

WILLINGDON HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING –

November 13th 2018

Present: Geneviève Trudeau, Mireille Tehbelian, Daniela Padulo, Jennifer Hulleman, Luisa Carpio-Mak, Catherine Lavoie, Isabelle Gaul, Grace Tang, Kristin McNeill, Michelle Luterman Alfonso, Trinity Wittman, Carmen Nicolas, Sally Burnett, Julie Trudel

Welcome and introductions:

The meeting starts at 7 pm.

Approval of Agenda:

New business #5 Card drive and sock drive, moved before presidents report so Monique Dykstras can leave early and doesn't have to sit through the whole meeting.

Agenda approved on a motion by Mireille Tehbelian, seconded by Luisa Carpi-Mak.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from last meeting were posted late so we leave a few minutes give a few minutes for members to read through.

Minutes from the previous meeting required no changes and were approved on a motion by Genevieve Trudeau and seconded by Mireille Tehbelian.

- Sock drive: Monique says she is happy to be involved or to pass it on to H&S. Easier if H&S took it over. The event is getting bigger and bigger, it was started 7 years ago with only a few pairs of socks and it grew. Last year the Willingdon kids drew 350 cards, some even stuck coins inside their cards. The Mission made a sweet video with kids giving the cards, and we see the people receiving the socks; not everyone is able to go distribute so it was nice to see. Monique says it's not a huge event to coordinate and she's happy to help out. She distributes socks at Mission and cards at shelters all over the city. Not only men receiving, women too. H&S will make a collection box. Last year, the whole school participated. Michelle and Isabelle will count the socks and drop them off. If someone will collect cards (Michelle agreed) Monique will distribute to the shelters. It REALLY makes a difference, they really like them. In the years to come, Monique will remind principal in fall and collect the cards in December.

Co-chair report (Formerly known as President's Report) (Sally- Julie)

Julie wants to rename the report: co-chair report! There are no objection! Really busy month.

- Thoughtful Thursdays going well, first one was better than the second one.
- Halloween, photo day, Open House, etc. All events going smoothly Thx Isabelle and all coordinators.
- Pizza and Froyo Has begun to great success and we still have a few new trickling in which our coordinators are handling graciously
- Emergency fund checklist: : We have created a form for families who are requesting assistance from the emergency fund to clarify their needs. Parents are able to select the activities, fees, and/or other support that they are requesting from the Family Emergency Fund. This will better

allow us to streamline the process of providing the aid, create a budget for the fund, and meet the needs of our community in the most efficient way. So far, approx. 12 families on the list, Parents are grateful.

- Basketball team is established, reached out for more girls because you have to have at least 2 on the court, all good.
- Grad committee is working already.
- Christmas Line-up is as packed as usual which we will discuss in upcoming business

Principal's Report (Carmen Nicolas)

Carmen also comments on the busy month of November!

- Halloween was really great, Haunted house was using the entire gym. Miss Belinsky and Dr. Kat were volunteering to hold activities. At the Staff council meeting, it was decided that next year, every specialist will have a Halloween activity because we need more activities but they need to be shorter. We are looking at 4 more stations for next year; and maybe rotating activities in each Kindergarten classes. Thank you to all volunteers.
- Report cards season: all marks were in on Monday, the report cards will be printed and signed starting Wednesday for a Monday distribution. Teacher meetings will be at 4pm to 8pm the First night and 1pm to 8pm the second day. Better for teachers, less tiring.
- CTV was here to shoot commercial in our library for their spirit of giving campaign, Mitsumi Takahashi and Paul Karwatsky were here to film. For that, we received a beautiful new Christmas tree, it's in the library for now but will be displayed where it's the most visible. The commercial will start on air next week and until Christmas.
- To promote the program, the Tool box program had a door context displayed from open house to parent-teacher meetings. The winners are rooms 21 and 32, they won a pizza lunch.
- The Homework program is a funded program for kids that may have difficulties completing their homework. The teachers recommend the children that would benefit, approx 10 students per grade level, 3 days a week 3:45 to 4:45, from December to May.
- Transition to high school for grade 6. Bartemaues is an organization to help kids transition. School is compiling a list of where the kids are going, preparing portrait of the kids to help with transition. Workshop in the school, starting in spring, how best to support the kids and send them to success.
- New school consultation process. EMSB wants to open a new school where the building that was previously Focus school now stands. It's only at the consultation stage. The discussion is whether it's needed or not, the elementary schools in the immediate area like Edinburg, Willingdon and Merton are at full capacity and more. 550 is maximum for Willingdon. The programming of the new school would be also new: Français +, which is 100 % French until grade 4 then 50-50 for 5 and 6. They are looking at opening in September 2019. The school would be small, about 250 students, it might be big enough to provide relief.
- New sexual education program from Ministry. The Willingdon staff had a meeting, they took the curriculum from ministry and decided who will teach what. They will present their plan to the board. After looking at curriculum they realized that 90% of it is already taught at Willingdon. The program is approx. 10 hours per year, starting in Kindergarten.

