

Rutland Middle School Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Tuesday February 19 @7pm

Minutes

2018/19 RMS PAC Executive

President: Marie Howell

Vice-President; Angela Trush

Treasurer: Jodi Schmitke

Secretary: Michelle Liedl

COPAC Representative: Paula Morrison

Hot Lunch Coordinators: Teresa Reid & Marla McLennan

Meeting Attendees: David Howell, Angela Trush, Michelle Gibbons, Melissa Ball, Paula Munson, Misty Mishek, Jamie Lowther, Vivian Evans, Bob Evans, Cherylee Morrison, Michelle Berggren, Marina Hailey, Vanessa Dobson, Clarisse Grath, Karen Hagnockia, Janice Howell, Jennifer Larsen, Sofia Simeonidis, Becky Ingbritson

Regrets: Jodi Schmitke, Teresa Reid, Marla McLennan

Administrators

Principal: Jim Laird

Vice Principal: Rob Aviani

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Welcome, Attendance & Introductions – Marie Howell, PAC President
2. Adoption of Agenda, any additions or deletions. Adopted by Janice Howell. Seconded by Clarice Grath. Approved.
3. Adoption of January 2019 Minutes – Adopted by Paula Morrison, seconded by Janice Howell. Approved.
4. Principal's report – see attached.

5. Reports

5.1 Treasurer – see attached. Adopted by Misty Mishek, seconded by Jamie Lowther.

5.2 Hot Lunch – Marie Howell gave report on behalf of Teresa Reid. Taco Time items have been well received. Menchies frozen yogurt is now being offered twice a week rather than just one. Ordering for March/April now open till Feb 25.

5.3 COPAC – Paula Morrison let meeting attendees know there was a link on the COPAC Facebook to give input into next year's school calendar. There is also a link for next year's budget. She noted there will be changes at the provincial level for funding for students for the 2020/21 school year. The current funding model hasn't changed in many years so we need to be cognizant of any changes.

We welcomed the following special guests to our meeting at 7:30 p.m. From School District 23, trustees Moyra Baxter, Rolli Cacchioni, Norah Bowman and Julia Fraser.

School district staff included Assistant Superintendent for Rutland Jon Rever, Secretary-Treasurer Eileen Sadlowski, and Director of Operations Mitch Van Aller.

From Agriculture Land Reserve Committee member Gerry Zimmerman.

City Councillors Brad Sieben and Ryan Donn also attended.

Marie Howell gave a presentation/slideshow in the history of Rutland Middle School.

There have been five additions since 1949. The school district and board have made efforts to get school replaced, been number one priority since 2009. Moyra Baxter noted she has toured lots of different governmental representatives around the school.

Marie added there has been lots of action taken this year on behalf of advocacy for a new school including lots of media attention and an ongoing petition.

However, it has been indicated to us that the priority of the Ministry is seismic mitigation in Lower Mainland schools.

Moyra Baxter handed out the latest letter from the Ministry of Education which noted again that a replacement capital project at Rutland Middle School is not currently approved for funding. The letter added SD23 may want to consider prioritizing an expansion project for Rutland Middle.

Mitch Van Aller noted he would have many questions adding to a 70 year old building, I have a lot of questions. Changes capital plan as well. Possible cost? Adding to existing school would actually increase expenses in the future.

Eileen Sadlowski noted that while some may feel there hasn't been anything done to RMS there have been many updates to keep it a safe school for our children. Structurally, electrically and mechanically it's very sound.

After a parent brought up the issue of accessibility Mitch Van Aller noted it is a challenge in this school and others. Don't have a space for ramp and stairs, looked at putting an elevator in a few years ago. Elevator doesn't mean there is accessibility.

The lack of land in Rutland for a new school is a big issue. Paula Morrison asked Gerry Zimmerman from the ALR about this issue and if there's a possibility of land being taken out of ALR for a school. He noted that swaps have been done at one point, not as much any more. He told the group to not give up and keep making the case to the ALR that there aren't any other options.

In closing Moyra Baxter noted that the MLAs for area especially Norm Letnick have been supportive in advocating for a new school.

Ultimately the Ministry of Education are the people who must be persuaded and lobbied for a new school

Meeting adjourned 8:32 p.m.

Next meeting Tuesday April 22nd 7 p.m.