

MINUTES

Charles Spencer High School Parent Council

9/23/2020 6:30 PM

In Attendance: Chris D (Principal), Jason W (VP), Crystal C (Secretary), Shannon (President), Kelly W-M (VP), Leah C, Shelly P, Michelle T, Brenda L, Anette H, Janis S-S, Melanie B, Linda C, Audrey G, Jarem G, Cecile H, Madisyn E, Georgina E, Heather S, Rob M.

Regrets:

Meeting Minutes

Call to order: at 6:46 p.m.

Introductions:

Review and approval of past Minutes: Kelly W-M motions to approve past minutes, Melanie B seconds. Carried

Approval of/additions to Agenda: Janis S-S motions to approve past minutes, Melanie B seconds. Carried

Administrator's Report (Chris/Jason)

Highlights:

Jason:

How does school look different for the 2020-2021 year?

Masks – Students are doing well with them.

Reduced points of entry and exit.

Staggard exit from classes – Less congestion has made a difference.

Green dots – common spaces example: lunch gathering area has green dots placed 2 meters apart to adhere to social distancing rules.

QR Codes – Purpose of QR codes to collect information for contact tracing. Eating lunch together is considered a high-risk activity. Collection of this info is so if there was a positive COVID test the Administration could provide AHS with accurate information to know which students were in contact with the positive individual. It has been a challenge to get students to use the QR codes regularly. Administration would prefer to have the environment stay positive moving forward, they do not want to have to “police” the QR codes. Many discussions will be had on how to keep improving the situation.

Question – **What if students don't have their own cell phone?**

Answer – Teachers or other students can enter data for an individual from their phones. Some parents have brought forward concerns of how the information we collect is used and stored. The information will only be used in the event of a positive case.

Question – **How long do you keep the information for?**

Answer – Unsure at this time, this has been discussed but no guidance from ASH has been provided. Possibly keep information for a month. Will look into this further at the Administration level.

End goal in the school environment for the Administration is to maintain a comfortable environment where freedom is important.

Question – When are they required to sign in and out?

Answer – We encourage all students to use the QR codes whenever they are leaving the school. Whether it's for an appointment, going for lunch, leaving for a spare, eating there lunch outside. It is very important to have accurate contact tracing information to provide to AHS in the event of a positive case. Using it inside the school is also important when gathering in common areas.

Student Rep Questions from Chris and Jason:

How are the students feeling about the current school environment?

Maddy: Some students are ranting about the situation; most students feel the procedures put into place are beneficial for the school. Most students are getting used to the changes. Some students were concerned that each teacher has a different level of strictness on the new procedures mainly concerning wearing masks. Students still complain about how crowded hallways still are. You are still touching each other when going down hallways. Overall procedures are working, students just need time to get used to new rules.

Georgina: Most people are ok with wearing masks. Biggest concern is will there be enough space when winter comes and more students are in the school for lunch. Some students don't understand the point of social distancing when inside and outside rules are so different. Less paper work is a plus for classes.

Question – Did everyone feel happy to be back?

Most are happy, some are not and some are scared.

Most students did not like online learning.

Most students realize the need to be in a classroom setting.

Anxiety is definitely higher.

Sometimes QR Codes aren't used because there aren't enough around the school and people are rushing to get out to avoid crowded hallways.

Anxiety is high about availability of space during cold weather

- Chris states that they will make sure that there is enough room for students, he also stated that the whole student body will not be staying on school property as most grade 11 and 12 leave for lunch and when they have spares.

Grad – There will be 2 distinct plans for grad. – Initial Parent meeting Thursday October 29, 2020.- Idea for the meeting as 50 people max are allowed to gather. Make a sign-up genius available to parents interested in attending the meeting in person (one person per household) with a waiting list. – Meeting will be live streamed and recorded. – Submit questions in advance. – The link for attendance sign-up will be posted on multiple places like social media and website also emailed to Gr 12 parents. - Grade 12 grad committee has already met once next meeting is September 29.

