

WR Myers School Council
Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2023 7:00pm

Meeting called to order 7:00pm

1. Introductions/Attendees: Over 100 Parents, friends and community members in attendance, Scott Petronech, Adam Hughes, Nicole Cooney, Sean Dupuis. Also in attendance from the Horizon School Division Dr. Wilco Tymensen - Superintendent, Mr. Bruce Francis - Trustee (Ward 3 Taber), Mr. Blair Lowry - Trustee (Ward 3 Taber), Mr. Maxwell Holst - Trustee (Ward 3 Taber)

Additions to Agenda

2. Principals Report - See attached
New Staff - Mr. Bergman for Ressler. Mr. Goudy - Science, Mr. Johnson, Math TMS
3. Sports Update - Successful season start. Volleyball, Football, cross country, and golf. There is interest for a boys Rugby 7's team for spring. Athletic Fundraiser will be Rebels cards, and will be for sale in a few weeks. Fan Appreciation night for Football will be this Friday September 22. Volleyball Appreciation nights TBA.
4. Hot Lunch Fundraisers - Taber Rugby club will be running hot lunches Wednesdays and Open Cafeteria for drinks and snacks Wednesdays. Email will go home with details.
5. Grad 2023 Recap and planning for 2024.
There will be 83 graduates for 2024. Ceremony will be held May 24/2024 and banquet May 25/2024. Grad parent meeting to be held Tuesday September 23 @7pm. Looking for feedback and input on planning the graduation celebration.
6. REBELS Rebranding - It was brought to the administration's attention that there are school community members that find the REBELS name and past logo to have negative connotations. When parents and community members were made aware of this, it seemed that the removal of the REBELS name had already begun. The parent and student community feel there is a lack of transparency, bringing mis-trust to the school and its administrators. Concerns were also brought forward from a parent to council chair as it was stated the Tier 1 volleyball team were discouraged from wearing REBELS jerseys. Principal Scott Petronech said that concerns were brought forward from a few parents regarding the past imagery regarding the school branding. The Horizon School board and Superintendent were consulted at this time. Other stakeholders were NOT consulted. The financial implications of rebanding are immense.
It was stated by the administration this meeting would be a platform for people to express their opinions on the matter. Multiple letters, calls and texts were received by the council chair and forwarded to administration as well as the superintendent. While there is no definitive resolution, it was said that NO change would be made regarding the rebranding of the REBELS until at very least the time of the school modernization project. Scott indicated that the school will NOT be moving forward with a name change at the present time.

School Council members were given mic time to express their opinions and concerns.

Speakers included:

Bryden O'Connor - Student Body President

Ren Rabusic

Tammie Unser

Cindy Kanomata

Barb Nakashima

Jessie Ellingson

Lee Reid

Jose May Erickson

Bill Wright

Angeline Abela

Leif Erickson

Blaine Carlsen

Brooke Rasmussen

Ken Wood

Christopher Shimbashi

Kendra Wilson

Katie Guimond

Chloe Johnson

Leilani Holst

Jason Jensen

Taylor Brown

Brynn Keeler

Hailey Keeler

Claiton Pierson

Katarina Martens

Todd Kerkhoff

Meeting adjourned 9:11pm

Next meeting: November 8, 7:00pm