

## ***WILLINGDON HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING – October 11 2016***

Present: Catherine Lavoie, Geneviève Trudeau, Isabelle Gaul, Sally Burnett, Geneviève Lemaire, Hanne Landbo, Debbie Hynes, Thomas Bock, Mary Ellen Kenny, Luisa Carpio-Mak, Catherine Britt-C. Charlotte McCaffrey, Cornelia Mandoiu, Carmen Nicolas, Tanya Savickey, Eric Lamoureux, Suzanne DeJonge.

### Welcome and introductions:

The meeting starts at 7:33 pm.

### Approval of Agenda:

There is a bit of discussion about posting it online before the meeting, it seems it wasn't posted previously, it will be in the future.

Agenda approved on a motion by Geneviève Lemaire, seconded by Catherine Britt.

### Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from last meeting required a few minor changes and were approved on a motion by Geneviève Trudeau and seconded by Charlotte McCaffrey.

### President's Report (Luisa - Mary Ellen)

- Report from QFHSA meeting: Mary Ellen and Geneviève Trudeau went to a QFHSA information meeting in September. Mary Ellen regrets that she did not learn anything new but she did meet a lot of new people. It was supposed to be about Home and school meeting protocols but it turned out to be more about a running commentary about infighting: administration, parents, etc. It made her realise how fortunate we are, at Willingdon, to be so cohesive and with a good maturity level to work well together. One thing she did learn that in other H&S, when teachers come and ask for funds for a specific activity, they will help put a fundraiser together for that teacher; here, we might not have to do that this year but it may happen in the future for some executive. Geneviève adds that it was a long evening, they talked about how to get parents to become members, fundraising, communications, how to get into the QFSHA newsletter, and again, a lot about fundraising!
- Mary Ellen adds that when she encounters parents in the school yard, since we are all volunteers, she tells the parents to come to the meeting and give their suggestions there, the motto of this executive is: Contribute, don't complain! We are not a suggestion box or a punching wall.
- Update on DFS fundraiser: catalog fundraiser was launched 2 weeks ago. It's something that happened last year so this year, it was done a bit differently, more information was sent on how to order, it is fundraiser for family funds specifically. So far, a couple 100 dollars only. Luisa is not sure about sending another email to reminders to order. The comments received so far are that parents are supporting the cause but do not want to order from the catalog. They want to write a check directly to H&S for that fund. If they want a tax receipt, they have to write it to QFHSA, and they will send the money to H&S. Debbie wonders about doing it for gift giving (Like a donation has been made in your name to...) It is a valid point and we will **Follow up on how to do that**. We will see how the Willingdon population is receptive to that kind of fundraiser and see if we do it again.
- Terry Fox run: The week of rewards is this week: Miss Belinsky straightened her hair and M Jon dressed up as a girl. Tomorrow (Wednesday) is crazy day: Miss Andrea and Miss Josie will be duct

taped to wall, Ketchup and Mustard throwing on Miss Belinsky (volunteers needed). Thursday no volunteers needed. Friday has the most festivities: Media is coming, Carmen and Lara on CJAD at 8pm on Thursday about Lara's hair being shaved. Vito and Miss Kathleen will receive a pie in face, Miss Kathleen will kiss the school turtle and Ms Carmen Nicolas will be singing.

#### Principal's Report (Carmen Nicolas)

- Terry Fox fundraiser went extremely well, goals have been surpassed. Laurier McDonald vocational center will be there Friday to help shave the hair of Miss Belinsky and to make an event out of it. Television reporters will be on site, a lot of visibility for the school that day.
- Progress report going home on Friday October 14th. October 24, forms are coming home to choose availability for teacher interviews. Final appointment form will come on November 9th.

#### Teacher's Report (Cornelia Mandoiu)

- She has no comments to report from teachers for the activity Barantanga.
- She says a big thank you to all parents for the Terry Fox fundraiser, the kids had extended recess with freezies because they did so well.
- Book fair: she suggests that for the teachers' list, teachers could go to the Fair with the students during the day and give the list to coordinator, at night parents could buy the books to give to teachers. The Book Fair coordinator says that the teachers should make their list ahead of time so that the parents that come during the day have a chance to buy the books too. The coordinator will provide the list of books that will be at the fair, as well as a link to the website.
- Halloween: Mme Meilleur and Lara Belinsky will do the schedule, younger kids in the morning, older ones in the afternoon, teachers are asking if there will be changes to the format, Hanne responds: just minor ones.
- Ks went to pumpkin patch to pick a pumpkin, they behaved well, they loved it
- Open house: Kathelijne Keeren is coordinating and she and Carmen had a meeting. There will be new folders with pictures from Children to distribute to parents, admin is working on it, they were sent to printer on Sunday.
- Next Ped day is Oct 28, teachers are attending workshops and are looking forward to it.

