



June 18, 2015

MINUTES

VALHALLA SCHOOL FOUNDATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING

In attendance:

J. Picard (by Skype) J. Kochendorfer B. Skaksen B. Kjemhus T. Campbell
E. Penner S. Mumert K. Rosvold J. Moutray

Absent: J. Hauger, sent regrets, 1 vacant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA Called to order with a quorum present at 6:08pm. (15/6-1) B. Kjemhus made motion for agenda acceptance with amendments, AIF

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES (May 28/2015) (15/6-2) T. Campbell made motion to accept the minutes as with the correction of the wording of Transportation in 4.0. AIF.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: Everyone who is on the signing authority will have to go to the ATB in Hythe to fill out the papers.

4.0 BOARD DEVELOPMENT: Due to potential length of meeting tabled to September meeting.

5.0 Reports

5.1 Chair: J. Kochendorfer gave an oral report including the fact that she participated in an EAC conference call where the concern was raised that the new government may not be overly supportive of the Charter system.

5.2 Transportation Director: attached.

5.3 Secretary Treasurer: financials were explained and questions were raised about policy for budget overages.

E. Penner arrived 6:25 pm

5.4 Principal: attached.

5.5 Superintendent: attached.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS: reports list altered as per agenda motion

6.1 Executive Committee:

6.1.1 Tabled to 8.3

6.5 Governance Committee:

6.5.1 Board Vacancy- R. Kjemhus has been doing some recruiting will continue to look.

6.4 Program Committee:

6.4.1 Second Language Discussion- (15/6-3) B. Kjemhus moved that the school move from offering two second languages to one second language and that language to be French at this time. E. Penner seconded. Regretfully carried. The board has come to this decision due to budgetary, time tabling and resource constraints. (15/6-4) T. Campbell moved to transition grades 1-6 into French and to let grades 7-9 be given the option of French or German to finish their junior high years starting in the fall of 2015. E. Penner seconded, 3 in favor, 1 abstained from vote. (15/6-5) B. Skaksen moved that all families be notified of the language changes immediately by several methods, offered the opportunity for feedback and that the letters be signed by parents acknowledging the change. B. Kjemhus seconded. AIF.

6.2. Finance Committee:

6.2.1: Budget 2015-2016. (15/6-6) B. Kjemhus moved to approve spring budget as presented, B. Skaksen seconded. AIF.

6.3 Human Resources Committee: Nothing to report.

6.6 Fund Development Committee:

6.6.1 Fund Development Plan- Discussed potential evacuation plans. Many ideas floating around will have a meeting to further develop.

6.7 Reports from Partner Organizations

6.7.1 VHS: Meeting with VHS went very well, funding options discussed and suggestions made.

6.7.2 VCS: Nothing to report

6.7.3 Playground: Nothing to report

6.7.4 TAAPCS: meeting minutes distributed. Directors meetings will be held on Oct 30, 2015

7.0 OLD BUSINESS Nothing at this time

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Canada Day/ Communities in Bloom. We will set up a table for Canada Day with information and cookbooks. Communities in Bloom is on July 27, 2015.

8.2 Future Meetings: August 29, 2015 there will be a board strategic planning meeting with Garry Andrews.

8.3 Superintendent Contract (in camera): (15/6-7) B. Kjemhus moved to go in camera at 9:04pm. (15/6-8) B. Skaksen moved to come out of camera at 9:20pm. (15/6-9) B. Kjemhus moved to approve the superintendent contract with the same terms and conditions beginning September 1, 2015 until August 31, 2018. E. Penner seconded, AIF.

Other business: (15/6-10) B. Kjemhus moved to reimburse B. Skaksen's \$57.50 for the Canada Day supplies. T. Campbell seconded, AIF.

9.0 Evaluation of Meeting: Very difficult discussion regarding Second Language decision. It would have been preferable to have done this earlier in the year and to have had time to get more parent input. In spite of the challenges, participants were very good about openly sharing their viewpoints, respectfully listening to others, and thoroughly examining the topic to the best of their ability given the time limitations.

