

Riverstone School Council Meeting

Wednesday January 17, 2024

Location: Riverstone Public School & Google Meet

In Person: Kelsey, Sherri, Kara, Jill, James, Cherish, Amanda, Danielle, Ray, Tracy & Cory

Google meet: no one

1. Call to order 7:00pm
2. Approval of previous minutes- Kara & Danielle
3. Division Update
 - Trustee- Council Liaison meeting moved to Feb 29. Sherri & Kara will attend
 - Blanket Exercise invite for Feb27. This is a Symbolic experience by an elder.
 - Update on transportation for the division. So far has a 99.8% on time rate this year.
4. Principle Report- Jill
 - Thank you to all pancake makers/volunteers. Another great event.
 - Current school count is 690. Not many students moved over the holidays this year. We are seeing more move in to the community rather than leaving.
 - Registration is coming up for Kindergarten in March.
 - Grade 4 & 7 survey is coming. Will be mailed out again this year with an access code. Hopefully this will be mailed out smoother than last year. Lots of reminders to come as many don't check their mail boxes often enough and there is a deadline. Only 18 were filled out last year. Hopefully we can get higher numbers this year to get more accurate information. Students also participate but it is done at the school in class.
 - Alberta Education Survey is also done but is by random selection.
 - School calendar draft for the next school year is out. Will return after the Sept long weekend. Positive feedback from both teachers and parents on how we did school supply drop off & meet new teachers this past year. Hopefully will do the same next year as well. Christmas break will begin a couple days earlier than this year. Will need to touch base with teachers on a plan going forward for parent teacher interviews based on the draft calendar. Will get back to us at another time.
 - Annual Education Results Report is in. 2023 school year shone a light on strengths and areas of growth in the focus on building a connected school community. The greatest achievement is the drastic increase in our Grade 8 results of student connection, specifically feeling like staff know and care about them, overall safety at school and confidence in recommending our school to

others. Embedding opportunities in our junior high grades this past year by increasing opportunities for student voice, leadership, connection and citizenship, and continued student choice in our Grade 8 celebrations directly resulted in students feeling connected. Integrating presentations from our RCMP and Indigenous liaison into classrooms and school- wide assemblies continues to create connections not only with each other but with our community members. The other drastic increase we see is in our Grade 6 results where students feel they can manage their personal life while maintaining their happiness, and being able to identify one adult they feel connected to at school. This connection is attributed to an above average response of support early in the year to address a high level of peer conflict. During the year we worked closely with an identified group of students and parents to educate, problem solve, and provide on-going support. Through Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) with the CONNECT team, RCMP presentations on bullying and the effects on social media, classroom visits by administration, mental health and wellness connections, and proactive supervision efforts our students gained awareness and established positive relationships with staff.

- Jill recently had a discussion with a parent at our school named Cory. They had a length discussion about his current findings in common apps our children are using. Cory is a big tech guy and had recently spent a lot of time researching apps after his daughters behavior drastically changed at home. His findings found that very common games/apps have hidden chat groups. After searching he found a thousand chats within one specific app (Roblox). He thought this was a innocent game his daughter was playing with friends. But he quickly discovered the very inappropriate messages and photos his daughter had been receiving from all over the world. After speaking with the parents of her friends who also thought it was a innocent game and showing them how to find these hidden chats they discovered the other girls had loads of these messages and very inappropriate photos. Many apps are this way but not many parents know how to properly find these chats. Cory is willing to put together a information/ how to night so more parents can become aware of whats truly happening within these apps. He will work on this and be in touch with Jill and will get back to us all.
- UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES
 - Jan 22-27 is literacy week
 - Jan 31 Nite Hawk
 - Feb 16-19 Alberta Winter Games. We are hosting 296 athletes

5. Pancake Day

- Went great. Even finished up a little earlier this year (10:45am)
- Emailed notes to our email for next year.. supplies used, amount of volunteers etc

6. OPEN FLOOR

7. Adjournment 8:01pm Next meeting February 21 @ 7pm