

EMMS PAC Meeting Minutes  
September 24, 2024

Call to order at 7:04pm - Jeri Martens

- Attendance in person and online

1. Welcome and introductions
2. No additions
3. Treasurers report
  - a. balance is \$1502.68
  - b. received \$153.98 back from the \$400 we donated to Grade 8 farewell – they got a significant donation for the ice cream so they gave back what they didn't use to gift to someone else this year.
4. Administration Report:
  - a. School start up update: start of year is going well. Kids are settling in. Much smaller grade 5 and 6. Approx. 400 grade 7/8 students, approx 200 grade 5/6 students. Largest problem to come up: grade 7 exploratory classes are too large in some of the courses (ex. Woodworking), have rearranged and added staffing to accommodate. Admin working on regrouping students for the smaller groups.
  - b. School Plan Review: in process of updating and creating new one, using data from student and parent surveys, provincial data, F and P data, NAP data, will always have a goal in improving numeracy, literacy, etc. Critical thinking and problem solving are key goals; working on implementing Mamahtawisiwin, strengthening executive function. Working on parent engagement with their students – finding ways to strengthen this/motivate families to get involved in their child's education.
  - c. School Code of Conduct Review: in student handbook (and on website). Outlines behavioral expectations and guidelines to follow when there's misbehaviour: conflict resolution, natural consequences, everyone is responsible for the way they behave – holding students accountable. The code of conduct is not prescriptive. Jeri and Cathy will sit on committee with some school staff to review. If you have opinions/ideas/questions, bring them to Jeri or Cathy.
  - d. Extra-curricular programming: cross country just starting, choir is on the go, lots of clubs have started, students can create their own club following the protocol in place. Lots of opportunities for students to get involved. Sports: run grade 5/6 skills clubs in volleyball and basketball, grade 8 can try out for the team, anyone who doesn't make it can join the grade 7 skills team.
  - e. Volunteer Requirements in Schools: requires a registration process through the division office, including a Respect in Schools course (90 min online), criminal record and child abuse registry checks. If you want to help with sports or have a unique skill you'd like to teach a class, let admin know!

- f. Traffic and Transportation Changes and Concerns: grade 5/6 area is much better than last year. Grade 7/8 and high school area quite congested.
  - g. Lunch Hour Expectations for Students: grade 7/8 – can leave for lunch if parental consent for the year. Grade 5/6 – needs to be communicated with teacher the morning it's happening. Student has to sign out when they leave. Can only come back 12:30 at the earliest, as there's no supervision outside before that. Students are not allowed to be at the Access Event Centre or baseball diamonds (or other public places). Can be at skate park, basketball park.
  - h. Cell phone ban update: province issued a mandate that cell phones are not allowed at all in grades 5-8. Has not been an issue so far. Hopeful it will continue to be positive and leak into home habits as well.
  - i. Nutrition plan update: government gave grant for nutrition plan in school. Just got a committee up and running to get it started. Will start small and evolve/grow as needed. Everyone will have access – money given for staffing, equipment and food. Plan needs to be universal. Have a lunch plan/snack plan available for students who need it right now.
5. New business
- a. Fundraisers: PAC likes to help out with some small projects around the school. Start with some small fundraisers for PAC so we can keep helping out. If you have some ideas, bring them to the next meeting or email to [emmspac2023@gmail.com](mailto:emmspac2023@gmail.com). Idea: Co-op gift cards, Spenst Brothers.
  - b. Grade 5 Hot Lunch: grade 5's do not have access to the cafeteria, should we do hot lunch for them? We could use the canteen. There are 100 grade 5's. Is there a possibility for them to eat in the cafeteria once or twice a year? Cafeteria is willing to supply the food – would need volunteers to bring the food up to the grade 5s. Start in mid/late October – possibly 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. Ashley and Jeri will talk to cafeteria staff to arrange. Order forms similar to elementary schools – prepaid.
  - c. Secretary position is open: Crystal Westfall volunteered. Thank you!!
6. Next meeting October 21, 2024, 7:00pm.
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.
8. School tour for anyone interested.