

Nestor Falls School
Parent Council Meeting Minutes
April 5th, 2005

Called to Order at 6:00pm

Attended by:

Holly Kropelin

Kerri Halvorson

Billy-Jo Chalupsky

Kate Woods

Jennifer Loughheed

Suz Tomalty - absent

Tawnya Tolton

Kathy Wiggins - absent

Lucinda Meyers

Veronica Hammond

Principal's Report

The **grade 8's visited the high school** today to start thinking about their course selections. There is a new approach being implemented through the Career Education Guide for Students and Parents. Parent's night at the high school is on Tuesday April 12.

Grad photos are done and are very nice!! The collection will be displayed in the hallway, with future grad pictures added each year.

The tentative date for the graduation is on June 17th at Tinker's Too.

Bus problems are continuing to occur, and we now have a new video camera installed on the bus to observe improper behavior. Lucinda will obtain a bus seating plan from Mary to see what changes can be made. Holly will ask Fred to ride the bus again, on the afternoon run as well. Next Thursday, the officer who is presenting the D.A.R.E program to the senior class, will speak to the junior room about bus safety.

New money from the board has become available to schools for literacy materials, and Nestor Falls School received \$7,000.00. We have spent \$3200.00 on the guided reading program for Kindergarten to grade 6, and we will be purchasing History, Geography and Science text books for the senior room. \$1000.00 will be spent on informational texts for the library.

The **teachers are in phase 2 of the 'work to rule'** job action. If anyone has questions, please speak to Lucinda directly.

Old Business

Cookbook sales are still going very well, and there are still some left. More can be printed at the same price regardless of quantity, by the same company.

The Easter bingo wasn't well attended and we went backwards in the budget, but everyone had fun!

The Home and School Fund still has a healthy balance, and ideas for using some of it will be discussed during this meeting.

The endowment fund also has quite a bit of money, and suggestions on what it might be used for are as follows:

- Skipping rope hanger to be mounted by the back door
- Permanent, standard height basketball nets
- A few picnic tables and/or benches (requested by Senior Students)
- Baseball equipment - bases, bats, back catcher's mask etc
- Tether ball - a good quality one

Lucinda will price baseball equipment this weekend, Holly will price a tether ball from her sports equipment catalogues, and Billy Jo will price the picnic tables.

Spring Clean-Up ideas:

- Plant flowers - some suggestions for hardy perennials were Violas, and Day Lilies. Tawnya will talk to Jeannie for suggestions and let her know we will be putting in an order with her!!
- Plant a little garden with quick growing vegetables, possibly in the flower bed in front of school. Kerri's father will donate some nice top soil for our projects!
- Highway clean-up on Earth day - we can probably get orange reflective vests, pylons and signs from the MTO.
- Clean windows, entryway and front of school.

Holly will talk to the MTO about getting new school entrance signs (finger signs), since the old ones are hard to see and are very faded.

The board has given our school \$30,000.00 for building improvements, and the following will be completed this summer:

- New shingles on the roof
- New fascia and soffits
- Renovated bathrooms
- New blinds
- Complete interior of school will be painted

New Business

Digital School Photos gave us a picture package to view – and they are very nice!! Donald Young and many other schools in the district use this company and they are very happy with the quality, features and flexibility that they provide. We will look into possibly switching to this company in the future.

The **skating rink** is done for another year, Thank you again to Scott and all the volunteers who helped get the ice put in!!

The remaining money from the township (\$379.15) will be kept for next year since money will be needed to build up and repair the far corner of the rink again. Erosion has already caused some of the fill put in last fall, to shift downhill. An additional \$100.00 will be added to the skating rink fund, from extra money made from the hockey skills competition.

The timer switch for the rink lights had been broken, causing the lights to be on when they shouldn't have been, and Scott fixed the problem, but there was a very large hydro bill!!

This summer we will try and gather students to paint a mural on the inside walls of the rink shack, to spruce it up a bit. (This could also be taken on as an Art project in the fall!)

The **Community dinner** will be held on April 30th and the hall has been booked already. The cost is \$10.00 per person.

- The theme will be black and white memories night, with black and white photos of students, and childhood snapshots of parents, grandparents etc. adorning the walls.
- We hope to get some local musical talent to perform, and we will restrict entries from students to be one per person, and encourage group entries!! Other ideas for talent entries were having the speech contest winner deliver their speech; have the guitar club perform their Sioux Narrows Bridge song; have a Nestor Falls Idol spoof!
- We will look into having some of the meal catered, Kerri will find out about prices.
- We will borrow extra tables, chairs, dishes, and cutlery from Sioux Narrows community center.
- There will not be a penny auction this year, we will raffle off some prizes instead. Prize ideas include a digital camera, a fly in fishing trip, a cooler and chairs (camping supplies), and two prizes appealing to kids.

- Holly will make the tickets and posters, and the kids will make some table top decorations.
- We will need to find an M.C.
- Another event for the evening is to present someone with our citizen of the year award, which will be voted on and decided prior to the dinner. A ballot box can be put at Dalseg's, and anyone can cast their vote. The criteria it has to be a person who has done something to better the community and is always willing to give their time. The deadline for votes to be entered will be around April 25th.

Hot Lunch has just 3 weeks left!! Billy Jo has a few things left over, so we will have a leftover day, sometime in May.

Library – All of the school council are in favor to take \$1000.00 from the home and school fund and donate it to the Library to be put toward resource books. This will match the \$1000.00 from the board money to put much needed 'updated' books on the shelves!!

Veronica will organize a **book fair** to be held in the middle of May, (dates TBA), to raise money for the library. Once materials are received from Scholastic, brochures, posters and banners will be distributed throughout the community, and also in the Onigaming School and Sioux Narrows public school. We will work hard to make this a successful event, and volunteers will be greatly appreciated.

Other Business

Balance Day - Lucinda has proposed the idea of our school going to the balanced day, as the majority of all schools in our district have already done. There are many benefits to switching to a balanced day, and more information will be put into the next newsletter about it.

Picnic – We are not sure if we will be having a school picnic this year, as the teachers cannot participate in the organization of it. More discussion will take place once we get closer to that time.

Vaccinations– At the end of April/beginning of May grade 7's will be vaccinated for hepatitis and (new) meningococcal C conjugate **vaccine** (a bacterial infection which can lead to meningitis).

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm