**School Council Minutes**

**Long Range Academy**

**January 13th, 2014**

The third School Council meeting for the 2013-14 school year took place on January 13, 2014 and started at 7:00 P.M. with11 members present.

Those in attendance were: Michelle Patey, Tracey Ellsworth, Cathy Payne, Shelley Power, Natasha Hynes, Sherry Legge, Terri Lynn Payne, Jean Murphy, Leo Caines, Jerry Combdon, and Barbara Shears.

The meeting started at 7:00 P.M. with Ms. Patey welcoming everyone.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed with no errors or omissions and were adopted as read.

Reports for November went out on November 29th, 2013. 29/65 junior and senior students made the academic list (marks were a minimum of 65%). Students achieved gold, silver, or bronze based on their academic average. Students were excited about this and it went over well. Ms. Patey was pleased with this result and is hoping to have something at the end of the year for these students.

Midterms are scheduled to begin on January 27th, 2014. High school students will have blocked, 2 hour exams while junior high exams will not be blocked. There will be no homework or tests while exams are taking place. Grade 7 will have Math and Language. Grade 8, Math and Language, and Grade 9, Math, Language, Science, and French.

With the help of a grant, a late bus started today. This late bus will be going on twice a week. It entails students staying afterschool from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to take part in educational activities. In 6 weeks time, the activities will be reviewed and possibly switched up. Parents are being encouraged to take part and either plan an activity or help out whenever possible.

8 out of 16 students in the Grade ¾ class are having difficulty with reading and reading comprehension. To improve this each child is getting at least 30 minutes one on one. Out of the 8, one child has shown a big improvement and another child is doing much better. There is a lot of focus being put on this. There has been an improvement in decoding but not so much in comprehension. Part of Ms. Smith’s award for teaching excellence was $1000.00. Ms. Smith graciously donated it to the school. A set of book were ordered for the primary section for $1500.00 with the school paying the rest.

So far this winter hasn’t been a great one. Ms. Patey tries to get to Parsons Pond and St. Paul’s to observe the weather and road conditions. If this is not possible she calls Leo to inquire the current weather in St. Paul’s. School closures due to weather has tried to made in a timely fashion. Synervoice is used to call home to let parents and students know of closures as well as the radio station. Parents can also visit [www.nlesd.ca](http://www.nlesd.ca) for a list of closures. If school remains open but a parent feels his/her child should not be out in the weather, it is the parent’s choice to send their child/children to school or keep them home.

Staff at LRA have been involved in writing a new school policy. It will be presented at the next council meeting for review. It has to be approved by council before it can be in written form.

Art students decided to hold a cookie sale in place of a wreath sale before Christmas. This went over well.

Ms. Patey has not yet had time to start things up regarding an active Home & School Committee. She had assured that is has not been forgotten.

Student Leadership are hoping to hold a dance sometime in February.

Ms. Patey’s academic concerns are that students are not doing their best and she is hoping that they will actively take part in upcoming tutorials offered at the school. Teachers will do what they can towards these tutorials.

The next School Council meeting will take place on February 10th, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.