

WILLINGDON ELEMENTARY
HOME AND SCHOOL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 8th 2016

Present: David McLeod, Chelsea Henman, Annick Gauthier, Corin Grey, Mary Ellen Kenny, Luisa Carpio-Mak, Marie-Noelle Rivard, Lisa Malenfant, Susie Douranos, Jen Strahl, Sharon Sweeney.

Meeting commenced at 7:15pm.

Approval of Agenda and last meeting's Minutes: They were approved but there were not enough execs present to move them. They will be moved with an electronic vote.

President's Report (David McLeod)

DMcLeod remarked that there was little response at first to the Fundraiser Catalogs sent home in children's backpacks by the Home & School, but some orders have started to come in recently. One parent at tonight's meeting suggested including an accompanying letter to the promotional material in the future.

Treasurer's Report (David McLeod for Andrea Burns)

There is currently \$13 019.67 in our account. Cheques not cashed yet are: \$72.00 for membership fees; also Luisa Carpio's cheque (TSAW) for \$424.95. There is \$0 to be deposited at present. H&S came in \$75.00 under budget for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week. With the Pizza Day fundraiser, we collected a total of \$14,385.00 so far this year. Pizza Day costs us around \$9,580.00, therefore the projected profit is \$4,805.00. This is slightly higher than previous calculations. Adjustments were made to include 2 bounced cheques totaling \$148.00 and a recent deposit of \$393.00. Approximately \$6,550.50 is remaining in pizza costs for the year. Home & School has about \$7,717.00 left to work with this year.

Principal's Report (Susie Douranos)

Teacher Appreciation week was a wonderful success thanks to all who collaborated, especially parent volunteers. Enrollment for next year is also going well. 10 students are leaving to go to other cities/schools, 10 students are unsure whether they will return and a few international students attended this year, bringing our numbers up. There will be a letter sent out to confirm attendance again before the end of the year. With our present numbers, we will be keeping our school's VP for another year. Teacher negotiations are now over, so it's back to business as usual; The Math and Geography Challenges as well as the Green committee are back in full swing. A storytelling activity will be taking place in the school gym on March 30th for the students. One parent bought up the name of another parent they thought should be nominated for next year's Home & School award, which has been duly noted.

Teacher's Report (Marie Noel Hebert – Our New Kindergarten Teacher)

M-NHebert thanked everyone for the amazing Teacher Appreciation Week organized for all the staff at Willingdon; they felt really spoiled!

Scholastic - Grade 1 teachers received a budget from our scholastic credit to buy books for rooms 1 & 2. The students from these classes made a giant card to say thank you for the new books. Adorable!

Chinese New Year - the grade 5's visited several classes and taught them about this cultural event. There will also be a storytelling specialist visiting the grade 5's this month.

For the grade 1's, there will be an animal specialist bringing in live birds to show. They will also receive a visit from a health specialist who will teach them about nutrition.

The grade 6's payed a visit to Royal West Academy last month to see their Science Expo.

During the week of March 21st (National Literacy week), special activities will be held in all classes.

Vice President's Report (Anna Couch, Tom Bock – not present)

DMcLeod reports that Anna is still hard at work on the Willingdon newsletter and blog; Tom is keeping our facebook page up to date and handling online mail-outs to parents.

Events and Activities Report (Sharon Sweeney)

Baratanga – no dates have been worked out for this activity yet. It will probably be carried over to the next school year.

Funfair – Will take place on June 2nd with a rain date of June 9th. With Everblast (Dynamics), a whole range of activities are available within the \$3,000 price-range, but at this price, Funfair will not be officially considered a fundraiser. There were not enough members present to vote on the Funfair budget tonight. A Funfair committee was formed consisting of M-EKenny, LCarpio, SSweeney, CHenman, JStrahl and LMalenfant. M-EKenny inquired whether the Funfair committee would have free reign of the Funfair budget; DMcLeod replied with a yes.

Grad Trip – Will be at Camp Bout-en-Train again this year. Most students have paid their fees already. An e-vote will take place soon to determine whether students who cannot afford to go can be subsidized by the HS Committee.

Home & School Constitution – 1976 was the last update to the Home & School constitution. The new constitution will be presented in May. It is questionable whether the activities the H&S regularly carries out should be included in the constitution. It might be preferable to post an addendum of our activities on the school's website at the beginning of the year instead.

Book Fair – Will take place on April 6th from 9am to 7:30pm. Volunteers are needed for set up.

Parent/Teacher interviews – It would preferable if they take place prior to March Break to avoid any confusion regarding switched/replaced school days.

Fundraising Activities – In April: Toilet Paper/Paper Towel Fundraiser (E-Cause). In May: Children's artwork can be printed on items for sale to Willingdon families (ie tshirts, mugs etc).

There being no other business, the next Home & School Meeting is to take place on Monday May 9th at 7pm. Tonight's meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Chelsea Henman,

Home & School Secretary