

Graminia School Council Meeting
6:30pm Wednesday May 8, 2024
Graminia School Library

Attendees Angie Gehlert (Chair), Amber Darragh (Vice-Chair), Amanda Bird (Secretary), Treena Neumann (Principal), Erin Chessor (Vice-Principal), Sean Lygo, Marianne Hee, Kassandra Boisvert, Jody Friesen, Rose Leder, Kerri Golka, Sheila Avison, Andrea Smith, Trudy Hochachka, Melanie Tonhauser, Robyn Williams, Brandon Weber, Stephanie Worrell, Becky Christensen, Angayla Waterman, Anna Liska

1. Welcome and Introductions

- 1.1. Meeting called to order by Angie Gehlert at 6:38pm.
- 1.2. Land acknowledgement read by Angie Gehlert.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- 2.1. Sheila made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Angayla seconded. Carried.

3. Adoption of March Minutes

- 3.1. March minutes were reviewed and approved by Sheila. Seconded by Amber. Carried.

4. Trustee Report - Aimee Hennig

- 4.1. Aimee was unable to attend the meeting.

5. Student Health & Wellness - Sean Lygo (Teacher) & Marianne Hee (Counsellor)

- 5.1. Link to the presentations is here: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1O1Hp_vcdhW9hjYLUdggImG3hzdVCOaPOG4nI0IN-nv0/edit#slide=id.g287bb7aa612_0_0
- 5.2. Attendee questions:
 - 5.2.1. If my daughter was struggling with a situation, would a presenter give their contact information to my daughter? No.
 - 5.2.2. What is the presenter code of conduct? Presenters must follow legislative protocols, and teachers never leave the room.
 - 5.2.3. Are the students provided with products? No, although swag was provided at the career day.
 - 5.2.4. Is there another one still coming this year? Yes, at the end of May, and will focus on developing healthy coping strategies.
 - 5.2.5. Is there an opportunity for students to leave the sessions if they feel uncomfortable with the content? Yes - students can duck out and we will always follow through with the student.
- 5.3. Marianne gave her presentation:
 - 5.3.1. Therapeutic approach focuses on dialectical behaviour therapy, distress tolerance, emotional regulation, and mindfulness.
 - 5.3.1.1. Attendee questions:
 - 5.3.1.1.1. I'm curious why you don't testify in court? It's because I don't have the full history of the family. If my notes were subpoenaed, then I would be obligated to.
 - 5.3.1.1.2. What is your process if a child comes to you and asks that you not disclose to their parents that they are seeing you? Anyone under the age of 18 has to have parental consent for therapy, so if a child dropped by a second or third time, I would have to let them know that we'd have to talk to mum and dad. I would not let them continue to see me if they didn't want to get their parents involved.

- 5.3.1.1.3. Are you helping with issues of aggression in our school right now? Marianne stated that she has a few kids that she supports with that.
- 5.3.1.1.4. What do the class presentations look like and do parents know that you are giving the presentation? I talk about mindful breathing.
- 5.3.1.1.5. Have you been in the grade six class this year? I did do a stress ball presentation in Ms. Duncan's class this year, and we talked about good and bad kinds of stress.
- 5.3.1.1.6. What is your educational background? I have a degree in Child and Youth care and I am finishing up my Masters in Counselling.
- 5.3.1.1.7. Do you ever have teachers refer a student to you? Yes, that is how I get a lot of my referrals. A teacher will reach out and then I will connect with mum and dad.
- 5.3.1.1.8. What continuums of support exist for kids who may need to write tests in different levels? Universal supports exist, and if your child has indicated that they could benefit from this, please reach out to your teacher. We absolutely provide these supports.
- 5.3.1.1.9. What happens if you have students that come to you and they are disclosing something that indicates they are at-risk at home? If a child discloses abuse or neglect than I would have to contact Children Services.
- 5.3.1.1.10. Does the school have a sensory space? No, but we have a gross motor space that has a trampoline, giant building blocks, wiggle stools, cars, and other manipulatives that help students with their regulation. Some students are allowed to bring a friend with them to help practice the social skills they are working on. If your child was working on a goal within that space, parents would absolutely know about it because it was be a part of the child's IEP. The room is right across from the foods lab.

