

ACES Meeting Minutes February 27, 2018, CCHS, 7pm

In Attendance:

710pm - Chris MacPhee, Chris Rogers, Violet Parsons-Pack, April Devenick, Maureen Stick, Lorna Hartley, Ronna Schneberger, Lindsey Williams, Melanie Wood, Andrea Barnes

715 arrival – Shelly Brown, Alexia McKinnon via zoom

720 arrival – Shannon Fiendel

810pm – Violet Parsons-Pack, Chris MacPhee, Chris Rogers leave meeting

Item	Topic	Discussion /Action	Follow Up By Who/ When
1	Call to order 710pm	Motioned by LW Seconded by LH	
2	Approve Agenda	Motioned by LH Seconded by MW	
3	Approve January 16, 2018 Minutes	Motioned by RS Seconded by LW	
4	Approve January 30, 2018 Minutes	Motioned by RS Seconded by LW	
5	2018/2019 Registration Update	<p>Chris R</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently do not have huge numbers • 17 applications for Kindergarten of which 2 are not certain, and at least 2 are also registered at another school • 1 x grade 3 student registered • in conversations with 6 or 7 families moving to the valley interested in grade, but they are all also phoning around talking to schools • Possibly 2 current families that might have not registered 2nd child in Kindergarten • Registered now – in ERS 24 in half and half, 24 in French immersion, 5 on wait list for either of those and 17 for English <p>Chris M – typically ERS will get another 15-20 Registered before September for kindergarten</p> <p>Lindsey – if we end up with only 1 or 2 more bodies, with current</p>	Maureen S – confirm that program fees assistance is on the website.

Kindergarten going into Grade 1 numbers low, what would be our best strategy moving forward?

- Chris MacPhee – Violet P has lots of experience working with different configurations and will be helpful if we need
- Violet – regarding Kindergarten/Grade 1 – full day is integral part of our registration this year. We could combine GR 1 with Kindergarten. They would be together in AM then GR 1 have class in aft while Kindergarten go off to forest or music program; would have an EA dedicated to the morning class like we do all ready.
- Lindsey –feels this is an appealing option because it would be just GR 1 in the afternoon.

Chris M

- Has concerns about fundraising for playground before building it.
- No matter what he supports program. From day 1 until as far as we can – always working with sustainability – it will always be a challenge as it is with other schools. Keep it sustainable.
- We are seeing a challenge with lower numbers. We have to consider how the school division can afford to give \$40-\$50k for full day kindergarten program when enrolment is decreasing – how we can make it work
- His experience... lot of parents get leery when we talk about combining grades but doubling grades is extremely positive for kids in many ways; a parent came to him “I would never have though of this, it has been fantastic for my child”.. low kids stepping up to do what older kids do and older kids helping younger kids.
- We will need to look at solutions and still try to maintain objective – will mean some give and take.
- Had concerns when preschool programs got cancelled – if had money to give you start it up again, he would give it – but Roots and Wings has started now, so then it could be a feeder. I suggest looking at building them as a new feeder – Possibly have Alpenglow Students work with soon to be new Kindergarten kids in that program as a transition.
- Ronna S – Forest Play is also a feeder program

Ronna – what are the numbers you need minimums to pay for teachers?

- Chris MacPhee - when we start going below 15 its getting low

(we like to see 17 and above); Kindergarten is only funded by government for half time.

Alexia M – for families that don't choose alpenglow, do you have any idea of why they don't...financial barrier? school philosophy? If it's cost, - ACES can help relieve financial barriers.

- Chris R –ones that have talked to have left the valley or wanted Kindergarten full day program. Haven't heard any financial reasons. Has heard that people are surprised that the cost is less than they thought it would be.
- Chris MacPhee – I haven't heard anything about money, its choice.

Ronna –why are people choosing Alpenglow when coming from other communities?