- December activities: concert December 13th, pyjama day on last day. There will be a lock down drill in December, Principal will send a letter to prepare parents and kids. Last year, for the k, they were told the drill was for if a skunk came in the school and no one wanted to be sprayed. It was decided that skunk might not be a good scenario. (There is a few minutes of discussion about if it's good to shelter the children or not; we did not arrive at any final conclusion). All buildings are required to have one drill per year. The Agence socio-communautaire is giving directives on how it has to happen for each building. Willingdon has old thick doors, no transom and no windows in their doors.
- Countdown: six weeks before the Holidays!

Teacher's Report (Mireille Tehbeleian and Daniella Padulo)

- The teachers find that November is a busy month. Salle 1 et 2 went to Benny library, cycle 2 and 3 had a Remembrance day ceremony, November 8th was the grade 4 vaccination; Tomorrow Nov 14th is WE day in Ottawa (45 grade 6 kids are going), there is also a theater field trip in grade 4 at Benny library: Romeo and Juliette. Monday Nov 19th, the report cards and confirmation of parent-teacher appointments will be distributed. Next week, Tuesday, Grade 6 field trip at OSM, Bake sale, book fair, gear sale and honey sale on the 21st. Also multiple field trips to come in November.
- Santa Claus breakfast tbc in Dec.

Communication/Membership Report (Trinity Wittman)

- How do we call out for volunteers and send out information? Facebook, email, etc. There are 780 people on the email list. Trinity is concerned about the paper only families and how to get them the info they need? Call them? If something is critical, we can go the extra mile to make sure they know, Rosie makes sure they get it in paper.
- The "No photo" children, it is difficult to manage that. Carmen says that she asks the teachers not to send out pictures with those kids and Rosie and Andrea know who they are. H&S doesn't know so they can't take pictures of events or post on anything on social media. It's hard to manage.

Treasurer's Report (Geneviève Trudeau)

- Bank balance is good right now: 55,000\$ There is still pizza to pay though! There is approx. 5670,00 for the family emergency fund it's healthy.
- Grad roll over from last year is 1142,00\$.
- Halloween was not expensive
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EDP Report (Tanya Savickey)

Not present

Other Business

1) Upcoming Events

- 1) Recettes en Pot- ongoing- one week left for orders on line: Nov 18th, deadline for paper orders is Nov. 12th. Willingdon gets 50% of all sales, right now at 3000\$, hoping to go to 4000\$. Next year, hope to reduce paper forms, there are more products to choose from online and it's not worth printing the forms for everyone, it costs 500\$. Luisa says she is all

set for volunteers to help sort through but she needs help to distribute at the pancake breakfast.

