

RCI SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 17, 2008
6:30 pm.

Members Attending: S. Klinck, A. Emon, S.Fleming, M.Murdock, A.McGregor-Stewart
L. Jefferey, J.Bradley, M.Belmore.

Call to order at 6:35 pm by S. Klinck with introductions

Literacy Forum:

A walking tour of the school library was conducted by A.Emon.

A handout was distributed outlining ways to access data bases through Knowledge Ontario.

M. Murdock spoke about the Renfrew Public Library Literacy outreach program. Information was presented to indicate ways that school students can access the Renfrew Public Library through links. The Youth Outreach program is designed to attract teens and especially boys through games and other on-loan material. A pamphlet will be dropped off at school to distribute to increase awareness.

S.Klinck nominated M.Murdock as the community representative to the school council. Seconded by L.Jefferies and motion was carried.

6 + 1 writing traits concept was discussed by A Emon along with a handout. This method began in the primary and junior levels and has moved to the senior level. The focus is on increasing writing skills using common language to describe writing traits, for example voice, organization, presentation, word choice, and clearly communicating to students what is meant by each trait.

Door prizes in the literacy theme were held with a prize for all in attendance.

Student Council Report:

M. Belmore reported on the activities and events planned by the Student Council.

A food drive will be held December 2.

A movie night every Wednesday night in the school cafeteria has been successful with varying attendance. This will be further advertised in the Renfrew Library in the future.

The Christmas semi-formal will be held December 12 with the theme of Fire and Ice.

Cost is \$15 with a student card and \$20 for a guest.

The Drama presentation of Rebel without a Cause will play December 3, 4 and 5.

There is an assembly planned once a month for the student body presenting different character education themes and information to the students

The Coffee House had a showcase of talent on November 14 which was well attended.

The shop and support gift card program is gaining awareness. Proceeds from these go towards school extracurricular program costs.

Staff report:

A.Emon reported that Guidance and the School Support Counsellor have been conducting bullying awareness workshops to grade 9's.

Speakers such as Jim Jordan and Dr Eva Olsen, Holocaust survivor, spoke to the entire student body about the need to 'speak up and tell' and also the role of the 'bystander and the need to speak up' and that students can go on line and report bullying through www.bullying.com

Principal's Report:

A.Emon reported on the IEP procedure and that parent input is welcome at any stage of its development. Students that have a formal identification need to have documentation to support it. Differentiated instruction has reduced the need for many IEP's.

The dress code was reported on by reviewing the section that outlines it in the student agenda.

The school action plan for 2008-09 was outlined.

Goal is to target the grade 10 students to increase their literacy level.

Focus is on character education and creating a positive school climate

To improve student performance and success through EQAO results, credit accumulation and report card success and to increase the special education students' performance on the provincial literacy tests.

Minutes of the Last Meeting:

Minutes of the last meeting were presented and S. Fleming motioned to accept them as written, seconded by J. Bradley and carried.

Correspondence:

Pamphlets "Where's the Party" provided by the Health Unit were distributed

New Business:

There was \$500 provided to school councils by the Ministry of Education for the council's use. Ideas were invited on how to make good use of this money.

One question was raised about the enrichment programming available as presented at the last meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2009.

Send agenda items to S Klinck 2-3 weeks ahead of time.

Agenda will be distributed one week prior to the next meeting, along with previous meeting minutes for member review.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.