- Chris R - they know people in the valley with children in program or know someone in program, word of mouth.
- Nature immersion piece speaks strongly.. most people have heard of Waldorf but don't quite understand, but like nature immersion
- Chris MacPhee – the amount of time our principal and vice principal spend with new or inquiring families is significantly more than other schools. A lot of explaining with Waldorf pedagogy and nature immersion.

Ronna – if we were to increase the knowledge of nature immersion, do you think that could help? And how can we help you communicate that?

- Chris R – it is conversations with families. People don't know until you explain it more or are in the school seeing it. Biggest thing to do is word of mouth and be positive in what we all say.

Alexia – I connect to Corporation of Indigenous Knowledge. Our programs for Truth and Reconciliation are sold out months in advance and one of reasons why a truth and reconciliation speaker series that we have done with in the community. As a result of that we get market and product placement. In response to education and awareness – as ACES we have really pivotal and crucial role to be on education and awareness – our parent talks. Thus taking this time from administration so they can do their administration and not education and awareness.

- Chris R – parent evenings that we have – should open them up to those not in our Alpenglow community to create awareness.
- Andrea –in the past there have been lots of Waldorf Inspired

		<p>evenings, but not lots of nature immersion evenings. Is there a way to design parent talks with nature immersion included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronna – I have planned 3 talks – planning temperaments, 7 year cycle and a nature immersion as well. • Chris M – suggest approach sherry at daycare – can we do a presentation to your parents? • Shannon – Is there a way to do those nights and video them and put them on the website? <p>Chris M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We struggle with communication market everyday with public system – to get our amazing messages out – we brainstorm how to do that all the time - while playground piece is extremely valuable maybe you want to do that slowly piece by piece and keep focus education; but not push playground totally in background. • Don't know if playground will increase enrolment – don't think people pick a school because of the playground • Lots more solutions to exhaust before we stop moving forward. • Our 2 high schools are matching schedules next year – we want to be able to have kids easily go up and down the valley – to support out students –its not going to be my legacy to close the school; we didn't start this to close this. <p>Lindsey – The playground is a visible anchor of this institution.</p> <p>Chris M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No hidden agenda ever. • I will remain in support or if I'm worried you'll always hear the honesty pieces. • We will move forward in positive way. 	
6	Playground Update	<p>Shannon Fiendel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Ken R and Chris R today – no major mechanical or structural issues of playground plans • Suggested solar panels. • If we want grass or trees we need an underground irrigation system. • Ground 3 is our landscape architect – when finished will have budget to be able to move forward. • If we hire Ground 3 for next stage they would do structural and landscape drawings. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last update from ground 3 in the next couple of days • Ideal to do it all at once for landscaping ease • Alexia – yes we can do it all together, but our timeline will need to change, it will take until next summer (2019) to do it all at once; if we phase it in, then we could have something in this summer for the new school year. • If we do want something this summer we need to keep moving to get people organized for summer. <p>Lindsey – is outdoor classroom possible in 1st phase?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shannon - We need final drawings with budget then we can look at it <p>Update in newsletter? – wait until we hear the numbers.</p>	
7	<p>Andrea Barnes – Nature Immersion Support Proposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put proposal together as the nature immersion part of our school could be embellished. • Proposal includes objectives, deliverables, timelines and pricing options. <p>Deliverables –would enhance and make our program more marketable and more reputable.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consulting with the teachers and identifying their professional learning needs. 2. Delivering and co-developing nature immersion experiences for each of the classrooms several times during the year. Ideally once a month per class, modelling different techniques and to meet their curriculum outdoors. 3. Helping the teachers create bigger learning opportunities. Environmental inquiry - helping them move thru an inquiry; help go out into nature and show them how to provoke learning out in nature and get kids excited and follow that. Helping support them with bigger projects and inquiries. 4. Resources and equipment - put together in a way that makes sense and they know how to use those tools. 5. Assist with the development of school-wide activities such as: Phenological Calendars, Nature Rhythms, “I wonder walks” and boards, nature stories, themed nature events 6. Coordinate and meld these outdoor experiences with the nature immersion program. 7. All Nature Connection experiences documented and 	

