

École Agnes Davidson School Council Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, 7:00pm

À l'école Agnes Davidson, les terres sur lesquelles nous vivons, jouons, et apprenons font partie du territoire visé par le traité n° 7 et du territoire traditionnel des Niitsitapis (PiedsNoirs), Nakodas (Stoney), Tsuuut'inas et la Nation des Métis (Région 3)

At Agnes Davidson, we live, play, and learn on the traditional territory of the Niitsitapi, Nakoda, Tsuut'ina people (Treaty 7), and the Métis Nation (Region 3)

2) Approval of the Agenda – Approved by Jo Ann and Michelle

3) Approval of the Minutes – Approved by Tyler and Donna

4) Reports:

A) **Principal Report:** (Terra Leggat)

- Bulk Order School Supplies Survey. The survey is on the website right now. If you do feel like it is a positive it's great when we have positive feedback, we don't necessarily take time to fill out surveys. So, if it's something that you haven't joined, make sure that you complete the survey as well. It's on our website now, on a blog post and then I will send the link in next Monday's email to parents. I think I have the survey closing on Sunday Jan 21st, 2024. So, fill out the survey regardless because we are going to use that information of how we want to roll forward. So, if you are liking one system over the other than fill it out.
- The grade 5's and Grade 4's as well are starting their Human Sexuality Unit. There will be an opt out letter, so for the Grade 4's and Grade 5's so if you do not want your child to participate in those lessons, then fill out the form. If you want your child to participate then no form to fill out. Teachers when they send out that letter, they will send an overview of what they talk about. Grade 4's they talk a lot about fetal development, and grade 5's a lot about puberty and the basics around body changes. In grade 5 there are sections where you both together as genders, and then there are sections where it's girls and boys and they're talking about the specific body changes. You can talk to the classroom teachers if you are curious about any more on that. And that is also part of the Health and Wellness Curriculum. So, you can also go online and look at the curriculum if you wanted all the specific pieces on that as well.
- As you know the Grade 2's and 3's this year did the Government Assessments in the Fall. Grade 1's are doing them now, so if you have a Grade 1 student they will be involved in those assessments between Jan 10th and Jan 26th, 27th or 28th. So, your child may come home and tell you stories about that. So, the Grade 1's will do a numeracy assessment and then a literacy assessment. It's based on number recognition and simple words.
- Science and Heritage Fair is coming soon. Science and Heritage Fair is from Mar. 4th -7th. With judging on Mar. 6th in the afternoon. I share it now because the form is on the website. I plan on chatting with the kids throughout this week, and so forth to find out who's interested in the

Science and Heritage Fair. Because some projects take awhile to do, so we'd like to get that out in January. That is for Kindergarten thru Grade 5. So, if you have students who are interested in the Science and Heritage Fair those forms are on the website.

- Town Hall is on Feb 6th. Questions for the Town Hall were on the agenda for the last couple months, and it is item on there. I will be looking for some parents to volunteer to be part of that. I will ask for parents when we get down there.
- Mme Zolondek has retired. So as of the end of December she has retired, you will see her a little bit around the school. Megan will talk about that in a couple minutes. In terms of the Farewell Celebrations and so forth that we do the School Council will do that. Patty Bryant is taking over her class. Mme. Bryant has taught in our school for many years Grade 1. Her and her husband moved to Newfoundland in September. They were there for a couple months and said, "actually this isn't for us", we don't love it here and they moved back. She is from there and grew up there. At that time Monsieur Lyon 's back and taking over the class was going on a maternity leave for his family, so he said Mme Bryant I have a job for you, so she was taking over his leave and he came back yesterday. Then Mme Zolondek was retiring so everything worked out perfectly. Newfoundland wasn't what they had expected or what they were hoping for so, she Mme Bryant is back and is taking over the class The kids are in good hands, and the parents in that class were made aware of the that before Christmas and so forth.

