

Approved Meeting Minutes
VCS Council
December 2, 2021
10:30am Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 475 290 4212
Chair: Teresa Boucher (780) 814-4827
Vice Chair: Vacant

Approved on January 13th, 2022

In attendance: T. Boucher; P. Braseth; H. Lee; E. Morales; S. Morales; K. Tabert; T. Fricke

Call meeting to order @ 10:31am

❖ **Principals Report – Harmon Lee**

- Thursday, November 4, 2021
 - Hot Lunch – Sweet & Sour Hotdogs & Rice
- Thursday, November 11, 2021
 - We had some of our students win prestigious standings in the Hythe Poem, Essay & Poster Contest – Samantha Boucher got 1st place in the junior poems & Essays, Analeigh Baird got 1st place for junior color poster & Makenna Whalen got 1st place for junior black & white poster. These entries will be going forward to the district competition, and we wish them well.
- Thursday, November 18, 2021
 - Parent Teacher Interviews – Had a very good turn out.
- Friday, November 19, 2021
 - Hot Lunch – Cheesy Potatoes & Smokies
- Friday, November 26, 2021 – PD Day – Teachers updated Google Classroom set ups & Individual student progress plans
- The school's educational assistant/practicum student has completed her time with us here. She enjoyed very much being with us and has asked to be added to our E.A. substitute list.
- We are still optimistic that we will be receiving our Pointsettias on December 9th as scheduled. The facility that we used was unfortunately flooded this year, but they have another facility in Alberta that looks like they will be able to complete our orders on time.
- For the last month and a half, the school has been working with a research consultant about ideas on adding a science module to our outdoor education program that will research carbon sequestering in soil. He will be back mid November to discuss further. We are also looking at reaching out to the Beaverlodge Research Centre for a collaboration and have some speakers come out to the school. We look forward to his final report in the Spring.

- The metal sheeting on the side of the stove in the Valhalla room has started to clad to the side of the cupboards so we need to keep an eye on that. Richard Harp says that when anyone is cooking in there, they should also always have the fan running. I told him I would pass along the information.
- Mr. Lee is interested in moving the showcase currently located by the gym that holds plaques and student achievements to a more noticeable area of the school. He has considered the open space by the office. Also suggesting adding a couple of shelves for more storage. Looking for other options and/or opinions.
- With the cold temperatures the parking lot approaches leading to the highway are becoming difficult. He will be reaching out to get some sand or gravel put down.

❖ **Chairs Report – Teresa Boucher**

- Chicken Hatching – Still waiting to hear back from F. Wright on curriculum.
- The Book Series Siha Tooskin Knows has been ordered for the school. T. Boucher printed off the teachers guide but it was not helpful at all and contained no tools to help the teachers. Council asked Ms. Lewis her opinion and she has agreed. We would like to make a plan for what tools we need and/or could use to make it more useful for the teachers.
- We received the donation of computers for the school. We ended up having to pay for shipping. T. Boucher contacted her old employer Peterbilt, and they were able to get a discounted rate. With Grimshaw trucking it would have cost \$400 but we ended up getting it for approx. \$100. T. Boucher paid out of pocket for the expense. Council needs to repay these funds.
 - *T. Fricke motioned, P. Braseth 2nd, AIF*
- We are suggesting movies & popcorn for the last day of school before winter break. We would like to suggest that we pay for new releases for the kids to enjoy. We'd like to get one for the younger kids and one for the older kids. Suggestions as follows: Encanto, New Trolls movie, Chevy Chase Christmas movie. Release funds for purchase – approx. \$50.
 - *P. Braseth motioned, E. Morales 2nd, AIF*
- Advantage Entergy Ltd. Has donated \$4000 to help with hot lunches & bussing costs. T. Boucher & T. Corbit (Chair of Board) discussed splitting the funds and decided on \$1000 for Hot lunch and \$3000 for bussing. The cheque was made payable to the Valhalla School foundation so we will have to send Anna a request to release the funds once the amounts are finalized.
- A parent from our school passed away recently. We are looking for ideas for something we can do for the family. One suggestion we received was to make a Christmas Hamper. Release funds of \$200 to purchase items.
 - *P. Braseth motioned, S. Morales 2nd, AIF*