		<p>summarized</p> <p>Want to build it out so that teachers know that everything they are doing in nature immersion is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Grade 1 and 2 – awareness, observation & connecting • In Grade 3 – investigating, comparing and contrasting • In Grade 4 – reclaiming, taking ownership & being active • In Grade 5 – monitoring and engaged • In Grade 6 – citizenship, celebrating & giving back <p>We invest in the mentoring for Waldorf but haven't really invested in the nature immersion piece.</p> <p>Pricing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My first choice is best for the teachers – 0.2 teaching position – improve teacher student ratios, give options to split grades when needed, and I'd have the inside scoop and hear their needs <p>Alexia M – There is money for this in grants for a consultant. Could this be a consultant advisory role with exact same deliverable.</p> <p>Andrea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, but haven't looked into start a business and get insurance etc. • Don't want it to be a stand-alone program - if they didn't have this person then it wouldn't t happen. Needs to be as much documented as delivered <p>Lindsey – don't think your cost for 0.2 teacher includes benefits, would probably need to add that on.</p> <p>Andrea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can also offer 10 days worth of programming for this spring - work with teaches to see wheat their needs are to get momentum. • Next steps – aces to discuss and review budget 	
8	Governance Training for ACES	Alexia M - Just by following agenda, writing minutes, etc. – we are training ourselves to be a board. Strategic talks are happening.	Bump to next meeting.
9	Tasks from Last	1. More detailed budget tracking (Lexi and Lorna)	1. Budget meeting to be set.

	Meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Identify accounting advisor (Ronna) 3. Share current version of CIP grant (Nicole) 4. Casino application (Nicole) 5. Marketing strategy (Nicole) 6. Maureen contract to Executive (Maureen) 7. Budget planning for non-profits (Lorna) 8. Guidance document for handwork (Ronna) 9. Proposal for separating Community Development position from Festivals position (Melanie) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. RS will introduce LH via email to accountant (Alpenglow parent) who would be interested to help 3. Next meeting. Nicole not in attendance. 4. Next meeting. Nicole not in attendance. 5. Next meeting. Nicole not in attendance. 6. Maureen to follow up with Amy. 7. Next meeting. 8. Next meeting. 9. Next meeting.
10	Presidents Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not here 	
11	Vice Presidents Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music magic amendment. • Funding didn't include noon hour supervision • Factor into budget or discuss how to counter that offer <p>Aces to discuss and review budget.</p>	
12	Admin Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen S. to let Maureen F. know that wooden flutes should arrive this week.
13	Festivals/Community Update	<p>Melanie W</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candlemas – went well, step by step in report and recommendations – consider not doing rolled next year and all do dipping. <p>Ronna –ask new mentor to review what happens at festivals and make suggestions.</p> <p>Melanie - Do we want to do valentines day candles year after year – we made \$250 on it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronna S – let little things evolve as and if they do <p>Melanie W. - In storage unit – we have karaoke machine that is not used – we could sell it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Noer would like a new PA system - new ones go for \$200-1000 at Costco; karaoke machine might be worth \$50. • Could use candle money to buy PA machine. • Maureen F. asked for outdoor thermometers – one that changes colour with temperature – unknown cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorna and Maureen to find a mentor to take on teacher appreciation • Maureen and Melanie to discuss volunteer positions for upcoming festivals

