

Carman Collegiate
Home & School Minutes

June 7/2010

Present – Deb Thoms, Monika Menold, Lynn Melvin, Rob Hamm, Doris May, Jeanne Holmberg, Lori Wiebe, Joyce Nicolajsen, Michelle Doerksen, Jack Phillips, Marie Dyck, John Heard, Jan Hay, Karen Tjaden-McClement, Rhonda Walker.

Welcome – Deb Thoms

Old Business

At our last meeting Lynn Rempel had stated that he would distribute to the parents information about the programs that he is trying to encourage students to become a part of (so that we as parents would be able to support him) i.e. Envirothon. Jack said that he would check with Lynn to see where that is at.

At our last meeting we discussed the Music Boosters program which became the BLT's last year. We were hoping that Lise MacNair would have been able to come to the meeting today to give us an update. Lise was not able to attend the meeting. Jack stated that the BLT's are part of next year's planning. Currently a band trip to Minneapolis in May of 2011 is being considered. This would not be associated with a festival. Adjudicated festivals are usually quite costly to attend – approx. \$2500, so this is likely not the direction that the band will go. It is currently being reviewed to do one major band trip for the grades 10-12's, then every 3rd year to do an in province trip. The fundraising will be done consistently all year long and the administration would like the student's to be the major participants and organizers of the fundraising. Parent support will also play a role.

At our last meeting Jack had mentioned that the middle year's teachers were planning a meeting to look at scheduling for the 2010-2011 school years. He had also mentioned that he would look into the grade 7's this year not having any field trips. There was discussion with the teacher's of attending a local hockey game, but that they wouldn't go outside of the community to attend another hockey game. There will be an activity scheduled coming up to Christmas. The grade 7 & 8 ski trip is scheduled to happen for next year, the dates for this are still being looked at.

Administration Report

Thank you on behalf of all of the staff for the Staff Appreciation breakfast that Home & School organized for them.

Congratulations to Ryan Stepler who will be moving onto a new teaching position in Manitou. Also congratulations to Lise MacNair who will be the new principal of the Miami school. The school division is currently looking for a new vice principal for Carman Collegiate. The new grade 8 teacher's position will be hired within the school. There will be three grade 8 homerooms and it is being scheduled for grade 8 homeroom teachers to teach their own ELA and Math. A majority of the teaching will be done by the grade 8 teachers with all grade 8 teachers teaching all grade 8 students. Teachers outside of these three will also be involved in teaching some grade 8 subjects.

School Goals – After several staff meetings, the following schools goals have been selected by our school team: a) Pyramid of Intervention b) Professional Learning Communities c) Literacy with ICT d) Increasing levels of student involvement through technology infusion and practical applications using the CTS strategy d) Improved levels of student voice in terms of student leadership e) Sustainability f) Connections

Jack commented that they would like to get kids to be more environmentally friendly. They would also like to see all students completing a portfolio. When Jack is looking to hire a teacher, teacher's who have a portfolio have a huge advantage over those who don't. In the future, advisors will be working with each child to help them with their portfolios. Jack would like to have employers in town ask the students for their portfolios when interviewing the students. It is also being discussed to connect the portfolio to the student's mark. i.e. grade 11/12.

Code of Conduct – Proposed new addition to the Code of Conduct:

A suspension may be a consequence for the following poor student choices – actions, regardless of where these actions may originate, that result in a disturbance in the school community, the creation of a poisonous environment, or conduct injurious to the moral tone of the school.

Comment was made by a parent that the wording is too vague. Another comment was made that the wording needs to be vague in order to cover the different situations that may arise. Question was then asked by a parent of how well bullying is currently being remedied? Jack stated that sometimes it goes well, other times mediation is required, sometimes it's generational and sometimes multiple tries are required to remedy a situation. It was suggested that there should be something further added to the new addition, such as i.e. cyber bullying situations.

New Business

Gr. 7 & 8 sports – Parent requested that this be looked at and reviewed for future years. The grade 7 class for this year was a very large class and the students were discouraged (particularly in volleyball and badminton) because they did not receive much playing time at games or tournaments. Parent requested that this be looked at for next year. There is also concern in regards to the fees. This year the grade 7's received refunds because of the lack of playing time. Some of those students did not attend any away tournaments so no busing was needed for them. If the real cost is only \$10/student, then that is what should be charged, not \$20/student. Parent would like each student to receive a fee schedule reflecting where the money is going for each sport. There is also inconsistency in regards to sometimes parents are paid when they drive students to a game or tournament and sometimes they are not. Parent would like there to be consistency in paying the parents to drive the students.

Defibulator – Parent asked if the janitorial staff would be trained along with the teacher's in how to use the new defibulator at the school since they are the staff that are there in the evenings. Jack stated that they for sure would be a part of the training.

Canteen Meeting – Parent asked what was the outcome of that meeting. Joyce stated that they discussed the pricing at the canteen. Discussed putting the menu choices on the newsletter, she would also like to see the prices added to this, so parents know how much money to send with their child. Jack mentioned that they have gotten rid of the deep fryer and have 2 new convection ovens. Jack also mentioned that they would have to look at the prices for next year because currently the canteen is barely breaking even. The only money being made at this time to support field trips, comes from the Coke machine. Parent asked about healthier food being served at the canteen? Jack mentioned that they are using low fat foods and the menu is healthier now than it ever has been before. Trying to come up with a balance of what kids like to eat and what is healthy for them.

Discussion Regarding New Home & School Draft constitution

Parent commented that the wording should be changed from Home & School Committee to Home & School Association. Association is a little more formal and that is what we are trying to achieve with this document.

Parent commented that on the school website, both Home & School links should be updated with current information, if they are not able to remove the one link. This would be less confusing for parents looking for information.

Discussion that it should be brought up at the AGM in October 2010 of how long the meetings should be i.e. if we have guests coming, there should be time allotted for that, but also leave time for the meeting as well – not be limited to one hour.

Discussion to have the constitution put on the agenda for Sept. 2010 meeting, to put into place for an AGM in October 2010. Everyone at the table was in favour of moving forward with the current constitution (with the changes made that were discussed today), to put into place at the Sept. 2010 meeting.

Discussion in regards to emailing out the agenda, minutes and reminders of each meeting, should begin in the fall. I will ask Jack to put on fall newsletters to please email rhonda01@mts.net if they would like to be put on the list to receive these documents. Suggestion was also made to send out a notice at the beginning of the year requesting people's email addresses.

1st on the Agenda for Sept. 2010

Jan Hay – tabled to Sept. 2010 meeting. Presentation regarding Manitoba Association of Parent Council's AGM and student advocacy program.

Next Meeting to be held Monday, Sept. 13 in the Middle Home Ec. Room at Carman Collegiate.

Hope to see you there!!!