

Vermilion Elementary School Council Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2019

- Called to order at 7:10pm
- In attendance: Kathy Crowe, Darcie Maier, Susan McCulley, Jim King, Calvin Anhorn, Heather Rentz, Sheila Doherty
- Guest Speaker Presentation - Heather Rentz and Sheila Doherty presented on tablets, laptops, grade monitoring teacher websites, google drives, teacher-parent communication, and learning apps.
 - Chromebooks and ipads are portable, come to the students instead of students going to a computer room.
 - Tips on Finding educational apps: Are they engaging? Were educators involved in the creation? Is it age-appropriate? Are there no ads, in-app purchases, info collected, or mature content? Does it offer an experience that's hard to have offscreen? Are there ways to transfer learning to the real world? Consider paying for some apps when possible (quality ones). There were paper copies of recommended apps at the meeting.
 - Tips on use: Watch and use with your kid. Find trusted media friends when you can't use with them. Talk to your kids about what they're doing. Help them apply online learning to real life. Minimize multitasking, Strive for balance, Be a role model, dedicate device-free times and zones.
- Review of last meeting's minutes: Susan moved to accept the minutes as written. Darcie seconded.
- Board Report:
 - Head office is planning a Strategic Engagement with community members to get input for the BTPS.
 - Board passed the motion to have a 5 year contract renewal for Superintendent Bob Allen
 - Innisfree and Clandonald declining enrollment, still keeping it open.
 - Student engagement for board meeting, videoconferencing, students coming up with interesting ideas.
 - Wainwright High School had a \$20,000 donation to improve the track.
 - Honour pin awards criteria has changed
 - Feb 8 mental health day for staff. All BTPS staff will attend training on Mental Health at JR Robson
 - Rural symposium for board members - bussing is always the top of the rural issues.
 - Irma school is 47% completed, On target to finish by end of July 2019.

- Administrator's Report:
 - Welcome to Jodie Molsberry (teaching grade 6 half-time)
 - Leah Beech has resigned, Coleen Pilkey will/has returned as the Mental Health Professional for VES.

- Correspondence:
 - winter walk invitation to families
 - literature on healthy foods and snack ideas for Valentine's parties

- Bouquets - parents expressed that they are proud to have kids in school where kids (as a whole) are the focus (instead of just on academics).

- Adjournment - 8:15

- Next meeting Feb 25