HIDDEN VALLEY SCHOOL COUNCIL January 20, 2015 Minutes

PRESENT:

Lindsay Heynen - Chair Riana Robinson - Administrator Paul Sippel - Member Amy Stuart - Member Samson Hartland - Member

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Doug Graham, Minister of Education Peter Harmes

REGRETS:

Wendy Reid - Member

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Debra Jonasson

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	DECISION
	In-camera meeting from 5:30 to 6:00 pm	
1 Call to Order	The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.	
2 Welcome	Welcome to guests Peter Harmes, Mr. Graham and members.	
Peter Harmes – Bison Hunt Presentation	 Peter Harmes provided a presentation on the Bison Hunt. He spoke to the plan to include the Grade 5 class into this camp to help bring up the numbers in the camp to about 25 students. Samson asked about the crew for the hunt, Mr. Harmes noted that it changes every year as the parents each year change but they usually turn out ready to go and are a good crew. He spoke also to the concern in the proposal about only having two rifles in camp, he would like to have his rifle in camp, with him, as a backup; it would be in a locked case and used only for emergency cases in camp. Peter noted that the purpose of the hunt for the School is the experiential learning experience; the purpose of the hunt for the Community is to share the feast and the success of the hunt. There are also too many bison at present and there is a need to cull the herd. The council members noted that they were comfortable with the program and the proposal and all the components involved in the hunt. Peter asked if there are any more questions/concerns about the program and members had none at this time. Council thanked Mr. Harmes for his presentation and noted that they are in full support of this program. 	

Doug Graham, Minister of Education	Mr. Graham thanked Council for the invitation to join the meeting. He said a few words about his experience in Education and his new position as the Minister of Education.	
	He noted he has some ideas about education and primary education is one of his main focuses which ties into some of the concerns this Council has about the education system and education in this School in particular.	
	He also realizes there is somewhat of an image problem in the Education Department and he states they will be working very hard to correct some of these things.	140
	He stated that if there are some difficulties that Council wants to see addressed to not hesitate to contact him and bring it to his attention.	
	Mr. Graham noted that the Child Development Centre has excellent programs for gifted children. They have an age cutoff and once children enter school they can no longer access the resources for school age children but there may be a way to ask about these resources.	
	Doug asked if Council knew why the proposal that was put forward last year to bring students from Crestview out to Hidden Valley did not go ahead. Council felt that the proposal went so far in the Department and then it was stayed at that point.	
	Council noted there are some other issues that they will wish to discuss but will bring these up at a later time.	
	 There was discussion also about the numbers in the School and the number of students from the area who are being home schooled and how these numbers may be relevant to the school numbers and the FTEs allotted. Lindsay thanked Doug for his attendance. 	

5	Approval of: a) Agenda b) Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2014.	 a) Motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Peter Harmes' presentation, Doug Graham and correcting the wording of Approval of November minutes to 'December' minutes. b) Motion to approve meeting minutes of December 16, 2014 as presented by email. 	Resolution: Motion to approve the agenda for this meeting with the noted changes. Motion to approve meeting minutes from December 16, 2014. Duly moved and seconded. Vote: Unanimous
6	Chair Update:	 a. Chair Update Lindsay had a question for Riana about what happened in December when Amanda was away for some time and the fact that there was no replacement found for her position while she was away. Riana explained the situation to Council; it would take nearly two weeks to get a replacement for her and it was felt at this point in the year it would not have been worth looking for a replacement. Riana noted that they are looking for a French replacement but it is very difficult get someone to come in for a .4 position every day, no one has accepted at this time but they are hoping to fill this position next week. The music portion of this position has been filled in with other teachers. The French teacher position works from Tuesday to Friday from 11:30 to the end of the day. Samson asked if Riana asked if could provide him with a work flow chart with the FTE allocation is so that he can understand how the positions work and are allocated. Paul suggested that this situation may be worth bringing forward to represent the concern Council has with getting more students into the school to bring up enrolment in the School. Discussion about this issue and what Riana has been doing to try and find a sub for this position. There was discussion about the possibility of changing the 	Action: Riana to provide Samson with a work flowchart outlining the FTE allocation in the School.

- scheduling again to make it easier to get a sub to come in and make it part days for 5 days a week.
- Samson mentioned that if Riana requires some support with the Department to get the sub by next Wednesday to let them know and they can provide any support that they can.
- Riana will keep council posted.

b. Hot Lunch

- Georgina and Luke have both signed up to come help out for the Hot Lunch program.
- Lindsay had posted this request on the Facebook page and they responded.
- The next hot lunch is January 30, and they are serving pancakes.

c. Smoking

- Wendy had sent an email to Lindsay last Friday stating that she received a complaint from a parent about parents smoking in the parking lot outside their vehicle.
- There was some discussion about this complaint but as Wendy did not attend there is no further information at this time, Council is hesitant to take this further at this time without more information.
- It was decided they will wait to see if there is more information available from Wendy before deciding how or if they wish to address this situation.

d. Bussing Committee

 Lindsay noted that there is a Transportation meeting on January 27; Lindsay asked if Paul can attend and he agreed to attend.