Chris:

CSHS will be moving to online report cards this year. No paper copies will be mailed out. Important to get all parents on powerschool. – The news letter was sent out quarterly hoping to start sending out monthly – Virtual PTI's, still working on details, main concern for face to face video calls is the availability of technology. Currently the school does not have enough resources for every teacher to access video equipment for video calls. Most likely will be scheduled telephone calls. – Food fees will be increasing from \$40.00 to \$80.00 for 20 and 30 as the 40.00 was not covering the supplies that were being used as 20 and 30 are full semester options. - French Immersion course challenge, closes in December this year. Gr. 9 students can not challenge. Students can challenge FSL 10, 20 and 30 and get a mark for each or just challenge FSL 30 and as long as they pass, get a Pass and credits for FSL 10 and 20. Both options are available this year. The cost associated with marking this last year was over \$2000. DELF is having a meeting in the coming weeks to decide how it will work. Trying to figure

out student access. – Sports and clubs. If a student joins a school club that student cannot join a sports team or another club within the school. Sports or activities that are not school related are not included in this school rule. Playing games at the team level (example volleyball) teams can play one team multiple time, if other teams are considered for a game setting 2 weeks must be taken off playing before another team can be played. School sports will focus on a development environment for this calendar year. Currently talking to teachers about availability for school clubs and sports. – School plan 2020-2021, total students in the school 1084 down from 2019-2020 of 1171. The projected student numbers for 20-21 was 1200+. The decline is due to people moving from GP, moving to other school districts or home schooling. We also seen a decline in the Academy numbers. The school will be revisiting the current mission/vision statement as part of their PL days. Safe and caring score was slightly lower on the APORI report. This was primary due to some lower scores from the Gr. 10 students who completed it in the 19-20 school year. A focus group will be created to talk to the Gr. 11 of the current school year. Parent involvement is very important, the school only had 35 parents respond to the APORI survey. Looking at ways to boost parent involvement and feedback. Another focus area is improving connections between the Administration and students and parents. Grade 9 PTAs will go ahead, the decision was a school district choice and GPPSD chose to go ahead with Gr. 9 PTAs, the test is used to help schools in moving forward and finding areas to get better in. Math and science teachers are finding students struggling with the current curriculum, struggles are accounted to low participation in online studies from March to June. Constantly working to ensure those students needs are met.

Question – What is the % of students out sick?

Answer – We are getting close to 20% of students out on any given day. At another school that had a positive test they are finding up to 50% of their students missing from some classes due to parents keeping them home.

Outside of some PE classes using Eastlink, it will not be opening for students till at least the new year.

Question – What percentage of students are using the QR codes?

Answer – Scans are 250 students consistently using the codes per day. This number is way lower than expected. Looking at ways to boost student's participation including rewards, and possibly changing some procedures. Also making sure students realize the QR scan forms can be filled out at any point in the day. Also possibly adding more QR codes around the school.

Question – What is the protocol when there's a positive case confirmed?

Answer – AHS is in total control of the notification process and it can be slow. The school is notified by AHS that a positive case has been identified and we provided the trace data we have collected and then we wait for AHS to notify us that we can contact parents and students that AHS has deemed as students who need to isolate. If that student is at school they will be placed in isolation and parents will be notified or if the student has their own transportation, they will be sent home and parents will be notified.

Trustee Report (Rob Martin) rob.martin@gppsd.ab.ca

Highlights:

Rob: There are currently 580 students in the GPPSD from K-12 in online learning. – 13 full time teachers are teaching at home students for various different schools. – If a student returns to school from home schooling they will return to their designated (boundary) school. – There is District highlights every 2 weeks on the district website.

Chair Report (Leah)

Highlights: No report

Student Rep:

Highlights: No Report

Old Business

New Business

Questions/Concerns

Will meetings remain every 2nd month?

With the amount of information and continually changing environment, meetings will be scheduled on a need basis. With the school year just starting it is recommended a meeting be scheduled in October. Meeting format will be a blended in-person/online hybrid meeting.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 7:52 PM