

## Regular Meeting Minutes

VCS Council  
February 4, 2021  
10:30am Via Zoom  
Meeting ID: 475 290 4212  
Chair: Teresa Boucher (780) 814-4827  
Vice Chair: Stacie Wright (587) 297-4522

In attendance: T. Boucher; P. Braseth; S. Mumert; S. Wright; M. Fricke; T. Fricke;  
K. Strand; C. Waldner; E. Dautel; J. Syme; B. Skaksen; M. Gilbert.

**Call meeting to order @ 10:34 am**

### **Approval of January 7, 2021 meeting minutes**

*T. Fricke motioned to approve January 7, 2021 minutes as is. M. Fricke 2<sup>nd</sup> AIF*

### **Principals Report:**

- *Mrs. Lowen still away. Mr. Duinker to finish out this week. Timetable will be adjusted to cover as no new teacher coming in. Mrs. Mumert to take over LA classes and EA's to cover PE classes.*
- *VCS in the beginning of Charter Renewal process – doesn't happen for another couple of years but year 3 of the 5-year renewal plan starts with a self evaluation.*
- *Public speaking this year: nothing open to the public. Still have judges that the winning speeches will be sent to and still have trophies/medals to hand out.*
- *Outdoor Ed – staff will be taking the March Teacher Convention days to stay at school and put together curriculum. Targets are to get each core class set up with related outdoor ed activities.*
- *It was mentioned that "AHEIA" is offering a free fishing course online. T. Boucher to send S. Mumert the link to look into.*
- *John and Betty looking into offering Hunters Ed.*

### **Chairs Report**

*-Valentines Day:*

*they will be allowed to be given out.*

*In class events likely to take place*

*Information needs to go out this week.*

*Staff to touch base with council if they want food supplied.*

*S. Wright motioned to approve release of funds to cover food for Valentines Day events. P. Braseth 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

*-Teacher Appreciation Day*

*- Start thinking about ideas as we can't have extra people in to supervise a lunch this year*

## **Treasurers Report**

Treasurer's Report February 4th, 2021

The Bank totals for this month are as follows:

Healthy Snack account: \$4146.53

Healthy Snack/Hot Lunch: \$2003.87

School Council Account: \$11884.25

Total: \$18034.65

There are still a few things to deposit from the Silent Auction. Hoping to have that finalized completely by next meeting.

Sound System:

Teresa reached out to the company that installed our sound system in the gym and we got a quote for the new expansion and extra mics and it is quite high.

\$14059.51 is the total of what the quote was for. Maybe we could talk more with him and see if maybe we can just do part of it now and get the expansion part in and then get new mics and transmitters at a later date.

What price would we be looking at to do that?

Bussing Cameras:

The cameras originally purchased were not actually meant for busses. John the Director of Transportation has looked into the proper equipment for the camera system and got a quote for 1 bus for \$3300.00. I feel that equipment such as cameras is not a school council funding issue, but previous council wanted to have these installed. How strongly does everyone feel they need this? If this is something that is needed, I think we could discuss helping the school cover some of the cost. The original purchase included cameras for 3 buses and only 1 was installed, the other 2 cameras have not been installed and the council should sell these other 2 cameras to try to recoup costs from the first purchase. I have emailed John about it, but he has only been able to find one of them.

Motion to sell cameras if they can be.

*Council does not want to cover the cost now as price has significantly increased from \$300 for the camera to \$3300 for a system.*

*P. Braseth motions to sell bus cameras. S. Wright 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

*-M. Fricke mentioned that TOG's offer to install still stands*

Sensory Path: Brandie Skaksen has talked to The Heritage Society and they have given us the go ahead to put it in on the floors. We will have to find out when the floors are getting rewaxed and arrange for this to be installed when that happens.

➤ Chromebooks for school

- School has an outdoor ed grant that can cover some of the costs for chrome books, were thinking at \$200 each council could do 5 and grant could cover 5, this would give the teachers 10 of the 18 they requested.

*P. Braseth motion to approve purchase of 5 chrome books for VCS. M. Fricke 2ns. AIF*

### **Board and TAAPCS Report:**

*TAAPCS- Superintendents met regarding Superintendent Compensation. This is renewing legislation in August; they have not yet received a meeting with Dept of Ed.*

*-John Picard to have a meeting today regarding possible purchase of PowerSchool (\$15000/year hoping TAAPCS will purchase for all charter schools so fee is not as great) Maplewood (current program) possibly going out of business.*

*-Replacing Bus 105 with a new one.*

*-Bylaw changes happening to accommodate online meetings.*

*TAAPCS next meeting is Feb 22nd.*

### **Updates on Committees:**

#### **Healthy Snack – Stacie Wright**

- Healthy snack report: tons of pizza in the freezer and a bunch of nutri grain bars in each class. Having the leftovers from the hot lunch program stored in the council freezer for kids who don't have a Lunch is proving to be a very efficient way of running that portion of healthy snack.

**Hot Lunch – Teresa Boucher**

- It was posted on Facebook and in the school’s newsletter that we are looking for someone to take over organizing our Hot Lunches, I am really hoping someone will take up this position as it can be done any time of the day and would only take a couple of hours a month.
- We also released funds for an extra hot lunch in January and then we missed the first one due to the kids being at home for online learning, so we decided to add another one in later in the month. Stacie was able to organize with CowBellas in Sexsmith to make BLT Wraps for \$3.50 each. They went over really well with the kids.
- A few of us on council were wondering if we should release funds to have up to 2 more hot lunches each month if we have parents willing to do them. They would have to be cheaper ones and not a pickup and deliver as they cost a lot more.

