

## **SIWAL SI'WES – ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **September 11, 2018**

Present:

Vivian Searwar	Peggy Janicki	Johnny Williams	Wendy Matthews
Priscilla Wells	William Wells	Sharon Syrette	Agnes Giesbrecht
Jacqelyn Turner	Tracy Loffler	Angus Wilson	Randy Cairns
Marilyn Collins	Joe Heslip	Marcy Buell	

1. Call to order and Welcome – Priscilla
2. Apologies/Regrets – Priscilla
  - Laura Buker until December
  - Florence Louie
  - Nicholas Louie
  - Norma George
  - Zelda Williams
3. Review Minutes from June 12, 2018 – Priscilla
  - Accept – Sharon Syrette
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Williams Wells, Jacqelyn Turner, Marilyn Collins
  - Motion Carried
4. Karinanne's Departure and Next Steps – Joe/Sharon/Priscilla
  - Karinanne moved in August to Invermere
  - Sending around a card to sign
  - Have a small gift of a spoon with Abalone for Karinanne
    - Done by a Haida Artist
  - Karinanne has been serving our District for over 18 years
  - Had a small tea at Fraser River Heritage Park for her
  - She will be moving into a suite at her brother's home
  - She was excited to go
5. Staffing Update - Joe
  - Joe acknowledged that we are on Unceded Stó:lo Territory
  - Joe acknowledged that the School District is also within Kwantlen, Leq'á:mel, Matsqui and Sq'ewlets Territories
  - New Liaison Worker, Jennifer Sherif
    - She will be taking Tracy Carr's place
    - Tracy has a new position with Student Services
    - Jennifer has a Masters of Indigenous Knowledge
    - She is a co-creator of AIMS
    - Has many gifts to offer
    - Will be at Albert McMahan and Dewdney
  - Addition of an E/A
    - We do have an EA starting on September 17/18
    - Will be helping with Math on Monday – Thursday afternoons
  - New to MSS
    - There have been numerous calls for Elders in the schools

- Priscilla and William Wells will be working with students at MSS in the mornings from Tuesdays – Thursdays
- Joe raises his hands in thanks
- Joe
  - Very excited to have Viv come in as District Vice Principal
  - This gives us more support for Elementary and Middle Schools
- Viv
  - So happy to be here
  - Since I started, the learning curve has gone up
  - From the prairies
  - Lived in Mission since 1998
  - Christine Morrison is the flagship
  - Always doing solid work
  - Was Vice-Principal of Hatzic Elementary
  - Is with us full time
  - Worked with Priscilla and Bill on an Elder Program
- Entire Board of 5 members allocated funds to support our department
- Thank you for your support
- Half of Peggy’s salary now comes out of CORE funding
- 6. 2017 – 2018 Grant Evaluations – Joe
  - Passed around 2 copies of the 2017 – 2018 Grant Evaluations
    - Sacred Teaching of Love
    - Many amazing initiatives
    - Welcome sign @ MSS
    - Hillside First Salmon Ceremony
    - Metis Artisan @ Cherry Hill etc....
  - Staffing concerns for West Heights
    - Staff member was away for a long time
- 7. Enhancement Agreement Implementation – Joe
  - a) The Year of “Respect”
    - Buffalo on the Prairie surrounded by Medicine Wheel
    - Artwork done by Peter Gong
    - Grateful for your choice
    - Would like our senior students to do the artwork
    - Jody Shaw has already asked students to do artwork for the next 3 teachings
  - b) St. Mary’s Residential School Experiences Curriculum Update – Joe
    - Website has grown in relevance
    - Currently viewed in 28 countries and has had 12,944 hits as of today
    - BBC and the “Great American Railroad Expedition”
    - Met with Cyril Pierre in the summer and interviewed Peggy
    - She shared the truth of St. Mary’s
    - We will get a sneak preview
    - Caleb Child called from the Ministry to see what we would like shown to other countries
    - Mission focused
    - Thank you again for your work

c)September 30<sup>th</sup> Orange Shirt Day/March to Heritage Park – Vivian

- Planning is in full swing
- Preparing package to send out for those involved
- Elders to meet around noon to start
- Johnny to do the Welcome
- Cheryl Gabriel and Lekeyten to be the speakers
- Students will have Buffalo cut outs to write their messages of Respect
- Buffalo will later be put into artwork
- Could we have tea/coffee and cookies after? Agreed

d)Non-Instructional Day Update – Joe

- Held on September 21/18
- Typically called School Goals Day
- For our staff, it is a good day to work on your paperwork
- Peggy will be doing the BC Blanket exercise for the whole staff
- Peggy has written a story called “Little Beaver”
- It has been published in the magazine called “Global Indigenous Peoples – This Land Is Our Home”
- For grades 3 - 4
- Lori Caviggia and Camielle Anderson are the new Mentor Teachers @ MSS
- Larry Jepsen is great at making all parties come together
- They would like weaving done at MSS

e)IYAQT – Viv/Joe/Peggy/Johnny

- Logo was drawn by Peggy
- Means to change
- Proposed a long time ago to have our own conference for students
- October 2<sup>nd</sup> – grades 6, 7 & 8
- October 3<sup>rd</sup> – grades 9, 10 & 11
- Will have 10 stations, maybe 11
- October 4<sup>th</sup>, all 53 grade 12 students to take the “Bad Rock River Tour”
- With Sonny McHalsie
- Pull students together to make the feel part of a team
- This isn't cheap