6. ASCA Conference Update: Angie Gehlert & Kassandra Boisvert

- 6.1. Kassandra and Angie split up the sessions they attended.
- 6.2. Kassandra summarized her experience at the sessions she attended:
 - 6.2.1. Session 1: Promoting a Positive Relationship with Food at Home and School - presented by Michelle Letourneau (Registered Dietician, AHS) and Matt Mitschke (Program Facilitator, Healthy Foods with AHS)
 - 6.2.1.1. avoid labeling food as "healthy" or "unhealthy" - to make food more neutral and to avoid giving it a moral value. Kids under age 12 are concrete thinkers and we don't want to associate eating "bad" foods with doing bad things.
 - 6.2.1.2. The speaker encouraged food neutrality in the home; Kassandra voiced her disagreement because she wanted food education to be included in the home. The speakers shared that as the adult, our role is to decide what foods are available to serve to our children; our children choose what/how much to eat.
 - 6.2.2. Session 2: Barbara Coloroso gave a keynote discussing how to teach children to act with civility, integrity, and compassion.
 - 6.2.3. Session 3: Emotion Coaching: A Transformative Approach to our Kids' Emotions - Sue Huff, Family Support Specialist.
 - 6.2.3.1. Encouraging connection with our children - have the conversations with your kids.
 - 6.2.3.2. Important that adults learn to regulate themselves so that they can model self regulation to their children.
 - 6.2.4. Session 4: SILA (Skills in Life for All) by Kelly Maxwell
- 6.3. Angie summarized her sessions:

- 6.3.1. Session 1: Alberta government funding sessions. Angie asked if the province could share their capital funding projects so that councils can see where they fall on the priority list.
- 6.3.2. Session 2: AI Literacy - creators of AI don't understand the full capacity of the technology; data mining and plagiarism, scientific term of "when AI hallucinates"; math is very weak in AI.
- 6.3.3. Session 3: Barbara Colorado's breakout session on bullying discussed how behaviour does not have to reoccur to be considered bullying - it can be a one off situation. She spoke a lot about sibling bullying as well - bullying typically starts at home. Visit Barbara's website kidsareworthit.com . Feel free to reach out to Angie if you want additional information.

7. Principal's Report: Treena Neumann

- 7.1. Education Planning Night - 12 parents came out and interacted with four teachers, school administration, and Associate Superintendent Scott Johnston.
- 7.2. Caps for the Cure kicked off at the Hawks Spirit Assembly.
- 7.3. Run Wild event went very well.
- 7.4. Class configurations established:
 - 7.4.1. Kindergarten: 1 full-time class; 2 part-time classes
 - 7.4.2. Grade 1: 2 classes
 - 7.4.3. Grade 2: 2 classes
 - 7.4.4. Grade 2/3 split: 1 class
 - 7.4.5. Grade 3: 2 classes
 - 7.4.6. Grade 4: 2 classes
 - 7.4.7. Grade 5: 2 classes
 - 7.4.8. Grade 6: 2 classes
 - 7.4.9. Grade 7: 2 classes
 - 7.4.10. Grade 8: 2 classes
 - 7.4.11. Grade 9: 2 classes
- 7.5. June year end family movie night scheduled for June 5th or 6th.
- 7.6. Spring Concert scheduled for early June - date to be shared soon.
- 7.7. Bike Rodeo scheduled June 1st.
- 7.8. Provincial Achievement Tests in May - English Language Arts for Grade 9 only.
- 7.9. Athletics
 - 7.9.1. Badminton wrapping up this week;
 - 7.9.2. Spring League for kids in Grades 4-6;
 - 7.9.3. Track and Field for junior high and Grades 4-6 - dates have been scheduled.
- 7.10. Year end trips are being booked - you can expect notifications from your teachers.
- 7.11. Farewell June 26th and junior high awards are June 27th.
- 7.12. Kindergarten graduation dates will be shared shortly.
- 7.13. Tri Me Triathlon - check the gramina website for details.

8. New Business

- 8.1. No new business.

9. Adjournment

- 9.1. Melanie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm. Seconded by Sheila.
Carried.

If you have questions or thoughts that you think the School Council should look at please speak to our Chair Angie Gehlert, Vice Chair Amber Darragh or Principal Treena Neumann.

Next Meeting Date: June 12, 2024 at 6:30pm.