

We are now about halfway through our school year and there are some important updates to pass on.

Thank you to everyone involved in our school's Public Speaking event on February 7. It was a great pleasure to hear the skill with which these students delivered their speeches, though it made the judging very difficult. In addition, the younger students were a delight and promise more great speaking for the coming years.

As you may be aware, in response to a letter received by the board in November, we have been reviewing our bylaws regarding director qualifications. Our bylaws under Article 2: Board of Directors read:

Section 2: Qualifications

a) The Directors must be;

i) 18 years of age or older

ii) parents or guardians of children attending the VCS, or

iii) community members who are supportive of the mission of the VCS

b) Staff currently employed by the VCS may not be a Director

After several discussions, a motion was made, and tabled to the February 28 agenda, to amend Article 2 Section 2 a. iii) to read: "community members, *who do not have children eligible to attend VCS*, but who are supportive to the mission of the VCS". Our plan is to circulate this proposed change through this newsletter and parent council, invite feedback and then follow our bylaws regarding amendments, which includes the requirement for Ministerial approval for any changes.

The **Valhalla School Foundation Annual General Meeting** has been set for **Friday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in the Viking Room**. Thank you to the Valhalla Church youth group for offering to provide childcare in the gym during the meeting. Two directors are coming to the end of their terms and our interim position will need to be elected at that time. Diane Nordhagen has stated that she will not be letting her name stand for another term, Tara Fehr has not yet confirmed her plans and Donna Steyer has agreed to let her name stand for the position she has been filling in the interim. In any event, interested individuals, who fit the qualifications stated in the bylaws, are able to let their names stand for election as a charter board director. Directors are elected for three year terms. An information package for potential nominees can be picked up at the office. Part of this package is *The VSF Director Nomination Profile Agreement*, which needs to be signed by anyone entering his or her name as a nominee.

A few final notes:

In order to increase our superintendent's opportunity for time in the school, a motion has been passed to move May's **Regular Charter Board meeting** to **Wed., May 29, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

We are pleased to have been accepted to present about our school at the Rural Education Symposium in Canmore, March 3-5.

Our board has agreed to cook and serve breakfast on Sunday, June 30 for Valhalla's 100 year celebration. Let us know if you would like to help!

We expect to hear very soon regarding our renewal, however at this time notice has not been received.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me. We are grateful for the consideration, support and input we enjoy from our families and community, as we work together to be an effective school.

Happy Family Day weekend! It's a great opportunity to get out to the Spring Lake Ski Hill!

Jolene Kochendorfer, Chair