Importance of government lobby for transportation funding was discussed. K. Rosvold and J. Picard are seeking contact information for the lobby groups that are working on this topic.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT: (15/6-11) B. Skaksen made motion to adjourn at 9:30pm

Next meeting is September 17, 2015


J. Kochendorfer – Chair


K. Rosvold Secretary-Treasurer

TRANSPORTATION REPORT JUNE, 2015

A few things going on over the past month,

I talked to my contact at Alberta Transportation regarding placing advertising on school buses, at first he was quite negative but would look into it for us. He hasn't got back to me yet.

We had bus 108 breakdown on the evening run where a heater core split inside the cabin, the anti-freeze ran all over the floor. Shelly did a wonderful job of supervising the students changing buses when I bought the spare down.

From all reports the Jasper Trip was a huge success, Lorraine did a great job getting the students there and back safely.

All 3 of our new buses have been booked in with the bus centre for warranty work to be done in Edmonton over the summer. The plan is to take 2 buses down with Paul Gibson picking us up and taking us home, I will swap out the remainder bus when one is repaired.

On a sadder note Jason has decided to call it quits driving the bus, he has purchased another business which will take up his extra time. Jason is the last of the original drivers who has been with the school since 2008, his experience will certainly be missed and I wish him all the best and thank him for his service to our school, Jason has let his name stand as a spare driver time permitting.

I offered Lorraine the run and she has accepted the challenge, Lorraine has proven herself to be more than capable of handling this job.

As far as having a plan if I cannot do my job as Transportation Director/mechanic,

I have talked to Doug, Jason and Robby K if they would be willing to step in if it was necessary, we have a variety of talented people like Doug k, Robby K, Mike T, Gerald B, William M who could do minor repairs if it was required again all these folks have full time jobs but would be willing to help if they can. If major repairs are required Cummins in GP, Western Star in GP [dealer for Freightliner], Waterous [dealer for the Allison transmissions] would be the best option as the buses have warranty until 2017.

The year has about come to an end; we have a lot of people to thank,

Our drivers, Teresa, Shelly, Janelle, Jason

Our Spare drivers, Frieda, Lorraine

A special Thank You to Paul Gibson who does so much for our school and the Transportation side, much more than people realize.

Joanne and Ted at PW for all their advice and willingness to help if we have a problem over the school year

Again a special Thanks to Doug K for all the times that I call him for help and advice which he willingly gives out, I would be lost without him and his wisdom.

Behind the scenes, Anna and Steve, for their help in the smooth running of the buses and safety of the students to and from school, the base radio in the office has proved to be invaluable quite a few times.

I have talked to Tyrecraft in regards to selling our 6 excess tyres and putting the credit towards new tyres for our 4 newest buses which uses a larger size.

Thanks

John.

Principal's Report

To the VSF Charter Board

JUNE 18, 2015

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CURRENT STATUS

Enrolment

Projections				
2014/15	Classroom	2015/2016 (without new)	Classroom	Wait List
ECS – 13	13	12	12	K-1
Gd 1 – 9, Gd 2 – 13	22	Gd 1 – 11, Gd 2 – 8	19	Gd 1 – 0, Gd 2 – 0
Gd 3 – 6, Gd 4 – 10	16	Gd 3 – 13, Gd 4 – 5	18	Gd 3 – 1, Gd 4 – 0
Gd 5 – 7, Gd 6 – 16	23	Gd 5 – 8, Gd 6 – 6	14	Gd 5 – 1, Gd 6 – 0
Gd 7 – 11	11	15	15	Gd 7 – 0
Gd 8 – 11	11	8	8	Gd 8 – 0
Gd 9 – 14	14	10	10	Gd 9 – 0
TOTAL	110		96	3

