

**Bon Accord Community  
School Parent Council Agenda  
April 27, 2021**

**1. Call to Order & Welcome 6:51 PM**

In Attendance: Jared Thompson, Mr Chute, Mrs McEachern, Suzanne Bierlert, Lizz Kohle, Carmen Siemens, Hollie Zinnick, Kirsten Sorrell, Steffanie Dawson, Carly Rigler and Lacey Laing

**2. Additions & Acceptance of Agenda-** Suzanne Bielert accepts agenda.

Kirsten Sorrell seconds the motion.

**3. Review & Approval of February 23, 2021 minutes-** Suzanne Bielert accepts minutes.

Steffanie Dawson seconds the motion.

**4. Reports**

1. Administration- Mr. Chute- Two months since our last meeting. Since then, we have had Parent Teacher Interviews and thank you to the PSS for supplying the food and bringing it in for the teachers. It was very appreciated. This year, with Covid and virtual interviews, we have seen a higher attendance rate by parents and that could be due to virtual, being easier to attend. It was nice to see a higher turn out for Spring interviews, where we usually see a decline in attendance.

Book Bingo, the kids are so excited, doing the draws and getting their forms. There have been multiple draws and lots of books to win. 3 kids per grade win in the draws and we have the grand prize draw coming up. There have been plenty of books read and families participate with virtual reading to the classes. Mrs. Roe has had plenty of parents logging in to read and we have had 20 videos submitted to the school for reading with our classes. We also had the "Dress up as your favourite book character, - Day" which went well. The kids loved that day. Just trying to engage kids in the fun of reading. A big thank you to the parents for sending in money with their children to purchase books at the book fair. The kids enjoy being able to do that. It is enjoyable being in the same room as them as they check out the books and purchase them with excitement. Literacy month is such a success that we are thinking of making it an annual thing.

-Lacey Laing- Mr. Chute, just wanted to thank all the teachers and admin. For the work that went into this book month. It was so fun as a parent to be able to log in and see the kids and get to read to them, to be a part of the class even just for a few minutes was so enjoyable. So thank you for giving us that opportunity. Also, we hope that this continues in the years to come.

Circle K- I don't know how many of you know this, Circle K, has donated about \$8500.00 in supplies. Some of it being PPE, masks, hand sanitizer and some of it being coupons for food at the gas station, so we have been using that as prizes. So, we are very well stocked on Hand Sanitizer and masks now.

Our school is now on Instagram. Trying to get with the times, engage the community. Our profile is @Bonaccordschool

Covid. We have had two cases, 2 classes, that have been sent home and no further cases that stemmed from those two.

Carly Rigler- Was it a requirement that people got tested?

Mr. Chute.- No, it was not a requirement, however strongly recommended. If we have any staff or students out and refuse to get tested, they have to stay home for 14 days.

Jared Thompson- Does AHS do any follow up after?

Mr. Chute- AHS does a tour of the school, just like they did in January, however I suspect that with the overflow of cases, they may not be able to get around to it, or at least for quite some time.

Thursday, April 29, we will be doing another dance party. The students don't know. No prizes but it will be dancing and fun.

Friday April 30<sup>th</sup>, is Town wide cleanup day, at 2:30 pm, students will be outside and cleaning up. The town has provided bags and gloves and a popsicle treat for when they are done.

May 5, Mental Health Hat Day, just a fun day to create awareness for the importance of keeping track of our mental health and awareness.

We do not have anything to report for plans of next year, we don't know, so it's too early to tell.

Lizz Kohle- Still working on the Budget, just received it in the end of March have nothing to share for next year's plans.

Mr. Chute- I would like input from people on what procedures and things that you would like to stay once things go back to normal. Post Covid. If anything.

Jared Thompson- Well, we really enjoyed the Christmas Concert, being virtual. Saving yourself from winter time, parking lot troubles. Also, at first, I did not like the PSS and Parent council virtual, I miss the interaction, but now I like it. I have been given the green light to host a meeting, so when things clear up.

Lacey Laing- I have to agree with Jared, it was so nice to have the whole family watch it on the computer, in our home, sent the link to grandparents in different cities, did not have to worry about the amount of people watching and could re-watch it later. Maybe have the option of people who would rather attend in person and some attend at home? Also enjoyed, Parent teacher interviews, virtual too, just with a busy family, it simplified it and was able to have husband participate, while otherwise quite tricky. Also Love the PSS meetings online. Being able to be in home and not have to travel.

Suzanne Bierlert- I miss meeting in person, but I do not miss driving, especially in the winter. So this is nice. Going to next year, do we expect 'out of school' bookings?

Mr. Chute- for Joint use, we have no idea when things will open back up.

## **2. Teachers**

Debbie McEachren:

### **Teacher Report**

#### **Mrs. Tower – Pre-K**

In April, the Pre-K children have been very keen to learn about books and stories. For literacy month, parents read stories to the class using online formats. In addition, the class took part in a virtual author visit with Mike Boldt. The children really enjoyed these visits. In class, we expanded on the children's interest in books and worked together to begin writing our own Pre-K story. The children brainstormed ideas about the story; it will be about animals at the beach and each child came up with an idea for a page of the story. With the arrival of spring weather and earth day, the children have been showing an interest in planting, bugs and the planet earth. They planted some marigold and sweet pea seeds and have been watering them and watching them grow.

