



A.L. Fortune Secondary Parent Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes January 14, 2021  
Online Zoom Meeting

- 1) Meeting called to order 5:18pm.
- 2) Attendance: Mel Hamilton, Meagan Erickson, Kathy Nadeau, Nadine Golz, Chris Matheson, Scott Anderson,.
- 3) Motion to approve December 2020 Minutes: Mel Hamilton, Second Kathy Nadeau
- 4) **Business arising from previous meeting.** One final teacher request has come in, Mr. MacDonald has requested 5-10 chess sets and clocks for the chess club he is hoping to start up. He currently has 10-15 students interested. *It was decided that we would support this proposal, that if the children have expressed interest in learning chess we would fund 5 chess sets at this time and if the club takes off we would look at the possibility of adding clocks.*

**Ideas for new projects for the PAC to take on/fund for the school.** Mr. Anderson brought up the idea of funding new water refilling stations. He has recently had a meeting with the operations department who advised him that if the PAC was willing to fund one water refilling station, the operations department would then purchase a second and they would also pay for the labour to install both water stations. Being that the fountains are closed due to COVID-19 safety protocols it is recommended that a school of this size have 3 water refilling stations, the school currently has one. Each water refilling station costs \$2500.00. *The PAC has decided to go ahead with the water station funding based on the understanding that the district operations department will fund a second and pay for and provide the labour for installation.*

**Lions Letter of support** - the PAC has finalized the letter for the lions club with one addition - to confirm the amount we are asking support for which would be for one set of jerseys for a total of \$2140.00 (\$2000 + 140GST - the school can recover the rest of the GST and PST is not charged.). Meagan will send and update the PAC on any response from the Lions Club.

- 5) DPAC update: The discussion at the DPAC meeting was mainly around Covid-19 and the process for the school/district to notify parents which is currently being looked at in order to be more efficient for both schools, teachers and families. They will also be sending out a survey to parents in the coming weeks looking for input on education tops and formats for this year as they are likely looking to go virtual based on the current and probable restrictions going forward with regards to gatherings due to COVID-19

6) Principal Report: There was a reported case of COVID-19 at AL Fortune prior to the Christmas Break. Interior Health contacted the school at 3:20pm on December 18th (The last day of school) informing administration that there was a positive case. The administration worked with IH for two hours with contact tracing information that time. The protocol is that IHA must contact the superintendent who then contacts the school. "Privacy is Paramount" in these situations Mr. Anderson explained and two letters are sent out (self isolate, and self monitor). To ONLY the families of students identified by IHA. On Dec 18, they asked about contacting the school community (including parents) however IHA recommended against this and that a supervisor would contact the superintendent who would contact the administration and a decision would then be made. The school then contacted the superintendent with all the information and waited for a phone call. By December 20, no contact had been made and they decided to go ahead on Monday to contact the school community. The message to the superintendent finally came from IHA on December 27. Unfortunately the message had gotten to the community prior to the school being able to reach out and parents were outraged that they were not informed sooner. Based on this situation and SD83 and IHA are working together to change its policy/guidelines regarding rumours of positive tests or exposures. What this will look like is to be determined. Unfortunately in this situation (a new one for everyone) the administration was put in a difficult situation. The School does its utmost in every situation to be transparent to parents and its community, and they did the best they could based on the information they were allowed to give out during this critical timeline and will continue to do so.

During the last week of school was spirit week! including ugly sweater day, tacky tourist day, jersey day, cohort colour day and pajama day as well as nobody's perfect concert!

The annual food drive this year was incredibly successful. The grade 7-8 cohort raised the most and won pop and chips for their prize! The staff also did their own drive and raised cash for the foodbank. The staff also did a drive to support specific vulnerable school families.

The semester ends Jan 28/21.

Turnaround day is Jan 29/21.

New semester begins Feb 01/21

Report Cards go home Feb 11/21

A new Attendance initiative - Mr. Matheson explained that they will be starting a new initiative to encourage more accountability to both parents and students regarding attendance. If a student misses several classes within a week (Where the school has not been contacted). The teacher will contact the parent by email. After two weeks, they will then call the parent to discuss and encourage. After three weeks a letter is then sent home by the administration and they will continue from there. This is designed to be a positive thing, to help to encourage students to attend. When a child misses more than 10-15% of their classes it really begins to affect their ability to learn. Even though with this year, being that students are missing classes due to Covid precautions they still hope that parents will continue to contact the school and communicate they know the student is home etc..

8) Financial Report:

General Account:  
\$4526.48

Gaming Account:  
Balance: \$10,667.37

Erin Baker- the student who was awarded the 2020 scholarship, nothing has come through for her? Do we have contact information for her to confirm she has registered so we are able to get a cheque to her? Scott will let us know.

9) Next meeting is February 11, 2021.

10) Meeting adjourned at:6:16pm