- Samson asked if Paul could still be the Rep for this Council and Paul agreed that he could be.
- Paul asked how the bussing is working for the school and if there are have been any parent complaints and Riana confirmed that there have been no complaints about the scheduling.
- There was an issue of a child being hurt by another child on the bus but this issue has been addressed and resolved.
 Lindsay will follow up with the complainant parent to ensure that everything is good.

e) Playground Equipment

- Lindsay passed around some magazines and notes about possible playground equipment options. Lindsay showed some examples and what the costs would be and also showed some comparisons to what we are losing and what will be replaced.
- The two big toys out front are being replaced and Council looked at some similar toys and the related costs.
- \$80,000 is the cost of replacing those two big toys.
- Discussion about having multiple toys age specific to the different age groups rather than one very large toy that would be shared by all ages of students as an option.
- Discussion on how the tendering process works. Samson asked what the Department is asking us for. Lindsay stated that they want to know what we want to replace the toys with, what is the desired toy.
- Paul suggested that Council ask the question, how does the tendering process work? Suggests that the companies should be bidding on X dollars and then give the options of what is available for that money.

		 Members felt they need to know how the tendering works before going further in the decision for replacement equipment. Riana will email Mike and see if she can get some procedures from him on how the tendering works and then proceed from there in the matter of choosing the equipment. Lindsay asked if there was a preference over one large structure or two smaller ones. It was consensus that one large structure would be preferred. 	Action: Riana to email Mike and ask for the procedure on how the tendering process works and forward this information to Council members.
7	Administrator's Report (Riana Robinson)	Riana gave an overview of her report which is attached with the minutes. The Bison Hunt information was covered by Mr. Harmes. Weekday Warriors; they are no longer allowed to use the library as they were not tidying up. They have been using the foyer area for now and there is access to some books for reading. There are 17 students registered in the program. Website – The School will be taking over the management of the website and this will be happening soon. There will be a new web based site and now Riana will have full responsibility for the website, she will receive training on the new site. Amy suggested adding a link the Department future calendars to the website. Playground – spoken to. Open House - Jan. 29/15, this will allow parents to come in and children can show off what they have been doing and working on. Destination Imagination/Challenge Program: Grade 4-7 competition in February, the winning team goes to Tennessee but the sponsor of this program has withdrawn support so the winners may go to Tennessee or to BC for Provincials but there is a problem with funding.	

- Brenda asked if Council would be willing to help financially support a team from Hidden Valley to attend these locations if Hidden Valley were the winning team. There is a request to Council if they are prepared to assist if Hidden Valley School is the winning team. Riana suggested \$500-\$1,000 contribution towards the costs. The trip to Tennessee is in April as well as the trip to Vancouver. Samson noted that he is willing to commit funds to this program and other members were in agreement and a final decision will be made after the completion of the program and see who wins and if they will be travelling.
- Peaceful Warriors: Secured 5 free sessions for the school through some donations that were made.
- Upcoming Events/Activities:
 - Jan. 29 Open House Evening for Parents 5:30-7:30
 - Jan. 30 Parade @ 1:00
 - Feb. 3 Parade @ 11:00
 - Feb. 5 & 6 Grade 6 Polar Games
 - Feb. 17 School Council Meeting @ 6:00 pm.
 - Feb. 19 Whole School Swim 1:00-1:45
 - Feb. 20 Heritage Day No School
 - Feb. 27 Report Cards go home
- Amy noted that in the past she knows that when there was an assembly, Grades would take turns to provide some entertainment and she was wondering if this could be an option for this School to have different grades present some entertainment at these assemblies.
- Riana will speak with the other teachers and ask for their thoughts on this idea.

Action: Riana will speak with the teachers regarding the matter of having different Grades present entertainment during assemblies.

		 Amy asked if there will be a talent show this year and Riana said there is one planned; Amber was going to organize this but now that she is out they will have to look at who can help organize this in her absence. Bison hunt is 7th of March. Reports now going out March 6 or 7 not the February 27 as the program for completing report cards will be down on the 27th. Amy had a question about report cards; she would like to know how the students are graded for math if they were in a higher math program than the rest of their class. Riana noted that there is usually a comment in the comment box about the level they are in but there will be no box check for that higher math level. Riana can look into this and confirm if this is so and get back to Amy on how that is done. 	Action: Riana to look at the report card to confirm that there is no check box for children taking a higher level in a program and how it is handled on the report card.
8	Financial Report a) Account balance b) Financial Statement	The current account balance is \$9,036.75 as of January 20, 2015. The financial statement for December was distributed by email. Motion to accept financial statements as presented.	Resolution: Motion that the December 2014 financial statement be accepted as tabled. Duly moved and seconded. Vote: Unanimous
9	General Discussion	 Lindsay asked for motion to pass the Bison Hunt trip. Amy asked if there was anything more on grocery bagging; Lindsay noted there was no response from parents. 	Resolution: Motion to pass the Bison Hunt trip package as presented at the meeting. Duly moved and seconded. Vote: Unanimous

		Discussion about calling and setting up a day and then schedule slots for different grades.	
10	Correspondence	No new correspondence.	
11	Date for next meeting.	The Monthly meetings will be every third Tuesday @ 6:00, unless otherwise posted. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 In-camera @ 5:30 pm; Public 6:00 pm.	
10	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.	

Prepared by:

Debra Jonasson, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved by:

Lindsay Heynen, Chair