8. Terms of Reference, Enhancement Agreement, Cultural Days, Dinners, Committees – Priscilla/Joe

- Joe spoke with Lolahawk
- Wants to be part of the Terms of Reference and Enhancement Grant groups
- Maybe entire meetings should be devoted to these sub-committees
- Looking at people to throw out dates and times to meet
- Need Metis and Inuit representation
- Many Trustees feel the Ministry are walking away from Enhancement Agreements
- Originally had the same weight as the Achievement Contract
- We want Enhancement Agreements to continue in our District
- It's your work that helps everyone in the District do their work
- Mission leads in many respects
- We appreciate all the work your Council has done
- Sharon was here with Agnes 20 years ago

- Were very active
  - Words in the Terms of Reference are very important
  - The process getting there was amazing
  - Want to start the process for the Terms of Reference again
  - Would like to meet at the Mission Public Library again
  - Anyone who is interested can come
  - Looking at January to adopt the new Terms of Reference
  - Joe is at your disposal
  - Anything we can do to assist, let us know
9. Budget/Discretionary Fund Allocation – Joe/Marcy
- Always fiscal conservative
  - Went \$16,000 over budget last year
  - There are a lot of needs
  - We are in a really good place this year
  - Not concerned about being \$16,000 over
  - The money goes to the kids
  - 90% of our Budget goes towards salaries
  - 10% for initiatives
  - Budget includes expected #'s of students
  - Budget total is a target, not accurate
  - Not much to see with the Budget lines right now, just getting started
  - Could we have a demonstration on AIMS?
  - Joe can give handouts with information
  - Are Trades included with transitions?
  - Not the same as transitions to MSS, HPMS & HMS
  - Part of the same budget though
  - Is there student input on the Budget?
  - Very helpful for the Board Office
  - Leadership Conference
    - Would like students with lower grades (C students) to go to the Leadership Conference
    - That's our goal
    - Pick a Future Leader from grades 9, 10 & 11
    - Siyams' are grade 12's and some 11's
    - Students never go more than twice
    - Leaders are not always someone that speaks
    - Leaders can also be someone who stands at the back making sure things get done
    - Academic support
  - Academic support is only \$15,000
    - This is over and above regular staff
    - Not part of our staff, it's an E/A who will be working with students on Math afterschool @ MSS
    - 40% of our kids aren't doing well
    - Can't figure out why
    - Everyone is working hard

- Want to identify who the 40% are
- Kudos for the work that is being done
- Engaging with students earlier can help
- Not everyone learns the same way
- Lots of points of contact
- 8 years from now, you will see the results of what we are doing now
- If a child seems bored, they might not be disrespectful, maybe there are a lot of things going on in their lives
- They might not graduate on time but if you put the seeds there, they will come back
- We can do it better
- Tiny things make a difference

- Joe asked if it's okay to proceed with the Budget. Agreed.

#### 10. Co-Chair Voting Day

- Members must not have more than 3 unexcused absences in order to vote or run for co-chair
- This is in the Terms of Reference
- Sharon nominates Jacqelyn Turner
- Agnes seconds
- Jacqelyn accepts the nomination
- No other nominations after asking 3 times
- Jacqelyn by acclamation is the new co-chair
- Congratulations Jacqelyn

#### 11. A Modest Proposal – Joe

- Administrator team met in Harrison Hot Springs in August
- Robert and Chanin Smyth gained permission from the George family to learn the Salish Anthem
- Would like to approach the George family to learn the principles of the teaching of the drum
- Excited by the idea
- Proposing to take exploratory steps to pursue this
- This is Chief Dan Georges' family
- Would be good to have Gabriel George speak to our group
- Agreed to pursue

#### 12. Information Items

- September 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> are Cultural Days in Canada
  - Mission has a lot of things happening on Friday
  - Saturday, Meet the Author
  - Events at Silverhill Hall on Sunday
  - All cultures
  - Check it out Should be a supplement in the newspaper
  - This happens every year
- Mission Genealogy
  - Does cemetery tours at OMI and Hatzic Cemeteries
  - There is another cemetery in Silverdale that has unmarked graves of students that went to St. Mary's
  - Markers have fallen and haven't been repaired
  - Deroche has a cemetery also

**Grant Selection  
October 9, 2018  
9:00 a.m.  
School Board Office**

**Next Meeting  
October 16, 2018  
11:30 a.m.  
School Board Office**