B. **Vice Principal Report:** (Megan Cummins)

- Basketball season is going to be underway, as of Wednesday the kids are super excited about it. We have 2 teams going. A shout out to Mme. Grover, Mme. Turmel, Mme. Hamilton, and Mme. Williams, who are coaching those teams. So that's possible for the kids to be able to do that. Practices are on Monday's and Wednesdays at lunchtime starting at 12pm. There is Monday Morning Optional shooting practices too starting at 8:10 Am. All the kids and families who are participating are aware of the information. The kids are very excited about that. Final Tournament happening on Feb. 9th at Plaxton, with more information to come.
- Jody Babky was here with Cynthia Greenfield and myself today and she is going to be doing a residency. She is our literacy teacher, and she will be coming next week. And we are fine tuning some of the details today and putting out some questions to teachers about what is it that they are hoping for from her. So that looks like that is going to be our grades 3-5 teachers, because there the ones that teach English Language Arts. And so, we are going to be using Jody's expertise and convoy with our teachers just to see sort of new things out there that we can do. We have lots of new resources that came in and so Jody's the expert in those, and gives our teachers a chance to ask some really good questions so there will be some in class teaching time where Jody is doing some modelling where teachers can get a chance to practice as well, and then some, sometime we are going to bring in a couple of subs so that they have time to be able to ask questions without having lots of kids around them. So, we are excited about that. So that will be next week.
- Boost Program just like Terra said we hired our Boost teacher; her name is Mme. Tina Zolondek. Tina announced her retirement and then this opportunity came up for us through our SOLA

(French funding) to be able to hire a teacher. And Mme. Zolondek put her name forward and she's just like an expert at literacy. So, we're super happy that we were able to snag her for that. So, we are going to have her until the end of June. She is going to start with our Grade 2's and 3's and then we will move on from there. So, but we will have all our kids be able to have some time with her. So, Grade 2's and 3's and if my memory serves me well, we will go into Grade 4's and 1's and then at the end of the year, when our Kinder's are at a more literacy ready state for that type of Intervention then they will be able to have some time as well. So, we're very fortunate to have her expertise at that capacity. And the grade 5's will have some time with her as well. So that is pull out. So, if your child is being considered for that Boost Program the classroom teachers will reach out at the end of January. So, a little bit different than Boost where there was a formal letter that came out. This one will be an email from the classroom teachers. Saying your little one has an opportunity to participate in this reading intervention.

- Carnival Pins are on School Cash Online. If you want to purchase a Metis SASH Pin, they are \$5. It helps support Indigenous Education here at Agnes Davidson, and it was also something that we did because we moved away from wearing the Metis Sash, however we are actually digging a little bit into that right now with Melanie Murro to see if that is actually something as we learn more that we can bring back, but more to come for that. The Sash Pin is a very beautiful Pin. Its actually a woven piece and actually some of that money comes back to our schools and we can look at speakers and pay some honorary guests that come to us. So, it's a double whammy. Cool pin, Carnival, and also supports the Indigenous Education at our school and we are pushing it now because our Carnival is at coming up at the end of January. You can wear it. They get delivered, there is a cut off and then Sue counts them all and then we deliver them to the kiddos. And when they see them, they love the pins, "how do I get one of those"?

C. Staff Rep Report: (Mlle Lyle)

Winter Carnival, we had a meeting about it earlier today. Lots of activities for students, and the Carnival is over the course of 3 days instead of the whole week its more condensed this year. So the activities are a Masquerade Ball, French-Canadian Dancing, for the grade 3's so we have Mel Williams, Cheryl Hawkins a former employee is going to be running that for the grade 3's. Hockey, Sugar Shack, Lumberjack Day, Canoe races (build them) we are going to decorate them, snowshoeing. Which is nice because us teachers we can take our classes out. There are 2 nights where there's a Family Night were the events. Last year this was like before Christmas. This year we are trying out Jan. 24th, 25th /2024. So, its in the evening from 6pm till 7:30pm. Half of the students and families come on the first night last names (A-L), and then half of the students and families come on the following evening last names (M-Z). We will do our pancake snack in our evening, instead of having a breakfast. We are going to serve them pancakes. Cora is making them for us. One of the hopes to with condensing it often the activities took place during lunch or before school or during recesses. What we are hoping to do this year is to have more of a vibe throughout the entire school. So, the hockey game is happening during instructional time. So, everybody is going to be out there, and everyone is going to be cheering. Everyone is going to be doing the canoe races, we are having opening assemblies, everyone is going to gather, we are going to sing a song, we are going to have Madame come in and dance. We just really want the feel to be through out the school, as opposed to. It's something that we

value its part of our culture, it part of our mission. We need to make sure that we put some time throughout the day for it. That's what we are going to do. We are going to try something new this year. We are going to be asking families of classroom teachers, we are going to be reaching out for fruit. Because we are doing crepes, somebody thought about fresh cut fruit. We will still have the fixings from Cora, but then the parent contribution will be fresh fruit. That will be nice for the kids.

