

CCPS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING November 21, 2016

Present: Kendra Mihell, Bob Conlin, Tammi Principi, Laurie Eastman, Erin Holloway, Mike Thompson, Andrea Larsen, Tiffany Sutton, Mimi Wiseman, Tracey Antonioni, Stephanie Daoust

Regrets: Mike Creasey, Sean Dempsey, Debbie Asselin

1. Proposed agenda was approved.
2. Minutes from the October 17, 2016 meeting were approved.
3. Items for Discussion

A) Welcome Denis Bazinet, RDSB superintendent of business. We had a discussion regarding questions we had about the "Final Capital and Accommodation Plan" we reviewed during our September meeting. He shared some documents with us including a shared enrollment summary, inventory data/room summary and school floor plans. When they calculate capacity they designate rooms as loaded for students or not loaded. Elementary classrooms have a ministry applied capacity of 23. ELK classrooms are now at 26, up from 20. Special education and resource rooms are usually between 9 and 12. We have two loaded for 9 students. Our room 105 child care room is loaded for 12 historically. Loading is an average of how many students you should have in each class. Loading = Utilization. Our school among others is not getting the top up funds for rural schools operating costs anymore as of September 2017. It was \$114,573 per year but now is zero because there is less than 10km between our school and the nearest elementary school. The distance part of this formula is new, it use to be based more on utilization. Since 2015 the board has been looking at leasing out sections of schools to partners to reduce operating costs. The rules are now more flexible to accommodate this. Specialized funding is for major repairs whereas capital is more about the building. The board gets ten million a year in capital funds. Energy saving projects are usually a priority. The provincial strategy is to reduce unused space. Our school does have some disadvantage being an old high school. Municipal councillors have started talking to the board more, and there has been more parent involvement since the Accommodation Review talks have started. Has there been any initiative to correct having four different school boards? The province is not looking to correct that at this time. The ministry has offered capital to combine the boards but we need board motions from each school board. Markstay has three boards. The English Catholic board rents classrooms form the French Public board. Espanola also has three boards. The final staff report will be completed this week to see if there are any changes from the initial staff report. We have a 185 million dollar/year operating budget. This works out to and average of \$12,000/year/student. The capital budget is separate. We do collect interest on the 9.4 million dollar capital budget. We lose funding because of declining enrollment. The projected liability savings was on a 5 year operating cost. Work done on schools gets updated in the database like new PA systems, roofs, windows and heating systems. The policy is to review these school improvement needs every 5 years.

The facilities and finance departments oversee cleaning, maintenance and major capital projects. The ministry gives the money in the form of a budget and the boards decide which work needs to be done. The ministry made the assessment of the 4 million dollars in needed renovations to our schools. What is the charge to partners to lease space in our schools? Somewhere around \$12/square foot. Gore Bay is close to signing a lease with the township for seniors to rent out the equivalency of 2 classrooms. Right beside that space is their daycare. Preschools would be looked on favourably by the ministry. We may even find it worth a call to the city of Sudbury to inquire about the potential. It's up to the municipality to identify where space is needed. It is a matter of opinion what the benefit or detriment is from combining grades 7 and 8 with high schools. Macdonald Cartier has grades 7-12 as do St. Benedict, St. Charles, Marymount and LoEllen. The board does value comments from parents and the community. Our input can influence outcomes. Changes to definitions have brought about these reviews. Remote and rural grants have changed too. There is less funding from the ministry. Every year the ministry posts formulas for how school boards are financed. Budgets are done three times a year to accommodate changes in enrollment. The fact that Copper Cliff School's top up funding is going to \$0 doesn't directly affect our school because top up money goes into a pot and is equally distributed to work systemically for staff and operations. The message to take away is that we need to work together. The announcement on the final decision will be made on February 7, 2017.

B) Family Skate Night – we would like to have this event again in February. Kendra will coordinate with Mike Creasey.

5. Information

- Bake sale items are due Monday, December 19th for sale after our Christmas concert. No nuts please. Notes will be sent home in agendas and newsletter. Information will be posted on Facebook as well.
- There will be an ELF presentation at Sudbury Secondary School on December 16 for SK/1, 2 and 3 and on December 21 for grades 4-8. Busing costs are covered but the cost of the show will be \$5/student. This will be noted on the consent forms going home.
- KimberCreations is donating two signs to be raffled off at our Christmas concert. The funds will go towards the grade 7/8 year end trip.
- Tickets for the April 4, 2017 NHL game between Ottawa and Detroit have been donated to us to raffle off towards the grade 7/8 trip as well. This includes a parking pass and gas card. Tickets will be \$10 and will be sold after Christmas, booklets will be sent home with grade 7/8 students. The draw will be done on February 27. We can have a prize for the top seller of a Kobo reader or perhaps prizes using our pizza credits or do another pie in the face event.
- Pointsettia sales have raised about \$1000. From now on we will do combined grade 7/8 trips because of classroom splits.

6. Mark Your Calendar

- November 28 - PA Day
- Christmas concert will be December 20th at 6:00pm, we will need helpers for the bake sale

- Christmas break will be December 26-January 8

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 16 at 7:00pm in the library.