

Strathmillan Parent Council Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2018

Call to Order: Rebecca Misko

Present:

Irene Beaulieu
Wendy Marche
Courtney Vandermeer
Liz Bilyk
Lisa Taylor
Cam Lundgren
Liane Patterson
Rebecca Misko
Erin Murray
Corrie Friesen
Kim McCallum
Heather Palmer
Jody O'Brien

Next Meeting: October 17, 2018

We will be voting to elect representation for Parent Council. Positions to be filled are Co-Chairs and Treasurer.

Rebecca will send out email to parent contacts inviting them to come to meeting and to RSVP as we need to meet quorum (5%) in order to vote in executive. We will request for people to put forward nominations for executive for the next meeting.

Heather will send reminders to teachers to put reminder note in student agendas.

Another idea is to have a paper invitation stating the purpose of Parent Council, which is to network with other parents, hear from the school administration and provide feedback to the school, as well as list projects supported by funds raised such as field trips, playground equipment, WSO, teacher wish list, etc.

Erin will create a Facebook event to raise awareness.

Admin Report: Heather Palmer

Thanks to the Parent Council for the welcoming Meet & Greet.

It was a great success, the Kleenex were a nice touch as there were a few tears that first morning of school. Definitely something worth doing again.

Audit Recommendations: Heather received letter from the Divisional Audit Department in regards to Parent Council. Points made that Cam is not able to stand a fourth year as Treasurer, therefore a new Treasurer must be appointed. Also election of executive must happen by the third week of October. The Auditor complimented Cam on the quality of the work done with the Strathmillan Parent Council Books.

Commit to Kids- Child Protection 2018- 2019 Professional Development for all Staff.

Commit to Kids is a program to help organizations create safe environments for children. It provides strategies, policies, and a step-by-step plan for reducing the risk of child sexual abuse. The program encourages organizations to take an active, participatory role in protecting children in their care. Eight Steps: Assess our Organization, Understand Child Sexual Abuse, Manage the Risk, Create a Code of Conduct, Hire the Right People, Supervise and Monitor, Report Abuse and Misconduct, Write Policies and Procedures, Create a Child Protection Manual and Train Everyone.

<http://www.commit2kids.ca/app/en/>

SAFEArrival

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are introducing a new, student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to report your child's absence and easier for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

With **SafeArrival**, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods: Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.

- Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**. Call the toll-free number **1-844-434-8116** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

Hearing Screening:

- **October 1** –Looking for two volunteers. Please contact the office if you are able to help out.

Parent Trustee Forum

- **Saturday, November 17**
- This is the second year for this forum where Trustees hear from parents in our division.

School Photo Day

- **October 24** - Looking for volunteers. Please contact the office if you are able to assist.
- Erin Murray, Irene Beaulieu will volunteer

Important Dates

September 19 - Parent Council 7:00 - 8:00 PM (Library)

September 25 - Terry Fox Assembly & Community Walk @ 10:45 AM

October 1 – Hearing Screening

October 1 – Lights of the North assembly

October 2 - Early Dismissal (3:07 PM)

October 4- Early Years Divisional Cross Country (Assiniboine Park) @ 12:15 PM

October 16 - Early Dismissal (3:07 PM)

October 17 - Parent Council 7:00 - 8:00 PM (Library)

October 19 - Inservice / No School

October 24 - School Photo Day

October 24 - Civic Election (Main Gym at Strathmillan)

October 31 - Halloween Parade 1:30 PM

New Business

Parent Council Communication Strategy

Lianne will look into getting a Parent Council Remind account to send push notifications to parents.

Divisional Websites

Please refer to the School website for important information.

Could the Divisional Websites use push messages to get communication to parents? This service is not available at this time.

Patrols

Ms. O'Brien, Mr. Harzing and Mrs. Palmer are overseeing the Patrols this year.

Patrols were trained by Constable Tara White this past week. Information packet will be sent home shortly. All patrols will work with buddies and there will be a parent network to find substitutes if students are unable to make their post.

Kids in the Know and Family Life Curriculum can be found on the Divisional website. It is under the Phys. Ed. Website and is taught in Health Class.

Topics for future meetings

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Internet Safety Presentation – **November 21, 7:15 – 8:00** with Constable Buduhan/ Confirmed
- Kids in the Know – **Feb 13, 7:15 – 8:00 PM** with Mrs. Danyluk—Schmidt/ Confirmed
- Family Life – **April 17, 7:15 – 8:00 PM** with Mrs. Danyluk—Schmidt/ Confirmed

Motion to adjourn by Rebecca.

8:21 pm.