has been working on since we last met.

- The board of Directors has set the dates for Board meetings for this business year
 - September 24, 25
 - November 19, 20
 - January 14, 15 2017
 - March 11, 12 2017
 - April 28 – which will also be the start of the Annual conference and AGM which you may want to put on your calendars early.
- The board was informed by the Minister that the Education Act has been delayed for a year
- Student learning assessments continue to be piloted in the province for grade 3's to work out the bugs
- The board of Directors has set their internal committees for the coming year.
- The registration has gone out to School Councils for the School Council Engagement Task Force, formerly the Parent engagement task force. The registration process is open to all school councils until the end of September.
- The Association's eNews has been sent and is available on the website www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca and includes information about Webinar Wednesday's and workshops available to all member school councils
- Thank you to Red Deer Public School District and the Board of Trustees for once again believing in the important role of school councils and paying the membership fee to the Association for all of the school councils in the district.

Respectfully submitted

Brad Vonkeman

President's Message - September 2016

Dear School Council Members:

Due to the dedication and commitment of people like you - school councils continue to have positive impacts on the learning success of children in public schools.

School councils are the legislated platform for parent engagement in K-12 public education and a fundamental vehicle for communication. The school council role represents the link between the school administration and the parents in the school community.

With the help of ASCA, opportunity to gain shared knowledge enables all partners to work together to benefit all students in the school. Access to the same information about the education system as the principal, superintendent and school board trustee means discussions at school council or at Councils of School Councils (CoSC) meetings are balanced, informed and solutions focussed on student learning.

Resources available on the ASCA website are for everyone in the school community. The website offers conversation starter topics for school council consideration, information about provincial initiatives at Alberta Education, how to participate in the *ASCA School Council Engagement Task Force*, as well as workshops and materials to create effective school councils.

The majority of school councils in the province are members of ASCA through sponsorship from their school districts. ASCA provides information on K-12 education and engaging school councils in Alberta to all parents, school council executive members, principals, teachers, trustees and superintendents. Support is available through a variety of methods ranging from one-on-one conversations to province-wide webinars, to onsite facilitation and presentations.

As you start planning for the school year, please review our services and resources, and contact us with any questions. We would be happy to come to your school and assist with a workshop!

Welcome back to a new school year - we look forward to hearing from you soon!

Allison Pike

President

Alberta School Councils Association

8:10pm Adjourn - School Council

8:15pm - Open Red Deer Society for Christian Education Meeting

8:15pm - Adoption of June 20, 2016 Minutes

By consensus last society meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

8:17pm - Communication:

- Geannette Lehman sends her resignation from the board. Though she will still have connections with Gateway (Nicaragua trip, etc) she is unable to fulfill the duties on the board with her new position at Thurber. Thank you Geannette for your service and support of the Society and GCS.
- Thank you to everyone for your work at the Meet the Staff BBQ last Thursday.
- Special shout out to Colin, Dave, Warren & Cherilyn for grilling, Warren picking up and returning the BBQ, Skyla & Lucille with set up, Roxy & Cherilyn & students Colton, Alexis, Morgan, Delaney, Allie, Brooke & Oscar with set up & keeping water, meat and buns refilled, Barb, Jolayne, Cherilyn, Roxy, Dave & Warren with clean up.

8:20pm - Appointment of Board Member: Administrator - Teresa Tataryn was appointed as a board member by consensus.

8:25 - Bus

- We've had requests from other schools to borrow Gateway Society school's bus.
- Opened the discussion about the feasibility of lending/renting our bus, or perhaps selling the bus to Red Deer Public to be owned by Gateway school.
- We could possibly rent the bus while keeping as a Society bus in hopes of generating a revenue that could be donated to various causes within the school, community or saving for a replacement bus one day.
- Suggestion to showcase Biblical worldviews or educational through lines inside of the bus if we rent out the bus.
- Renting the bus out to cover only fuel and wear and tear on the vehicle we would not be required to insure it as a Charter bus.
- We must acquire more information before making a final decision on the society school bus.
- Carolyn will field further questions and suggestions about the bus decisions.

8:40pm - Review - Board Binders

- Society members advised to familiarize themselves with their newly acquired binders

8:45pm - Strategic Plan moving forward

- Review of Relationship with RDPSD
- We welcome any parental presence wishing for more information about our Society/School Council relationship with RDPSD to join us at our meetings.
- We advise any parents having a topic they would like to discuss at a meeting to please contact Carolyn, Dave, or Teresa so that the topic to be added as a section in the agenda of the next meeting.
- We will review Community Building Goals in October

9:00pm - Board Pictures

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming Dates

- Friday, November 18, 2016, Annual Fall Auction @ First CRC

9:00pm Adjourn

Upcoming Board Meetings & Devotions:

- October 18 -
- November 15 -
- December 13 (Society Only) -
- January 24 -
- February 28 -
- March 21 -
- April 18 -
- May 16 -
- June 20 (Society Only) -