

WILLINGDON ELEMENTARY
HOME AND SCHOOL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 8th 2015

Present: David McLeod, Anna Couch, Tom Bock, Chelsea Henman, Susie Douranos, Luisa Carpio-Mak Wendy Farmer, Mary Ellen Kenny, Jen Strahl, Bianca Chimisso Piacek.

Meeting commenced at 7:08pm

The QFHSA Mission statement was read by David McLeod.

Approval of December agenda with additions and corrections - moved by Louisa Carpio-Mak, seconded by Anna Couch.

The October minutes with additions and corrections were approved.

President's Report (David McLeod)

This last month included photo day, a meeting about finances, the craft fair, collecting/recording home and school memberships and a governing board meeting where the grad committee was officially listed as an ad hoc committee under the governing board (who have requested a financial update in January).

David met with past President and Treasurer Meghan Donovan and Anthony Krivan to rectify last year's financial books. David is happy to report that there was no misplacement of funds and all necessary corrections were made. Our accounts are now in order due to the diligence of Andrea Burns, who has dedicated a considerable amount of time to this task.

The QFHSA and the CFHSA are having a conversation with the ESMB about the distinction between a Home and School Association and a PPO (Parent Partnership Organization). Any updates on this issue will be shared at the next home and school meeting.

Dave issued thanks to the many parent volunteers who have given of their time this year.

Principal's Report (Susie Douranos)

There is a strike day on Dec 9th and two more on reserve. Negotiations are still ongoing.

There is a new policy for late arrivals: children arriving at school after 9:05am will not be considered officially late until 9:15am. Late slips will now be handed out between 9:15-9:45am. Students arriving after 9:45am (previously 9:30am) will go to the office to collect their late slips.

Teacher's Report (there is no teacher's report due to the strike)

Vice President's Report (Anna Couch)

Santas' breakfast took place this month and was successful due to great parent volunteers. It is to be noted that the shout out for volunteers just prior this event was worked well. It would be favorable to do another **shout out** before the end of the year to broaden our pool of volunteers for Home and School events.

VP, IT and New Initiatives Report (Tom Bock)

Things are going well with the grade 4-6 Basketball team; Tom would like to confirm if a payment has been sent yet on behalf of the school; Dave replies that yes, a payment was sent out on December 3rd.

Events and Activities Report (Sharon Sweeney)

Breakfast with Santa: For this event, it was suggested that going forward, culturally neutral gifts be given out. Mary Ellen added that if requested by next September, Share the Warmth will donate free stuffies as gifts for the K's. Anna Couch motioned that next year, a budget of \$600 be allotted for this event. Jen Strahl seconded the motion. All voted for, none against, the motion was adopted.

Teacher Appreciation Week: TAW will take place the week of February 8-12th. There will be a breakfast on the Monday, a lunch Wednesday and "Treats" for the teachers on Friday. Louisa Carpio-Mak moved for the approval of a budget of \$500 for this event. Coordinators should purchase food and supplies needed and will be reimbursed by Andrea Burns, treasurer. Anna Couch seconded this. All voted for, none against, the motion was passed.

Willingdon Newsletter: Anna Couch reported that she is collecting blurbs from recent events and that Nadine is assembling the newsletter and helping to format it with pictures. Whether to print and distribute the newsletter in the children's school bags or send a paperless/electronic version was discussed. Most people liked the idea of going green/paperless mid-year and doing a hardcopy at the end of the year as a keepsake for families.

Treasurer's Report (Read by Sharon Sweeney for Andrea Burns who was not present; a hard copy of this report was handed out at the meeting)

Proceeds from the tables at the craft fair were \$1500.00 not including the Bake Table which made \$500.00 as well as \$60.00 from soup and Roti sales. Janitorial services for this event were \$200.00. Numbers for those who attended the event were high, however, sales were down considerably.

The left over soup and Baked goods will be served on the evening that Caroling and Fundraising for the NDG Food Depot takes place. Hot chocolate will also be served. Sharon will need to spend \$18.00 for the Milk and Hot Chocolate Mix.

A hard copy of the Financial Report for last year has officially been requested by Mary Ellen Kenny.

A Call out for volunteers for grade 6 Grad and for the evening of Caroling will be sent out December 9th.

Other Events

Photo Day: School Photos were recently received and distributed to students. Online orders are still available.

Baratanga: This beginning of the year event was delayed due to the teacher strike. We are looking into the possibility of holding the event after the Christmas break. The activity consists of 7 workshops held over a period of two days at a cost of \$2700.00. Many organizations who normally offer these types events are struggling financially due to the work to rule situation and the resulting lack of demand for extra-curricular activities this year. One organization in particular (Dynamics) would like to come in at the next Home and School meeting to explain some of their current offerings in a 15 minute presentation.

Fun Fair & Cabaret Night: We need to send a **call out** in January for a coordinator for these two events.

Art Workshops/Fêtes des Arts: Would like to come in and show teachers how to add more art activities to their classrooms/curriculum. Cost is somewhere in the range of \$1,500. **Confirmation needed.**

Fundraisers: There are lots of options for next year; promo flyers from QFHSA have been scanned into Google Drive; HS committee can now look at all the options online. Movie nights may resume after the holidays, however there are no coordinators at the moment.

NDG Food Drive: Sharon Sweeney reports that a segment about the Willingdon Collection for the NDG Food Drive aired on CBC News. Four different students spoke to CBC as well as Mrs. Douranos and Sharon Sweeney. The Drive was a big success with 15 food boxes collected for the Food Depot. Sharon thanked all who were involved in helping.

Christmas Baskets: It was moved that we use \$100 from the family emergency fund to add *fresh food*, ie turkey and butter to the Christmas Baskets being delivered to select Willingdon families in need over Christmas. Chelsea Henman motioned this, Jen Strahl seconded. All voted for, none against, the motion was passed.

Correction to minutes from last meeting: In the Craft Fair Section of the minutes, it is to be noted that \$200 was needed in the sales of Soup at the fair. As well, in the Book Fair section, it should be written *more books* rather than *most books* and in the Fro-Yo section, it should read *with cash sales*, instead of *will*. Anna motioned the changes, Chelsea seconded, all voted for, none against. The motion was adopted to accept the changes.

There being no other business, the next Home and School Association Meeting is to take place on Tuesday January 12th 2016 at 7pm. This meeting was adjourned at 8:48 on a motion by Anna Couch, seconded by Chelsea Henman.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Chelsea Henman,

Home and School Secretary

