

## CIS - OBK School Council Meeting # (3)

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, November 03, 2016
<b>Time:</b>	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Upper Floor in the open space - OBK Campus 225 – 28th Street SE, Calgary Alberta
<b>Participants:</b>	School Council Members, Administration, Society Members, School Council Executive Committee.

### Attendees

Names	Positions	Email Addresses
Raiha Idrees	Principal CIS – OBK Campus	raiha.idrees@pallisersd.ab.ca
Ousama Kadri	Vice Principal CIS – OBK Campus	ousama.kadri@pallisersd.ab.ca
Ahlam Sadden	Chairperson	ahlamsadden@hotmail.ca
Nida Aziz	Vice Chair	nida_salman@hotmail.com
Nada Merhi	Treasurer	nadamerhi@hotmail.ca
Anjum Dawood	Parent Representative Coordinator	anjdwd@yahoo.ca
Nadia Harati	Volunteer Committee Lead	harati.jeha@gmail.com
Nick Irving	Acting Teacher Representative	nicholas.irving@pallisersd.ab.ca
Shafakat Syed	Parent	shafakat@yahoo.com
Mekia Mohammed	Parent	siham.2@live.ca

Minutes:

Meeting begins at 6:47 PM.

Opening Dua by Mr. Ousama Kadri.

### Discussions:

#### Ahlam Sadden:

- Going briefly over Principal's report and agenda items.

- Discussing sports programs and upcoming special events.
- We are in the process of finalizing school fence.
- MCFC provided initial quotes.
- Haseeb (in charge of the facilities and maintenance) of the School building, has a quotation of \$29,000 from a company.
- School Council suggested Haseeb to contact “Lynx Fencing” for another quotation for comparison reasons.
- This comparison will help in deciding an option which is more feasible.
- Companies usually need a couple of weeks to compare and discuss. School Council will keep parents informed in the final process.

Nick Irving:

- Was present in the meeting where proposal in terms of “Fence” were provided by MCFC.
- Brainstormed some ideas in terms of safety in the parking lot.

Ousama Kadri:

- Also attended MCFC meeting and presented initial draft to Dr. Omar (CEO of CIS) and he liked it.
- Showing attendees, the map to explain what has been discussed so far with MCFC.
- Building “Speed Bumps” is phase 2 project.
- Making “Side-Walk” in the green space is phase 3 project.
- “Fence Project” is phase 4.
- Put up visible traffic signs and paint the direction signage for parents’ convenience.
- Administration will like to have a copy of the final document.
- The current document is a recommendation from the Administration. It is now up to Haseeb to follow along to make sure if it is valid in terms of traffic by-laws.
- We want to fence the area around the parking lot so kids can play without any traffic hindrance.
- MCFC considering an option to use back alley of the playground to use as a parking lot to access the tower and the Musallah.
- It is a useful proposal.
- Fire lane and Emergency exits should be accessible at all times.

Nida Aziz:

- Want to clarify if the SE gate entrance which is currently closed will be used by MCC to access the Musallah/Tower?

Ousama Kadri:

- No plans as of now to use this entrance. Most probably this entrance will be fenced as well.

Nida Aziz:

- Please allocate names of the various school entrances in order to remove any confusion especially while communicating with parents in the near future.

Nick Irving:

- Suggestion noted.

Nadia Harati:

- Convey parents to move forward while parked in front of the building through some yield signs.

Anjum Dawood:

- Mentioned handicap parking spot is inaccessible.

Raiha Idrees:

- Noted Anjum Dawood's point and will look into it.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Concerned if there is some way to notify parents.

Raiha Idrees:

- Parents have the right to be informed and will have an input before the final draft.
- Stressed that to have an insight parents must attend School Council meetings.

Ousama Kadri:

- Dr. Omar confirmed that School maintenance and safety projects are covered under school budget.

Nick Irving:

- There will be a process of feed back from parents after we receive a final draft.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Involve parents in school maintenance jobs like concrete pouring etc. Parents might offer a

better discount.

- Dr. Omar is not present today. Approval pending on vending machine.

Ousama Kadri:

- Inquired about coordination with Schools' Health Committee with regards to the vending machine?

Raiha Idrees:

- Health Committee also want to set up healthy lunch and vending machine for the students.
- Hanna Bryant is in charge of the Health Committee.
- It was formed with the WEP. Funds pooled from last year that weren't used can be utilized this year for these initiatives.
- \$400 available to spend on the vending machine from the grant.