		<p>Motion – Ronna – we ok up to \$100 for 2 temperature gages for the school. Second – Lindsey All in favour – all Opposed – none Abstained - none</p> <p>Melanie W</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maypole – Corey Stevens getting the tree, waiting for date to organize – Ronna can help turn it into a lesson if need be; still looking for help from a carpenter. • Children's only store idea – community builder, opens access to young families to bring them in, all items are hand made, sell tickets to enter, next steps –monthly craft nights are what we need to get crafts for festivals and for this idea – can we set some dates? • Mayfest – Calgary Waldorf holds Mayfest on a Friday afternoon, 5-7pm, Only Calgary Waldorf families, purpose is for celebration. If its evening then we require parent volunteers, if we do it during school then teachers are involved. Next step – plan for evening festival. 	
14	Treasurer Update	<p>Lorna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would consider another year in treasurer position if had support of accountant. 	
15	Fundraising Update	<p>Alexia M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Alpenglow parents with Lisa R. want to hold a spring fever and silent auction at the Canmore opera house, April 28th <p>Motion – Alexia M - Does ACES want to support spring fever and silent auction? 2nd – Ronna All in favour - all Opposed - none Abstained- none</p> <p>Ronna – ask them to also take the lead on doing a thanksgiving square dance for next fall?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexia Report to come soon • Maureen to put save the date in newsletter

16	Director at Large Update	<p>Ronna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have touched base with 2 mentors. Lindsey will touch base with Chris R to contact one of them. • Parent evening talks – would like to set a talk with a possible new mentor, Sabina to possibly do temperaments, and a nature (Andrea B or Dave V) talk. • Library books – looking for more money for Renee to take to a Calgary book sale. <p>Motion – Ronna S – add another \$100 for library 2nd – Lorna H All in favour – all Opposed – none Abstained - none</p>	
17	New Business		
17.a	Date for Budget Planning	Need to plan a date for a budget meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen to send out a doodle pole
17.b	AGM Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date picked - Thursday May 17 • Ronna S (Director at Large), Lindsey W (Vice President), Alexia M (Fundraising) and Amy T (Secretary) will roll over to next year • Will need to review who is continuing on or not – confirm President, Festivals, Treasurer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen S to connect with Amy T to book room for May 17th, 2018 • Amy T – to email all council asking intentions to stay on council or not
17.c	ACES support for teacher training	<p>Lindsey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
18	Old Business		
18.a	ACES Support for Parent Council	Next meeting.	
19	In Camera Motion – Lindsey W.		

	2 nd – Ronna S		
19.a	Music Magic Roots & Wings Addendum	<p>Lindsey W</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Original proposal was program starting at 1pm. Lindsey had verbal conversation with Corina the day proposal was submitted, but addendum was sent in on the day of the Kindergarten registration – after it was approved. Addendum is an additional \$10800; \$150/per person per hour Do we accept it as is or counter? <p>Alexia M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asked them if their rate in alignment with their proposal and it was, and we compared it to forest play (4 in FP, 2 in RW)? In comparison: Forest Play \$52.40 per hour per person for over the lunch hour which end up being \$7545.15 <p>Motion: Lindsey W to accept the addendum as is and pay the fee. 2nd: Ronna S All in favour: all Opposed: none Abstained: none</p> <p>Alexia – Suggests approaching both Forest Play and Music Magic Roots & Wings and create a partnership contact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexia to explore/draft partnership agreement with Forest Play and Music Magic Roots & Wings
	Budget for nature immersion proposal	<p>Lindsey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion to happen at budget meeting. Lindsey – option 2 for next year – because if she goes into CPRS, they may borrow her over to other places. Option 1 will also go up due to benefits. Ronna S – if this goes ahead, we can make an agreement that she does not get borrowed within CRPS. We need more information before more discussion. <p>Motion – Ronna S – to approve \$3500 for nature immersion mentorship for this spring 2nd – Alexia M All in favour – all Opposed – none Abstained – none</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lindsey to ask Chris for more info on 0.2 position and benefits (ask Andrea S permission first)

		<p>Alexia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider how the process goes through for nature immersion vs Waldorf mentor – if nature immersion goes through quickly, then approach administration that we want the same process for Waldorf mentor. 	
	<p>Funds sitting in savings</p>	<p>Alexia M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggests tabling this until the budget meeting – and that they motion to move those funds into the budget 	
<p>20</p>	<p>Meeting Adjournment 10:18pm</p>	<p>Motions by Lindsey W Seconded by Ronna S</p>	