- 2) Food Drive- Nadine and Sally are hoping to transition to funds drive, The Depot would prefer cash donation than food itself because it's better value for money, the cost of food drive is expensive and it might not be the most effective. Nadine came up with the idea of a money drive instead of food drive. Kids would bring in money and with a visual aid they will put virtual food item in a virtual basket instead of a can of food. The teachers react and explain that they don't want to collect money. It will have to be online or cheques donation and be run by H&S. Michelle Alfonso is very involved with the food drive and the family Christmas baskets and explains that she still would like to have a food drive, in order to make sure that families get the box. She says that the families really liked and need it. The Pancake breakfast drive is collected specifically for our families but it's not enough. There will be presentations in classrooms to explain and help boost the drive. It's decided that most food collected will go to our families and the money will go to The Depot. Michelle would like to improve process from last year. This year is a transition year, see how it goes, we will put boxes in classrooms for families (Luisa says we can use thoughtful Thursday boxes), and online donation for The Depot.
- 3) Book Fair- November 21st- Call out has gone out for volunteers and we are all set. Posters are up, coupons for draw have been distributed, the wheels are in motion! There is also Bake and Gear sale and that day: gear sale stock is good, it will start at 3:35, We have plenty of volunteers for that too but might need help with pricing.
- 4) Pancake Breakfast: 4 coordinators- Sally, Michelle, Grace and Kim: December 15th, lots of volunteers needed. Cook the pancakes before at people's house, is a good system so that it doesn't blow up the fuses. Call out will go out soon, Fun event! It has doubled in attendance. The pancake mix is bought at Costco. Bake sale too that day. H&S provides pancakes, fruit syrup etc. Also a Craft table at pancake breakfast, kids only. Where does the money collected go? Table fee is 10\$, it goes to The Depot and the rest, the kids can keep or donate, whatever they want, it's theirs. There is Russian school here on Saturdays the school is rented out to offset costs. It shouldn't create a problem.
- 5) Sock drive and card drive was moved at beginning of meeting.
- 6) Christmas Concert-is Dec 13th, with the Sock Drive and Loonie-Twoonie Drive
- 7) Kindergarten Breakfast with Santa- Nadine is coordinating; Trinity will ask her husband to play Santa, and Julie too.
- 8) Christmas Carolling – Michelle and Sharon, last year budget was 200\$, soup and Latkes were at hit, hot chocolate too, but there was not a lot of people, more should come to sing! It's from 6 to 8pm date TBC. The Kids want to do it but the parents not so much but we can't have the parents just send the kids. Also, the kids want to be with their friends there were tears last year. We say: come as a family and take care of you own. It will be the 18 or 19th of December.
- 9) Emergency Fund Gift Baskets- Coordinator: Michelle is in charge, Isabelle will help, Catherine will deliver with Julie.
- 10) Marker Recycling program- : Grace would love to see that in the school; we collect the markers, any brand, ship them, turn them into clean fuel. When is a good time to collect? End of year? We could put a bin on each floor to be collected? We could bring it up to the Green committee in grades 5 and 6? It might have to go through Governing board because it involves teacher involvement. To be continued
- 11) School Supplies Packages- Les Éditions Vaudreuil: - (Someone to research a second supplier): great company, they provide school supplies bundle. The teachers go on the website look at

what they want for the next year. Then parents go on the website and order what they need, 5% back for the first 20 000\$. Parents can have it delivered to their home, or send it to the school, the company staffs the distribution. it's so easy, service to parents, fundraiser also. Éditions Vaudreuil, need comparables. Luisa will look into it. Get it up and running for next year.

- 12) Grad Committee: DJ was booked, sweatshirt are in motion, yearbook also, Ceremony at church is reserved, we are still missing some coordinators but they are for events happening later so it's ok for now, the fee will be 30\$ per child, Home and school will sponsor with the family fund, need more fundraising ideas.

2) Budget Approval

- 1) Kindergarten Breakfast- \$1000 last year, one more room this year so 1250\$: Julie motions , Trinity moves, Luisa seconds, no objections
- 2) Pancake Breakfast- \$400 previously, There will be more people so the proposition is 1000\$ Julie motions, Trinity moves, Luisa seconds, no objections.
- 3) Christmas Carolling- \$200, 300\$ Julie motions, Mireille moves, Isabelle seconds, no objections
- 4) Food Drive Transition- \$300 to 500, Julie motions, 300\$ Mireille moves, Genevieve seconds, no objections.
- 5) Carolyn's Toy Drive- \$100 poster money, Julie motions, Luisa moves, Isabelle seconds, no objections
- 6) Gift Baskets- From Emergency Fund-\$1400 12 families, Julie proposes, Trinity moves, Luisa seconds, no objections.
- 7) Photo Day- Emergency Fund - 150-200\$ Julie motions, Geneviève moves, Isabelle seconds, no objections.

Varia: Do volunteer get police checked? It absolutely has to be done. Who should organise? It's the school. Should bring it up with Governing board in order to implement it properly.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm on a motion by Julie Trudel, seconded Catherine Lavoie

Next meeting scheduled for 7:30pm. January 29th

Minutes submitted by Catherine Lavoie