Nada Merhi:

- Browsed vending machine options on Kijiji.

Raiha Idrees:

- One of the School Council members should get in touch with Hannah Bryant to clarify about vending machine.

Raiha Idrees:

- Parent Representative Program (PRP) will be implemented this year.
- Some specific clubs, LLI program etc. need parent volunteers.
- PRP will help in organizing volunteer needs for these in school activities as well as field trips.

Anjum Dawood:

- Police Clearance forms and Parent Representative forms should be sent out.

Nick Irving:

- PRP will eliminate the need of asking parents individually to show their police clearance.

Raiha Idrees:

- We will proceed with Parent Representative forms in the coming week InshaAllah.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Thursday, November 10, 2016 is ASCA workshop on "Purpose of School Council".

- Update on the playground repair. First company is paying the second company to fix the required repairs after their inadequate method of repairs.
- Drainage is also a minor issue that has been noticed through this process.
- School should have an yearly inspection of the playground.

Ousama Kadri:

- A parent made a complaint about Apollo Structure being too high.

Nick Irving:

- Inform kids that there has to be a restricted number of the kids on the structure at one time.
- Capacity is based on the manageability of the person on supervision.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Scheduled, documented and emailed potential hot lunch dates. We can also coordinate hot lunch around special events.
- Requested Principal to share detailed school calendar.

Raiha Idrees:

- Carrie is leading the learning committee during PDFs.
- Professional Development Fridays (PDFs) are also utilized by offering the school staff some Islamic teachings such as learning about the companions of Prophet Mohammad (SAW).

Nick Irving:

- Social Studies is a very dry subject. These Islamic learnings are giving me the freedom and making my job exciting as well. For example, I have applied the story of Khadijah to the relevant social studies chapter and made it interesting for the students by connecting both studies. This will help students in relating the Islamic teachings with the school curriculum.

Raiha Idrees:

- Added that these learnings are also based on the morning assembly current theme: "Learning about the Prophet's Companions".
- We have incorporated "virtues" last year and now are applying those virtues through example set by these companions.
- Alberta's curriculum is changing. The initial idea was to integrate Islamic concepts into Language Arts (LA), Math and Science.
- We are waiting on the new curriculum and will decide accordingly.

Shafakat Syed:

- I would like to bring up my observation while organizing a Wudu and Taharah competition outside of school.
- Students who participated from Calgary Islamic School are not performing proper Wudu.
- I would suggest they need a refresher course or supervision to correct this problem.
- We go through intensive training when organizing these workshops such as Wudu competition or Qur'an competition.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Students are taught Wudu in Grade 2.

Raiha Idrees:

- I will be talking to Shaikh Yousef in this regard. It could be one of the initiatives he can work on along with other initiatives.
- I will put it in schools' agenda to incorporate Wudu competition.

Shafakat Syed:

- I can help in arranging such competitions. It involves a great deal of learning and I have observed great value coming out of it.

Anjum Dawood:

- Some students bring iPads & iPhones to the school. One mother was complaining that few students were watching an inappropriate movie in the school premise.

Raiha Idrees:

- School internet is safe and inaccessible to the students. Inappropriate websites are blocked.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Asked Principal on the update on Indigo grant.

Raiha Idrees:

- We will keep applying for indigo grant every year. This year we will know by spring whether we are selected or not.
- One of the complaints last year was that Science Fair was at the same time as was the Qur'an Competition and some students could not participate in both of them.
- This year school events are being planned wisely so that they do not interfere with other

events.

- Students will also have an equal chance of participating in any or multiple events.

Shafakat Syed:

- Asked about Hadith Club.

Raiha Idrees:

- Hadith Club is in effect.

Nida Aziz:

- What is the difference between Raz Kids and LLI Program?

Raiha Idrees:

- Raz Kids is for all the students where as LLI Program is focussed for students who are behind their Grade level reading.
- Some parents are not in favour of Raz Kids.
- School has signed up for Raz Kids this year and made it available for parents. The rational is there is more good than harm.

Nick Irving:

- Raz kids should continue at home. In Classrooms we do more than that like auditory sense etc.
- Its hard to assess students reading levels through Raz Kids as some of the students' siblings / parents would read books on their behalf. This causes variation in Classroom reading levels and home reading levels.

