

ACES Meeting Minutes May 2, 2017 CCHS

Attendance: Chris R., Hans, Mary, Maureen, Shelly, Lindsey, Lorna, Chandni, John, Amy, Lexi, Shelly, Anne

Topic	Discussion /Action	Follow Up By Who/ When
<p>Call to Order Approve Agenda</p>	<p>Call to Order - Motioned by Lorna, seconded by Lindsey Approve Agenda - Motioned by Amy, seconded Lindsey</p>	
<p>Approve Minutes</p>	<p>Approve minutes from March 21, 2017 motioned by Amy, seconded by Lindsey</p>	
<p>Principal Update</p>		
<p>Chris</p>	<p>Alpenglow is a growing and maturing school. We have to deliver the Alberta curriculum. The objective is to deliver that curriculum taking a Waldorf pedagogy. This is wedded with nature immersion. The teachers are working hard to deliver on all of this. The teachers have been subject to a lot of pressure from parents. The pressure has not come from a place of good will and trust. The professionalism, strengths, and skills of the teachers have been questioned. They do not feel valued. They feel they need to defend themselves, their contribution, and their skills. This is not acceptable.</p> <p>We need to think about how we can re-set the negative frame. The negativity is wearing on the staff and the administration. We need to move towards dialogue and problem solving together. One solution is to have parents sign a code of conduct. One exists currently for the board and for the school. There are aspects of it that parents are not adhering to. It relates to trust, good will, and respect.</p> <p>Another suggestion that Chris recommends is having two separate groups – ACES as a governing and decision-making body (to deal with budget, ensuring the school is delivering on mandate; working in</p>	

	partnership with admin); and a parent council group (that would operate as an advisory body on the day to day operations). There could be delineated roles between the two.	
Lexi	<p>How would the council, the admin and ACES work together?</p> <p>Chris – that needs to be worked out. You could have some of the same people on both. Council could be more concerned with day to day. ACES could be more focused on bigger operational considerations. ACES would be the primary on budget decisions. A council representative could attend ACES meetings.</p>	
Lexi	<p>What if ACES is not on board with this shift?</p> <p>Chris – schools need to have a parent council (this is a requirement of the Board). To date, ACES has acted as the parent council as well as the governing body. The current arrangement is not working. It is the hope of Chris that this change will be adopted in a collaborative manner. And go forward on this path for next year. Evaluate at the end of the year.</p>	
Mary	<p>Who would admin meet with?</p> <p>Chris – Chris and Hans would continue to attend meetings. They would attend parent council meetings. On-going meetings with exec of ACES would still take place. Meetings with the entire ACES would take periodically, as needed.</p>	
Mary	The model of two different groups makes sense given the current state and the evolution of the school. Could present opportunities for parents that don't want the level of commitment of ACES.	
Chris	<p>Final thoughts - Believing, behaving, becoming</p> <p>We need to believe (in our teachers, our school), behave in a respectful manner, and become the school we want to be.</p>	

Lindsey (Vice President) Update		
Lindsey	Master agreement progress – No firm answers yet, but there is confidence that good things will evolve from the process. The needs of Alpenglow were recognized. Next step is for Chris McFee to work through budget process and report back to ACES.	
Lindsey	Our numbers (enrollment at Alpenglow) for next year are the same as this year.	
Lindsey	Waldorf mentorship – We need an update from Hans on this. We should also take a critical look at the professional development training for the teachers to see what we can do to get more training on an on-going basis.	Lindsey to discuss with Hans at next admin/exec meeting.
General discussion	<p>Parent information night in September will be mandatory for next year. We will take the same format as was used in Ms Noer’s class this year where the curriculum and the approach will be laid out and demonstrated for parents.</p> <p>We should have a similar session with parents in January. Reflect on what has been done and describe what will happen until the end of the year. Same format as September where teachers lay out the curriculum that will be used and the approaches that will be taken.</p> <p>Could target different classes on different nights to help parents that have two students in the school.</p> <p>Teachers can also use the sessions to identify parents that have skills or interest that they can share to support the class and the teachers.</p>	
Maureen Update		
Maureen	Maureen will send confirmation to parents for next year as soon as Chris Rogers has teachers sorted.	

	<p>Lorna is helping with volunteering right now.</p> <p>Maureen will be away from 16th of May to 26th of May.</p>	
New Business		
	<p>Chicken volunteers – Maureen to find someone to collect feed. Amy can set up egg distribution list.</p>	<p>Maureen and Amy to follow up with Graeme.</p>
	<p>Conversation Café – Questions raised about who is organizing this and what the objective is. ACES has not been in the loop on this unless Nicole is aware of it.</p>	<p>Lindsey to discuss with Nicole and have her follow up with Ronna</p>
Committee Reports		
Shelly	<p>Fundraising –</p> <p>Amy motioned that we will put in a casino application, seconded Lindsey, all in favour, none against.</p> <p>Maureen will resend the application with requests for people to fill out particular specifics.</p> <p>CIP grant to be submitted in June.</p>	<p>Casino – Maureen to resend email requesting input from Al</p> <p>CIP grant - Lindsey to check with Nicole and will start an int review loop.</p>
Shelly	<p>Can we do Waldorf training for substitute teachers? ACES is supportive of this.</p>	<p>ACES will consider this in the budget process.</p>
Chandi	<p>Springfest – June 18th. Chandi gone May 25 to June 11. Someone else will cover the festivals email account in Chandi's absence.</p> <p>Year-end potluck volunteers still needed.</p> <p>Dates for next year's festivals have been proposed. Waiting for approval from admin.</p> <p>Considering a family fun-day as a wrap up in June for next year. And</p>	

	Springfest would be more of a school even in May.	
Lindsey	Building Committee – Shannon Fiendel has offered to help move the building committee forward.	Follow up with Nicole to see who Shannon will report to – needs to be someone on the board. Shannon will follow up with Denyne to gather information on what was done and what the plans were.
Meeting Adjourned – Motioned by Lindsey, seconded by Amy		