- Enrolment – estimated numbers (Gd K-9:99, Gd 1-9: 86), FTE: 92.5 (K-9),
 - Jan., 2015: K-9 was 110, 1-9 was 110, FTE was 103.5
- Special Education students
 - One PUFs student– funding applied for
 - One Code 44 student (Grade 3) – funding will not be renewed
 - Several diagnosed (some medicated) ADHD students ... these are not funded
 - Many ESL coded students (grant available)

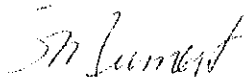
Recent Activity

- Ongoing work with students, teachers and parents on student management
- Ongoing work with families regarding attendance issues
- Ongoing work with Transportation Director and drivers on student management and other concerns
- Ongoing work with Secretary/Treasurer on admin, finance
- Monthly curriculum/program updates for parents have been implemented; admin working with teachers to ensure close family contact as needed for individual students
- June 1 – School Council Meeting
- June 3-6 – Grade 5/6 Jasper field trip
- June 13 – Superintendent meetings
- June 15 - Finance Committee Meeting
- VCS Track and Field Day

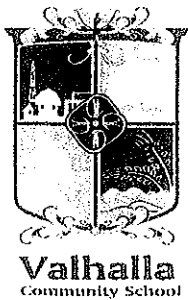
LOOKING AHEAD

- June 17-22 – Grade 6 PATs, Grade 7/8 Final Exams
- June 19 – Grade 9 Farewell
- June 23-26 – Grade 9 PATs
- June 26 – Last day, VCS windup family barbeque
- 2015/16 Staff Planning
 - One teacher on maternity leave – replacement selected for balance of year... some uncertainty about the replacement's assignment for next fall (likely not full time – at this time looking like about 0.57 FTE)
 - One EA (part time) not returning. Currently no replacement for this position being planned
 - Considering combining grade 8/9 for next year to reduce teacher costs
 - Of note: Mrs. Mumert is requesting that her teaching assignment be reduced to 0.50 FTE for 2015/2016. She plans to work with dyslexic students and their families in the afternoons.
- Considerations for budget planning
 - cutting expense budget in all possible areas: PD, Principal Expense, assessments, TAAPCS membership
 - seeking discussions with VHS re increased cost sharing, future collaboration
- Addressing need for student recruitment: Newspaper Ad, Direct mail-out pamphlet. *Recognize need to repeat mailout and other communication means through the summer as families start considering school for the fall.*
- Seeking board direction concerning VCS Second Language programming: implications for cost, timetabling, staff assignments.
- Need to continue working toward improved communication of our message with the wider community as well as *improving classroom to home communication*. We need to strengthen our message that parents need to partner with VCS by ensuring a daily (on school days) after-school, monitored homework time for doing assignments and (perhaps more importantly) studying core school subjects. We need to develop better tools/helps for parents to implement this practice.
- I continue to look forward to discussion with the board and any individuals concerning the ongoing direction of our school. The reality of the challenges all schools face can only be met by continual, creative cooperation by all of our school community ... something that I hold to be a privilege to be a part of!

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Mumert, Principal



Valhalla School Foundation

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

June 18, 2015

Main Activities and Developments

- **Strategic Planning Follow-up**
- **Budget / Registration / Finance committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Re-registration**
- **Cathy Rasmussen – Charter, Second language, Charter Evaluation**

Staff and Board Communication

- **Steve Mumert – Budget, Recruitment, Registration, Student Discipline**
- **Karen Rosvold – Budget / Financial Summaries**
- **Board Chair – Agenda, Superintendent contract/ Registration/ Budget**
- **John Moutray – Budget, bus advertising**

Planning and Priorities

- **2015-2016 Budget**
- **Recruitment of students**
- **Academic Improvement**
- **Strategic Planning**
- **Charter Update**
- **Future of VSF/VHS arrangement for facility**

- **Critical needs:**
 - **long-term, sustainable fund development to support school operation and transportation needs**

*Respectfully,
John Picard*