



COUSTEAU

COUSTEAU
THE FRENCH INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF VANCOUVER 

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

February 23 ,2017

- 1) Minutes from last meeting are now approved. No questions.
- 2) School Calendar for 2017/2018
 - The way it works the calendar has to be voted on by the council. Each teacher and class rep has a vote.
 - School calendar 936 Max teaching hours. We can't go above 26 hours of school per week (FRENCH AEFE REQUIREMENT)
 - 870 teaching hours, 6 paedological days (BC REQUIREMENT)
 - 2 Proposals:
 - 1) 2 weeks in March
 - 2) 1 Week in Feb / 1 week in March

Vote on School day hours – teachers say lots of kids leaving at 3:00 pm for clubs. One suggestion is to start earlier and leave earlier

Calendar 1 : 6 Parents
 10 teachers

Calendar 2: 6 Parents
 8 Teachers

Day School Option Vote 8:45 am – 3 pm + Calendar 1

Question from parent (man at the back of the room): 45 min lunch break children get to watch a documentary and they don't get to finish their lunches. Is the 45 min lunch time long enough?

Daphne response: It depends on the child. Some need 5 min and others take a long time.

Nicole response: The younger students have enough time to eat as they don't go to recess right away so they have 40 minutes to eat.

Structure for next Year:

- Working on how many students for next year as well as school tuition
- Survey going out to parents next week asking parent to respond before Spring Break

INFO SESSION: KG / PS/ 4/5 & College for parents taking place this week Monday and Thursday

Working on a solid grade 6 & 7 to get these students to stay.
The grade college teachers will stay.

STRATEGY OF THE SCHOOL:

Based on the return of the survey.

Teachers were asked to put together an action plan between 3 – 5 years

Annabelle analyzed the survey.

There were 130 families total. 75 families completed the survey

93% of kids like the school

98% of kids respect their teacher

95% of parents feel welcome

Parents were asked “Why choose Cousteau?”

61% chose Cousteau because of the academics

78% chose Cousteau because of the French

Planning big change to After School Clubs. The plan is to establish a contract with professionals.

Organizations.

Question: How does it work with Faly? Answer: They will still provide their program and camps

CLASS PROJECTS:

Cycle 2: : Circus School Project . PS/KG/CP

Cycle 3: : Working on Drama “Little Bone” 4, 5 & 6

Julie Pla:

French teacher in the middle school and does drama will represent Cousteau School at Festival des Bois.

MS (Nicole):

Here students will go into the forest. Vicki Larson trained as an outdoor school teacher will participate and give them suggestions and ideas.

CURRICULUM:

From previous council meeting: Looking for common points between the French and BC Curriculum. This study will go until June.

FRENCH SECOND LANGUAGE:

Sophie takes the kids who need help into her class to build up their French. There are 36 kids up KG up to grade 7.

The class is held in the old nap room. It is very cozy and not intimidating.

Great feedback from the teachers and parents. Very successful program.

SPECIAL NEEDS:

Magaly – Special Needs

There are 25 children she follows

Important project that will be kept for next year.

Ecco School: We are now at the end of the whole process. 8 projects, recycling, building beehives and composting.

Still to do: Establishing the code of conduct for the eco School at Cousteau

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE:

Every class will have their own space to communicate with parents. One point of Communication. It is currently being tested with the Grade 3 class now.

New Pedagogical contract – 8 pages being sent to parents next week. What commitments are we asking of you as parents.

BULLYING:

Do you feel your child is bullied at school?

OFTEN	6%
SOMETIMES	25%
RARELY	32%
NEVER	36%

Anti-bullying policy sent to families on Pink Day.

IN CASE OF BULLYING

- 1) Parents first informed
- 2) If you suspect bullying bring to the school's attention
- 3) Systematic steps will be taken by the school to deal with bullying

The main goal is to prevent bullying.

Daphne is piloting a project with students:

- 1) Class council - students bring up issues once a week
- 2) Clear message – break down the behavior
- 3) Delegate council one every 3 weeks all the students

SECURITY ISSUES:

Fire Drill - JAN 24

Earthquake drill: JAN 31

QUESTIONS FROM PARENTS:

- 1) Fraser Institute ranking for Cousteau – Doesn't feel it paints a clear picture of the school only a moment in time. Staff approve.
- 2) Bake Sale issue – Many parents feel there are too many bake sales and sugar and treats given to the children. – PAC is going to combine some of the classes so there will be less bake sales.
- 3) Will there still be a split class in Grade 1? Some parents are happy about it and some parents are not happy about it. Cannot promise at this point. It depends on the number of students.
- 4) Security Issue – Forest area during recess is a concern for several parents. – Several teachers watching the forest.
- 5) Answering the phone: The phone is not being answered consistently during the day. It is really difficult to reach anyone in the school by phone. It was pointed out that there should be someone answering the phone from 8:30AM until 5:30PM while there are children in the school – Will make efforts to answer the phone.
- 6) Will the PS teachers who are staying in PS be asked to stay? – It is not known
- 7) There appears to be a low turnout for volunteers for the bake sales. Parents are overburdened – There will be better communication between the school and the PAC moving forward.

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