Nada Merhi:

- Explaining a program called "Brown Bag".
- There are two options.
- Option 1 Is volunteers go and prepare the lunch themselves. There is a limit of 15 people at one time in the kitchen.
- We can include volunteers and Tahfeeth students in this program.
- Option 2 is younger kids can be involved by making them colour and decorate the brown bags and putting some small quotation notes inside.
- Everyday they are using brown paper bag and delivering free lunches to children who would otherwise go hungry.

Nick Irving:

- It ties in with our virtues and we can also send students class wise.
- Contribute by taking for example Grade 1s to color the brown bags.

Anjum Dawood:

- Sometimes children during recess share lunches among themselves when they don't like their own lunch.
- There is no supervision during lunch time.
- Children should not be sharing lunches due to allergies, health and faith reasons.
- School can provide free lunches in this scenario rather than kids sharing with each other.

Raiha Idrees:

- Dalal use to deal with Food Drive last year. She works at Akram Jomaa Campus now.
- I will look into who is in charge of Food Drive this year.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Asks Principal about Islamic Staffs' Professional Development (PD).

Raiha Idrees:

- Responded that \$10,000 dollars have been designated for Islamic PD.
- Principal and their vice will coordinate.
- 2 - 3 teachers applied their paper. Teacher Rasha presented her paper and it was accepted.
- Teacher Rasha and 2 other teachers will be attending the Anaheim conference this year.

Nadia Harati:

- All the kids are doing great. They need a little bit more help in Arabic letter connecting through some letter connecting activity send by their Arabic teachers.

Raiha Idrees:

- Consult child's teacher in this regard.
- School has an Arabic learning resource available online.
- Arabic language classes for parents will be offered soon.
- Ousama and I will arrange a workshop for parents to share the school review report.
- School Administration is doing what it need to do in terms of school goals.
- We submitted these goals on October 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 and will present it on November 30<sup>th</sup>. 2016.
- School will send 3 – 4 teachers for Archery program this year and implement it in one of our club programs next year.



Nida Aziz:

- We can include AJ School in the Archery program and have an on campus training since the trainers require minimum 8 teachers to come to the campus.

Nada Merhi:

- Collected information on cricket program offered by Glenmore Cricket Academy.
- Glenmore cricket club offer an indoor program. They offer equipment and technical training for the teachers as well.

Nick Irving:

- I will share gym schedule with the School Council.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Offer different sports programs. Learning cricket will be a 2-week program.

Nada Merhi:

- When will be the cricket program be implemented?
- We have started fundraising for it.
- Made a profit of \$282.16 through bake sales.
- Like to provide students cricket and other sport options.
- Karate is also a good indoor option.

Raiha Idrees:

- We can introduce cricket from Division 3.
- Costing, number of sessions are also major factors for consideration.

Nada Merhi:

- Asks for gym schedule.

Raiha Idrees:

- I will send you the gym schedule. We can start based on the availability of the gymnasium.

Ahlam Sadden:

- It would be realistic to start after the New Year Break.

Nada Merhi:

- In two weeks' time frame we will do a meeting with Glenmore Cricket Academy to ask for more information.

Raiha Idrees:

- I can attend the meeting and prepare costing analysis.
- Last year we arranged kickboxing in the cafeteria for Tahfeeth students.
- Tahfeeth group is also going to self defense classes this year.

Ousama Kadri:

- We can introduce parents game nights and organize Tahajjud nights.

Nida Aziz:

- Table tennis can also be a very good indoor physical activity.

Ousama Kadri:

- Students can play table tennis during recess as well.

Raiha Idrees:

- We did look into buying table tennis options last year. It is affordable as well but due to lack of storage we cannot have it.

Ahlam Sadden:

- Notified Principal that Kitchen pantry is being used for storing Kleenex Cartons.

Raiha Idrees:

- She will look into it.

Next School Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 at 6:30 PM.

Meeting end at 8:25 PM.

Closing Dua by Mr. Ousama Kadri

Minutes Approved by:

Principal  
Raiha Idrees


Chairperson  
Ahlam Sadden

Vice Chair  
Nida Aziz


Minutes Approved by:



Principal  
Raiha Idrees



Chairperson  
Ahlam Sadden



Vice Chair  
Nida Aziz