#### **Mrs. McEachren/Mrs. Roe – Grade 1**

Grade 1s have continued to focus on literacy and numeracy skills in the month of April. We have been doing Guided Reading, phonic spelling, sight words practice, and personal writing. In Math we have finished addition and subtraction and are moving on to Numbers to 100. We will be working on this unit until the end of May. Grade 1s have been really enjoying the Book Bingo. Thank-you to parents for engaging at home with your child. We also had fun on Earth day making birdfeeders and binoculars out of recycled materials. We are very keen to do our part to protect our Earth. We are also excited to celebrate reading 1000 Home Reading books with sundaes!

#### **Mrs. Percy – Grade 2**

In L.A we have been reading fairy tales. Students learned that most fairy tales have magic and events that happen in groups of three.

In Writing we continue to explore Poetry and using descriptive words in our writing.

In Math we have finished our unit on 2D and 3D shapes. We are now exploring how to use money to show numbers to 100.

In Science we have finished our Water Inquiry Unit. In this unit students answered the question, how can we help everyone have clean water? Students will be going on a water walk with 5-gallon pails of water around the playground this week.

In Social Studies we are exploring how people in Saskatoon, Iqaluit, Meteghan and Bon Accord help care for the environment.

### **Mrs. Gagnon – Grades 2/3**

We spent two weeks in online learning.

Thank you to all the parents for their support through this-they were wonderful! Thanks to Mr. Chute, Char Thompson, Jody Nahirnak and Elisabeth Fokkema for reading to the class.

LA-book bingo a big hit

Completed various literacy and STEAM activities to go with books we were reading, such as Jeremy Thatcher Dragon Hatcher (large dragon's eye art project)

Space Helmets and circle stories-Little Bear Goes to the Moon

Math-repeated addition/multiplication, adding and subtracting big numbers

Science-virtual escape room-invertebrates and vertebrates gr 3

Jamboard- create an insect gr2

Social/LA-cultural myths and legends, folk tales and fairy tales

Health-expected and unexpected behaviours, perseverance

Earth Day-read The Lorax-preparing to plant School Garden

### **Mrs. McNeil – Grade 3**

3M just finished up hearing and sound in science and we are looking forward to animal life cycles. We will be hatching chickens. The kids took part in the #kids2030challenge which promoted less single use plastic usage and creative ways to solve pollution problems. In math we are working on division. We are doing a novel study in LA - A Boy Called Bat that ties in with science. Mrs. McNeil is running code club for her class again.

### **Mrs. McGuire – Grade 4**

4M has spent the past month focusing on our schoolwide literacy activities. We learned about different genres, awarded trophies to our favorite books and illustrated a scene from our favorite book made entirely out of plasticine. This project was inspired by author and illustrator Barbara Reid. We also worked on opinion writing.

In math, we are learning different strategies to divide two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers.

**In Science, we have been spending some time outside learning about shadows. We have also looked at opaque, transparent, and translucent materials. In recognition of Earth Day and our Waste in Our World Science unit, students turned trash into treasure! We have some students who could go into business selling their Sea Glass necklaces and plastic water bottle bracelets. It was neat to see all their creative ideas!**

**In Phys.-ed we are going to start preparing for Track and Field. It is our plan to have a mini grade 4 track meet towards the end of May. More details will be sent home in the upcoming weeks.**

**4.3. Trustee- Lizz Kohle-** We are working on a budget, just received the budget as of March 31, May 5th is the next trustee meeting. We need to have our budget submitted before the end of May, we are hoping the government will give us some leeway and extend it until June.

It will be a fairly balanced budget, probably getting the same amount as last year. Moving ahead the budget will mostly be similar to the previous year.

The new curriculum, will not be piloted in the Sturgeon County School Division. We figured the teachers had enough on their plates this past year dealing with Covid that we did not think it was a good to overload and stress the teachers with the changes. The Division has pulled together, working in groups, to pull curriculum and send recommendations to the government. We will get good recommendations to send.

The election for Trustees is in the fall. You can find information on it on the Sturgeon Website.

Jared Thompson- Will there be any consultation avenues for parents and communities?

Lizz Kohle- The Alberta website has more information on that as well you can write to your local MLA.

Hollie Zinnick- I wrote to the Minister of Education, NDP, Trustees, MLA and have heard back from the Trustees and the Minister of Education.

## **5.Old Business**

N/A

## **6.New Business**

### **6.1. Outdoor Classroom**

Jared Thompson- We have access to an outdoor classroom, it is by Half Moon Lake, it requires transportation to get there. NWR has donated resources bringing down the cost of transportation from \$7/ student down to \$3/student. The outdoor Pioneer Trail North Foundation. In the first year of operation, was able to get part time facilitators as hosts. Integral part of the system. 1,800 students made it to the outdoor classroom that year. There has been maintenance on the outdoor classroom

and the kids have been thrilled with the experience of going out there. The only problem with the program is transportation. Will it be funded next year?

Lizz Kohle- at this time we do not know, have not heard anything about it.

Jared Thompson- Teachers being involved in this program is essential to make it work. We would like to know who got to use the outdoor classroom.

Mrs. McEachren- Patricia Gagnon, she was part of the pioneer trail Foundation. Grade 3 class has attended and she has been a huge proponent of the outdoor classroom.

Lizz Kohle- Can you talk to your administration about this to see if they can help individual schools? With cutbacks always, but maybe there is some way they can help. I will bring it to the Trustee board.

Jared Thompson- There is nothing cheaper than Nature.

**AGM – May 25. Would like to keep an ear out for anyone considering volunteering and helping with the Parent Council in the next year. Will be looking for people in the next year.**

Other- Lacey Laing- Have we heard any news on the parking lot design?

Mr Chute- I have a meeting with my facility department next week, nothing formal but will have a meeting to discuss our needs for the parking lot to be addressed.

Adjournment 7:40 PM

7.1. Next Meeting – May 25, 2021