❖ **Treasurers Report – Penny Braseth**

- The Monthly bank totals as follows:
 - School Council Main: \$11,492.83
 - QuickBooks: \$10,904.91 – difference is outstanding cheques waiting to be cashed
 - Hot Lunch Program: \$1,204.33
 - Healthy Snack Fund: \$3,365.31
- J. Campbell has taken the documents for the 2020/2021 audit to review. She will then pass them along to M. Gilbert to review and when completed all will be finalized.
 - There is still outstanding monies owed to T. Hosker for Hot Lunch items.
 - P. Braseth did account reconciliation up to November 1st and everything is perfect.

❖ Hot Lunch – T. Hosker – Absent

- 3 people have been booked for each hot lunch until mid February.
- Always looking for more people to bake on the weeks of hot lunches so the kids can enjoy a homemade snack with their food. The kitchen is available Mon-Thurs the week of for anyone to use. Contract Trudy to make arrangements.
- Whitecap wants to donate funds for our Christmas lunch. The total will be \$781.67 for 20 pizzas, 1 box of popcorn & bags (to use with our popcorn machine), orange juice, candy canes & Christmas oranges for all the students. We will be doing a shout out for their generosity probably in the next school newsletter.

❖ Old Business

- Crusher Cone Installation
 - P. Braseth dropped donation letters off at Beaverlodge Home Hardware and they said they were interested in donating but we have heard no further from them. P. Braseth to reach out again.
 - D. Ray is willing to donate 30 Tons of ¾" crush to us, but we would need to purchase the remainder of what is needed to complete the project as well as purchase the pea gravel to put on top. With our calculations to do 8" of ¾" crush we would need approx. 80 Ton.
 - P. Braseth suggested reaching out to other gravel companies to see if they'd be willing to donate any other portions of the gravel we require.
 - T. Boucher is going to look to the county to see if they have any grant money that we could apply for to complete this project.
- Missoula Theatre
 - Currently no updates. We have heard nothing further from them.
- Jasper Trip – Grade 5/6 Class
 - Currently no updates. We have heard nothing further from them. Mr. Lee to reach out.

➤ Teacher Appreciation Gift

- The mill has cut the piece and now T. Boucher will take a trip there and see if it is what we were expecting. The mill has also said they are going to be cutting another tree soon if it is not.

❖ Fundraising

➤ S. Miller on the Christmas Silent Auction

- We have decided to go forward with the auction online again this year.
- A blurb was put in the school newsletter and a post was made on Facebook.
- Donation drop off deadline is December 15th.
- We are going to reuse last years Facebook event page and just update it with this year's donations.
- We are looking at doing a raffle for a Turkey dinner. Another idea we had was to have the kids vote on the best donation to choose the winner.
- We are hoping for at least 50 items this year.
- It is getting very important to have someone shadow S. Miller for this job as next year will be her last.
- Speaking to Coop to donate items for coffee baskets
- IGA donating the Turkey dinner.

➤ Question

- Q: What is all needed for volunteering for the silent auction?
 - *They need someone to take photos and help post items online*
 - *Need helpers to count and collect money*
 - *Need volunteers to look for donations from local businesses*
- E. Morales volunteers to deliver letters to businesses
- S. Morales volunteers to help with money

➤ Question

- Q: With all the snow days and busses not running is there any concern regarding missing educational hours? What does the school do to make up the time?
 - H. Lee states that if there is a concern the teachers meet and look at outstanding items that need to be completed and they figure out ways to teach these items in a condensed version or they might omit projects or experiments.
- Q: Is online learning an option for these missed days?
 - H. Lee says no. The only time online learning is used is when AHS shuts the school down.
- Q: Is there not a prerequisite number of hours that students need to spend in the school on curriculum.
 - It was said that the school is prepared for unscheduled days off due to weather and such and that extra days are built into the school's yearly schedule so there is no concern at this time.



Adjournment @ 11:16 am

Approved