*S. Wright motioned to release funds to offer 2 more hot lunches each month. T. Fricke 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

- Our year end BBQ this year may look a lot different, it will be on June 25<sup>th</sup> and we need to plan on it being a plated delivered to classrooms meal. It would be nice to purchase the meat we are going to use for the BBQ during our H&M fundraiser. We did beef on a bun our last year end but before that we did hamburgers and hotdogs. If we are doing a plated service, it might be nice to stick with hamburgers and hotdogs. Need to have enough to feed 100 students and staff.

*P. Braseth motioned to purchase year end BBQ meat from out own H&M fundraiser. S. Wright 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

*It was mentioned that a fire pit cone has been donated to the school and could be used during year end BBQ. When the weather warms up the Jr. Highs will prepare a site for it. Loader/Trailer needed to unload it once it gets to the school, J. Syme mentioned possible use of a picker truck otherwise B. Skaksen, T. Boucher have or know of help to to get it unloaded.*

❖ February 5, 2021	❖ Hot Dog
❖ February 19, 2021	❖ Baked Pasta
❖ March 12, 2021	❖ Hot Dog
❖ March 26, 2021	❖
❖ April 16, 2021	❖ Hot Dog

❖ April 23, 2021	❖
❖ May 14, 2021	❖ Hot Dog
❖ June 11, 2021	❖
❖ June 25 last day of school	❖

### **Fundraising – Sarah Miller (780) 545-0523**

- Christmas Concert Auction Update – We are still missing payment on 2 items.
- New fundraiser Ideas
  - For the love of art – The school is doing a DeVry fundraiser and we are hoping to roll out a For the love of art fundraiser after that and in time to have the products back for Father’s Day. One of the things a couple of us discussed was to have an afterschool art class for each class, maybe get Shone and Britten in to teach the classes to the kids with permission to stay and rides home. Is this something we would be interested in paying for? We might not even make enough on the fundraiser to pay for the classes, but our kids are missing out on a lot of their art stuff this year due to the cutbacks in time at school.

*T. Boucher to look into pricing.*

- H&M – have it done and ready to deliver before Easter. Penny purchased the envelopes to put the fundraiser in and I have contacted H&M to see if we can get an Easter pack added to the fundraiser with ham and that kind of thing in it.  
*Fundraiser packages being sent out Monday. H&M to keep fundraiser as is, no Easter pack added.*  
*M. Fricke motioned to reimburse P. Braseth for purchases made towards the fundraiser (envelopes, etc.). S. Wright 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

### **Sanitization – Stacie Wright (587) 297-4522**

The short of it is parents are still unhappy and the school/board are still saying there is no budget to allow for the changes in how sanitization is done at the school. They also made the point that staff have fallen into a routine and changes may be disruptive. I would like to make a motion to shut the committee down as it doesn’t make sense to keep this open if there is no parent support. Further concerns can go to the board.

*S. Wright motion to close the Sanitization committee. P. Braseth 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

## **Communications –**

Facebook seems to be our only communications source at the moment, should we put it out there that we will give the kids at the school a pizza party if our Facebook page hits 200 members before the end of this school year to try and get our numbers up? We are currently at 131 members after our Christmas Auction.

*All agreed to posting this. Motion made in prior meeting to release funds.*

## **Class Reps**

Kristin did up a letter that will be sent out ASAP asking for one parent rep per grade.

*Only one response. P. Braseth to talk to parents as well.*

## **Shadowing of Executives**

- Steve mentioned at the last meeting that it might work to make a short video presentation to try and get some parent interest.

*P. Braseth figured out a video concept!*

## **Advocacy Information for helping keep Charter Schools open**

- ❖ Advocacy Information for helping keep Charter Schools open

- Tamara Fricke will be presenting.

*Motion sponsored was submitted and split into two motions. Waiting to hear what ASCA will respond with. Hoping its accepted and be into a vote in April. Basically, in a holding pattern for now.*

ASCA AGM is April 23-25, 2021 and we would like to make sure at least 2 of us attend. This year because the Alberta government cut 2/3<sup>rd</sup>s of the ASCA's budget they are charging a fee to have people attend. We were hoping to get a motion to release the funds for up to 4 people to attend from our council if they choose too.

*J. Syme motioned to approve release of funds for up to 6 people to attend ASCA AGM. S. Wright 2<sup>nd</sup>. AIF*

- ❖ Council Sign up form.

- The Council has modified the Engagement Opportunities for to be a Consent to contact form.

*T. Boucher to send to Anna to add into future Registration packages.*

❖ Zoom Coffee

- I am going to leave this open for discussion and if there is anything good or bad that arises in between meetings or even at a meeting that requires more discussion we will have more “Coffee” meetings. I think it was a very helpful step in gathering information on what has been working education wise for parents and what has not.

❖ ASCA Course

- A fee structure has now been put into place for taking ASCA Courses.  
*There are certain courses that Board members would like to join to gain clarity on parent council role.*

❖ Advisement to Principal on Education Standards.

- After the council held their coffee meet and made our initial advisement to the Principal, the board has formed a committee to investigate this in more depth. All the information we have gathered from parents so far has been sent to the committee. We also gathered some really wonderful information from 2 other schools we touched base with about how they modified their programming due to COVID.

*This is a regular Board committee. C. Waldner had been forwarded all previous information on this topic.*

❖ Black History in our Classrooms

*Posted on Facebook, no response as of meeting date.*

❖ Adjournment @ 11:40 am

❖ Reminder the next meeting date is March 4, 2021 at 10:30am via zoom.