D) **District School Council:** None

E) **Alberta School Council Association:** We are in.

F) **Trustee:** None

5) **Old Business:**

A) **Parent French Classes:**

Enrollment is 14 in the Beginning level, and 6 in the Intermediate level. We had agreed on paying \$2400, which is 20 parents times the \$60 for the lessons. We are exactly even with what we agreed to pay her. So, council doesn't even have to support anything at this point. She is not the most happy with the low number of people in the class, but I think with we have lots in the other class. We are still paying her the full amount. That I think its worth it. What we had discussed a 2 weeks ago. This whole concept a meeting with Angela and trying to create a Francophone community like really connect to people who are wanting to learn throughout the year, and not just like French Classes 10 weeks. If it works out great, if doesn't than whatever. Then find new ways to create this in general.

B) **Town Hall:**

Theres the questions on the agenda before of what we asked. We need 2-3 parent volunteers to attend Town Hall. Its on Tuesday Feb. 6th. For the last number of years, it's been at Victoria Park School. For this year I am assuming that its going to be at Victoria Park. Usually starts I want to say 6pm, showing up at 5:30 pm for a 6pm start. So, I think it goes from 6-8pm. But I don't have the details yet. But they were done at 8pm, there's no going past 8pm. So, if anyone is interested in being a Town Hall Representative. What it is- I am assuming that it's the same process as years before understanding that we have a different super-intendent right now. In years past, we are given sort of tables to go to, and there's 6 or 7 people at the table. There will be a teacher, an administrator, a student a community member. Discuss questions and then you do that for 20 mins or so and then go to another table and do a different question. Its small group conversations of talking. Then everybody has the opportunity to give their feedback. In years past they have used some sort of technology. Its live. Then they take all that information and then they make plans for the Division to move forward. A great way to have your voice heard. I will be looking for a teacher as well. Let me know if anyone is interested. I will put it out in the Monday's email.

6) New Business:

A) Tentative Date: If we are going to have a meeting next month (February).

BINGO, we don't nee February, unless we are doing the BINGO. Then we need time to discuss plans for the BINGO cause there's nothing else planned in the Spring. That might require us to have a meeting. A discussion around the BINGO. And then decide if we are going to have a meeting or not.

B) Facebook Post – Volunteers for the evenings of Jan. 24th and 25th. Making a post about to make sure that you have someone running the stations.

C) Colored Center Supplies- talking about a coloring station, does anything need to be photocopied for that to happen. A straight long piece of paper, so that the kids can write messages. From the Dollar Store 8' long for \$3, crayons. We will have volunteers to stay here and then if you are going to create or make a Brochure or a takeaway for parents, to take with them on "What is School Council"? Or a display board, or information to look like. "What the Fundraising Money goes towards?" Informing the parents. Did You Know? That fundraising has bought iPads for the school, has purchased pieces of the courtyard, built our playground, supports the Cultural Activities. "What does School Council do besides Fundraising?" How are ways that parents can be involved in School Council? Coming to the meetings is one of them. LOTG we are always looking for parents to help with LOTG on those dates. Sometimes looking for parents to help with other activities such as the BINGO or different activities that we have already done, like the Christmas Market, things like that. When people sign up for Facebook and might not even know about it. Show them the website. How do you learn more about the school?

D) Welcome to Kindergarten/Celebration of Learning. – We had it outside in June last year, and the year before. Some kids played at the park. Some parents were in and out quickly, some parents hung around, and the Grade 5's gave the parents tours of the school. March is the Celebration of Learning, Parent Teacher Interviews. Welcome to Kindergarten is in June. Making a Brochure for the Kindergarten- their 1st day of school.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 12th, 2024