#### Communication/Membership Report (Tom Bock)

- Minutes are posted online after they are approved, the agenda will be too, prior to the meeting. Tom will take the Governing board dates from their newsletter so that H&S will be putting it in their newsletter too.
- Tom submitted forms to parents about soccer and basketball sports at Benny, the activity is all preapproved so it's set in motion. Mary Ellen tells Tom he has been doing a great job in general and the communications are flowing well. She wants to make sure the sports activity doesn't interfere with the EDP work, Tanya just wants a list of kids participating and a schedule so they know who is missing and who is not. As soon as Tom has the list, he will provide it to EDP.

#### Treasurer's Report (Andrea Burns regrets)

- Luisa: She cashed the membership's checks. 128 members Sounds like good numbers according to people that have been here a long time. The pizza checks still have to be cashed (it was supposed to be today but Andrea is sick).

#### Other Business

- Halloween Activity update: Hanne says they will do something like the past few years. 2 tents are used for haunted house in ½ gym; on the other side of the gym, there will be activities like ring

toss, crafts, etc. She will go look in the H&S room to see what kind of supplies there are. There is a bit of discussion about where to get cheap tattoos outside of Dollarama but someone suggests there are some left over from Fun Fair. She has volunteers to do gross body parts, tic tac toe with gourds, she's looking at Martha Stewart ideas like a piece of burlap with balloons to pop but it might get too loud, maybe pin the tail on something; a Fortune teller if we can find someone, art station from dollar store: make a witch, use paper bags from H&S office, people like Debbie Hynes are offering art supplies. Cornelia suggest Le Coffre for supplies. Hanne heard from a few volunteers but she needs more. Hanne will draft a blurb and Tom will send out a call school wide. It's Cornelia first year at Willingdon so she asks: how does it work? Luisa explains that the haunted house is less scary for ks, the grade 6 helps them, all kinds of stations for the kids to have fun. Treat at the end to get the kids out. Aubut is good place to get candy, or anywhere. Luisa volunteers to get it for Hanne and a lower cost.

- Grad committee update: first meeting went well, there was a good turnout, a lot of fun. Charlotte was chosen as chair, a lot of parents volunteer to do little things. Deb will do the minutes. Charlotte has a good feeling about it, she already has all the emails of parents and all info needed. 1<sup>st</sup> fundraiser is bake sale at book fair.
- Pizza: all forms are in and calculated: \$20 000,00 collected, laminated the forms this week. Some kids (7) are sponsored, the families have been reached out to. First pizza day Oct 27
- Lost & Found update: there are currently 4 gigantic garbage bags packed up, apparently a lot from last year (snow pants, rotten lunches). The bin is already full. It appears the system is not working, it is just gross. The coordinators need to work with Vito to find a different system. He was on top of it last year. Luisa says that H&S should not be responsible for cleaning up and hanging up clothes. There should be an email to parents to say that the full bags will be gone on a specific day, after the Parent-teacher night, (the 16 of Nov from 3:35 to 9:35 and the 17 from 3 to 9, where clothes will be put on a table so that parents can grab what belongs to them.
- Willingdon Gear: Catherine Britt wants to set it up during Book Fair and depending on DFS fundraiser, gear might go to families. She can't be there at night so needs someone to take over. Some Villa Maria students will be coming to do volunteer work so one could take that on.
- Fro-Yo update: Annick Gauthier will be coordinator so it will go ½ and 1/2 to grad and H&S. no sales the day of, too complicated to deal with cash. There is inevitably someone that brings money and that did not fill out form. It was decided that for Pizza and Fro-yo, no kid will be refused.
- Carmen will put it in the newsletter Vaccination will be November 9<sup>th</sup> for grade 4s, Leslie Burke the nurse is looking for volunteers.
- Charlotte asks about lice patrol: notes are being sent home about lice. Luisa asks about the protocol. We could be involved in lice patrol, the parents have signed the forms for yes or no to be checked. The nurse could coordinate it, parents would be happy to help out. Parents generally appreciate that it is done at school especially in Sept, after Christmas, after spring break etc. It's needs to be clear about the policy and protocol (admin, secretary or nurse) on how to call the parents and let them know. **Follow-up on that**
- Suzanne talks about PAC Parents Action Committee, to raise funds for the school like a bigger project. There is discussion about setting up a Willingdon foundation for bigger ticket items. Some new members of H&S have experience with foundations and would be happy to see about setting on up for the school.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm on a motion by Debbie Hynes seconded Charlotte McCaffrey.

Next meeting November 9<sup>th</sup> scheduled for 7:30pm. Minutes submitted by Catherine Lavoie