

Saskatchewan Community Schools Association

General Meeting

Wednesday, June 4th, 2008

10:30 am – 2:30 pm

Coronation Park Community School

3105 – 4th Ave North, Regina, SK

(306) 791-8570

Minutes

In Attendance:

1. Delphine Melchert, Coord., Riverside Comm. School, SRSD#119, PA, SK
2. Darlene Furber, Coord., Turgeon Comm. School, PA Catholic SD, PA, SK
3. Tanya Price-Wright, Coord., VMCS, PA, SK
4. Michele Brown, Principal, Regina Seperat SD, Regina, SK
5. Beth Bonnor, Coord., St Francis, Regina Catholic SD, Regina, SK
6. Wendy Dice, Coord. CCHS, NLSD #113, La Ronge, SK
7. Jane Robillard, Coord, Creighton Comm. School, Creighton, SK
8. Alison Bruneau, Coord. Father Gorman Comm. School, Lloyd, SK
9. Marilyn Fazakas, Coord. Kitchener Comm. School, Regina, SK
10. Ross Tait, Coord. Tommy Douglas Collegiate, Saskatoon, SK
11. Ron Richardson, Superintendent, Student Services, NE School Div. Melfort
12. Jan Radwanski, Coord., Empire Comm. School, Moose Jaw, SK
13. Phyllis Fowler, Coord., Nutana Collegiate, Saskatoon Public, SK
14. David Ripplinger, Principal, O'Neill High School, Regina Catholic, SK
15. Lawrence Biegler, VP, O'Neill High School, Regina Catholic, SK
16. Dan Orescanin, VP, Empire School, Moose Jaw, SK
17. Ward Strueby, VP, Palliser Heights School, Moose Jaw, SK
18. Brenda Kitchemonia, Coord. St Mary's, Yorkton Catholic, SK
19. Cheryl Villeneuve, Nutrition, St. Mary's, Yorkton Catholic, SK
20. Krystal Fehrenbach, Coord. Carlyle Elementary, Carlyle, SK
21. Sharon McCarthy, Consultant, Prairie Valley SD, SK
22. Debbie Peterson, Coord., Grenfell Comm. School, PVSD, Grenfell, SK
23. Dianna Kozak, Coord., Yorkton Dr. Brass, GSSD, Yorkton SK
24. Lori Pulai, Coord., King George CS, SPSD., Saskatoon, SK
25. Pam Appleby, Coord., St. Catherine CS, RSSD#81, Regina, SK
26. Sean Chase, VP, St. Augustine CS, RCSD, Regina, SK
27. Starla Grebinski, Principal, Sacred Heart CS, Moose Jaw, SK
28. Maureen Johns Simpson, Exec Director, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education
29. Lori Lancaster, Coord. Sacred Heart CS, Moose Jaw, SK
30. Carol Kivell, Coord. Pleasant Hill CS, Saskatoon, SK
31. Melinda Brown, Coord., Caroline Robins CS, Saskatoon, SK
32. Cec Chambul, Coord., Confederation Park CS, Saskatoon, SK
33. M. Guy Binette, Principal, St. Mary North Battleford, LOCCSD#16, SK
34. Jason Danyluk, Coord. St. Mary North Battleford, SK
35. Erica Kokoski, Coord. Bethlehem Catholic HS, RCSSD#20, SK

36. Tricia Carter, Coord. Bishop Roborecki, GSCS, SK

1. Welcome & Introductions:

SCSA President, Delphine Melchert, thanked everyone for attending at this busy time in the school year. Delphine also extended our thanks to Greg Harding for hosting this meeting. Delphine welcomed and introduced Maureen Johns Simpson, Executive Director of First Nations and Métis Unit of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Education. Delphine thanked her for the opportunity to meet with the Ministry and for the opportunity of those in attendance to ask questions.

2. Additions/adoption to the Agenda:

Motion: by Wendy Dice, 2nd by Alison Bruneau

To move Updates from the Ministry of Education (#13) to number 3 on the agenda.

3. Updates from Ministry of Education: (Community Schools have been moved from the Children's Services Unit to the First Nations and Métis Unit of the Minister of Education)

Maureen Johns Simpson, Executive Director, First Nations and Métis Unit & Ted Amendt, Director, First Nations and Métis Unit who sends his regrets.

Maureen was looking forward to the new partnerships and a smooth transition that would be somewhat unnoticed. She has some new ideas that will be included within this transition and indicated that the Community of Hope document has not changed. The philosophy of the First Nations and Métis Unit is holistic in that it needs to meet the whole child and Youth population. Maslow's hierarchy of needs is essential to the whole child philosophy, food, shelter, and belonging allows for learning to take place. All these needs are a very critical part of the whole child. The First Nations and Métis Unit is guided by culturally affirming and responsive approaches to education. The vision is that partnerships are inclusive of the home, school, community and government, where the classroom is the world and the curriculum is life that must meet the diverse needs of all students.

Goal: Student achievement for all students at different achievement levels. An education system that is comprehensive, holistic and culturally affirming.

Maureen Johns Simpson(Handout)

The principals and goals dovetail on the principals of community education.

Highlight from her handout:

Nēhiyawēwin 10/20/30 (The people – Language & Culture) common curriculum framework for Aboriginal Language and Culture Programs.

First Nations and Métis Education Policy Framework – This policy will provide the vision, goals, and outcomes to provide the strategic direction for the provincial education system in relation to FNME.

A time for significant leadership – is a comprehensive, flexible and responsive capacity building strategy that focuses on supporting schools and school divisions as they develop local school plans for FNME.

Curriculum Renewal – The many First Nations and Métis peoples involved throughout the province are ensuring that First Nation and Métis contend, perspectives, and ways of knowing are foundationally placed in the curriculum.

Circles of Science – Circles of Science is an opportunity for teachers to be supported in understanding what Indigenous science is. “Knowledge Sharing Fair”

Community Education Transition – Transfer of responsibility of Community Education to First Nations and Métis Education Branch. The FNME Branch will be working diligently to ensure community education philosophy, practices, and holistic responses occur in all schools for the benefits of all learners.

Partnerships – Partnerships between school divisions and First Nations and Métis organizations are continuing to develop across the province.

Representative Workforce – The Saskatchewan School Boards Association continues to work on the Aboriginal Employment Development program with supports from the Ministry of Education.

Personal Note: I have been in community schools and community education is part of our hearts that shaped and woven who we are. We are striving to have this transition as smooth and seamless as possible. A community education position will be developed in the near future.

Discussion:

- Curriculum Cree 10/20/30
- Will there be an immersion/instruction Cree
- PAGC has an online curriculum resource – Gift of Language and Culture
- Will there be a movement away from Community School Coordinators? – The Ministry feels that coordinators role is very important and there has been no discussion to change or eliminate coordinator positions. The Ministry has no mandate to change coordinators and or community school educational associate job descriptions.
- There is a direct line in the FOG grant for community schools, however how that money is spent, nutrition, coordinators, and EA’s will not be individually categorized.
- School Divisions have autonomy to use their FOG grant as they want.
- The up-coming review of the diversity grants will include new programs, Elders in schools and IMED. The Ministry will be following the Communities of Hope Rubric for community school coordinators and will review how the rubric links to address student achievement.

Victoria Jerome

- The ministry wants to be creative and to think outside of what is “normal” or what is being done now.
- Make clear how the community schools philosophy links to student achievement
- It was requested that Pre-K be added to the total number of students in each school.
- Pre-K is part of the Early Learning Department
- High Schools need extra supports such as, social workers & nutrition

- Reflected in supports to staff: principals/vice principals only counted as .25
- The new ministry wants to develop collaboratively with any changes to the community Education Philosophy by linking community education to student achievement
- Student achievement link to attendance – what can be done, transiency (student tracking) Minister of Education will receive detailed reports from each school division.
- Nutrition announcement – amounts to about \$5000 for each school for 4 years
- There is a proposed Rubric for Nutrition being done by DSS, health and the Ministry of Education. The proposed date for review is December 2008
- Link to attendance: Track all schools (urban and rural) tracking from Reserves, other rural schools and urban centers
- School Plus is still alive and falls under the umbrella of FNME, student services

On behalf of Ted Amendt:

- Great to be back working in community education
- The ministry review will include what are the supports to student achievement and accountability to student achievement.

Delphine thanked Maureen Johns Simpson for spending her time to meet with us and for continuing the commitment to community school philosophy and community education. We look forward to moving forward and forming a lasting partnership and collaborative process. Delphine also welcomed the announcement for additional nutrition funding and the ministries work towards food security. (¾ of community school coordinators seek funds for nutrition snacks for their students which can consume up to 50% of their time seeking funds, also school equipment, fridges, freezers, need to be replaced)

4. Minutes from last meeting - January 23, 2007:

Motion: by Wendy Dice, 2nd by Carol Kivell

To adopt the minutes as presented with no errors or omissions

5. Business arising from the minutes:

None

6. Report on meeting with Minister Krawetz and Deputy Minister Roadhouse (Attached – History of Community Schools, Overview of CS, CS today & partnerships, Day in the life in a CS, Closing recommendations – Early learning, homelessness, prosperity, First Nations and reform the working committee) (Attached) Community Schools – Putting the “Plus” in Education

7. Community School Pamphlet:

Attached – to be distributed through local Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of First Nation Metis Education wants to endorse the pamphlet and the final

- pamphlet will be released after that is complete. The goal is to have the pamphlets available at the fall conference in Regina
8. **Financial Report: (attached)**
Motion by Tanya Price-Wright to accept the reports as presented: (Attached)
General Account: 2nd by Krystl Fehrenback, all in favor, Carried
Weyerhaeuser Planting Dreams Account: 2nd by Cec Chambal, all in favor, Carried
 9. **Newsletter:**
The newsletter has been postponed till the fall. Please get your submissions in.
 10. **Website:**
The website is a great resource, the newsletters will be up-dated and the conference 2008 information will be up-dated as well.
 11. **Membership:**
In the fall a mail out will be done to get the memberships in. Fees are at \$50 year
 12. **Conference 2008:**
October 22-24, 2008
IPSCO Place (Exhibition Grounds) Regina, Saskatchewan
The Key note speaker: Dr. Stephen Lewis
Theme: Exploring Unity in CommUnity
Registrations will be sent out in September 2008
Gifts: Cards by Richard Dubois, these cards are specific to the conference and will not be sold to others.
Registration will be processed through the SCSA treasurer, Margaret Marsollier
Conference presentations will valuable for every staff member, parents, partners and community members
Both days will include a continental breakfast and lunch
- Regional Reports**
A summary of new initiatives in each region were reported on
(Reports Attached)
13. **Adjournment & Next Meeting**
TBA