

# St. Patrick Home and School Meeting

November 10, 2015

**Call to order:** 7:05

**Present:** Stephanie Davidson, Meloney Heagney, Mimi Hamon, Jennifer Colantonio, Kristin Bigras, Janice Stott, Melissa Proudlove, Donnalynn Rainey, Elva Taylor, Liz Bertrand, Shannon Seary D'Andrea, Mike Besner, Michael Rabinovitch, Donna Gibbons, Sonny Duchesne, Amy Moore Ede

**Regrets:** Jennifer Taylor, Jenny Sousa, Lisa Gloutney, Sarah Williams

**Accept November 10, 2015 agenda:** Mimi Hamon

**Accept October 13, 2015 minutes:** Elva Taylor, Meloney Heagney

## Welcome and Introductions

### Report and announcements:

1. Administration - Mr. Rabinovitch
  - Mr. Rabinovitch expressed his thanks for Home & School and parent involvement thus far this school year - the kids may see it differently but he believes that they are still enjoying activities
  - staff also appreciative of what Home & School and parent volunteers are doing to support school community
  - grade 4 and 6 students have been working with the grade 6 teachers to prepare for Remembrance
  - Mr. Rabinovitch asked if Home & School (H&S) can pay for one Second Step kit (~\$400 each); he will speak with Lyne Corbière to ask how many kits she needs and advise H&S
2. Staff - not applicable
3. Governing Board - Mike Besner
  - update on how 2015-2016 pedagogical days are working; offering in-school and outing options, but both depend on number of students registered for each activity
  - approved movie night and several in-school activities, including anti-bullying program (must be approved each year)
  - grade 6 parent voiced concern that grade 6 students are unhappy about lack of activities; this was deemed not to be a Governing Board issue; organization may be going on outside school
  - holiday music show has been deemed to be part of curriculum and therefore there will be scheduled; date to be determined by Jen Baltuonis
  - concern was raised about students in front of school after school hours; while it is a positive sign that students want to stay around after school, multiple unsafe actions by students have been witnessed by parents and administration; Mr. Rabinovitch will be communicating with the school community to reiterate the importance of proper supervision by parents of all children in this area
4. Treasurer - Mimi Hamon
  - summary of monies received and expenses incurred
  - \$3430 Subway/pizza/TCBY; H&S had to cover approximately \$70.00 for extra sandwiches purchased for students who didn't have lunch and/or who hadn't ordered the fundraiser lunch; Mr. Rabinovitch suggested that H&S send him electronic copy of order form for him to send to parents via email

### Business arising from previous minutes:

1. Fall fundraiser - Lisa Gloutney
  - orders placed electronically are received at customer address
  - orders placed via school being received week of November 9 and distributed as of November 19
  - invoice will be received with order
  - any back orders would be invoiced when goods are received; will know of back order(s) when order is received
  - Mimi Hamon asked how H&S portion of fundraising amount is received for orders placed on line; Lisa Gloutney was advised by Lamontagne that credit note will be received via email that will have been applied against total invoice
2. Distribution of paper/collection of money
  - not all forms being returned to Miss Pompeo; some may not make it into student bags (found on floor of school)
3. Christmas lunch / Santa store
  - scheduled for December 15; minimum 25 volunteers required for day; Janice will speak with Maureen Bird to confirm details regarding kitchen and cooking volunteers
  - Christmas lunch form will be distributed week of November 16

4. Teacher appreciation week
  - item to be reintroduced to agenda in January 2016
6. Buddy bench
  - item to be reintroduced to agenda in January 2016
  - H&S will start searching for bench to purchase online
  - decoration/painting of bench by grade 6 students
7. Babysitting course
  - distribution of forms week of November 9 2015
  - deadline to confirm January 12-13-14 sessions is November 13; minimum 24 students required (maximum 30)
  - Meloney Heagney gave printed copy to Mr. Rabinovitch to be sent via email to grade 5 and 6 parents
8. Grad sweatshirts
  - need colour swatches for students to choose colour
  - Liz Bertrand will scan and send example of what 2015 class chose
9. Pizza/Subway lunch and TCBY
  - next dates scheduled for November 19/pizza and December 10/subs
  - need 6 volunteers (including 2 lunch ladies) for each lunch for set up/clean up, from 10:15am - 12:30pm
  - Mimi Hamon said 76% participated in pizza and 64% participated in Subway lunch
  - replacement committee leader is required to run fundraiser lunches from December 2015 - June 2016
10. FundScrip
  - Sarah Williams made flyer to better explain FundScrip program and how it benefits students; will be sent to Mr. Rabinovitch to post on school website
  - Sonny Duchesne suggested proposing to parents to purchase FundScrip cards for holiday parties
  - per Sarah Williams, Grades 5 and 6 each have their own sub-fundraiser group; currently one grade 5 parent and one grade 6 parent are actively participating
11. School logo clothing / supply store
  - Janice Stott is waiting for second vendor's sample to verify product quality
  - Mike Besner suggested Promotions Hanna as potential vendor(514-337-6991; promotionshannah.com; njanna@hannahpromotions.com, Neil Janna)

#### **New business:**

1. Presentation by potential fundraiser vendor, My Fun Run (representative: Mark Goldenberg)
  - myfunrun.com
  - most of administration is done online and by MyFunRun
  - \$400.00 setup cost plus 13% processing fee
  - online dashboard shows campaign progress
  - guide is provided for set up, administration, how to introduce concept to school community, etc.
  - donations can be solicited from outside organizations (e.g. which benefit from traffic from school community)
  - MyFunRun has done campaigns with many schools in United States (see testimonials on website) but only one with (private) school in Montreal area
  - Mr. Rabinovitch would like to investigate MyFunRun prior to considering working with the organization
2. Petty cash
  - Mimi Hamon proposed to reinstate \$1000 petty cash to be used to cover expenses incurred for H&S activities, rather than H&S and parents paying out of personal funds and then being reimbursed
  - proposal accepted by all meeting attendees
3. Scholastics book fair / bake sale - November 19
  - volunteers required from 1:30pm until end of event for Scholastics cash, bake sale table and set up/take down
  - Mimi Hamon proposed using student volunteers; Mr. Rabinovitch explained this is not possible during school day as it would impact classroom time
4. Spring fundraiser
  - campaign will be Lamontagne chocolates; agenda item will be reintroduced in January 2016
5. Fundraiser committee
  - a parent asked about creating a fundraising committee
  - proposal to add "fundraiser coordinator" as position within H&S committee leaders to be discussed further at subsequent H&S meeting

6. Varia

- a) Donna Gibbons asked how grade 6 parents can organize communication to include all grade 6 parents in discussion of grade 6 grad activities (e.g. grade 6 trip); synopsis written by Donna Gibbons and included in H&S meeting minutes with her permission:

“I wanted to share some of the points from the principal, Mr. Rabinovitch and the Home and School committee from the meeting last night:

- i. Any fundraising we do cannot be associated with the school. (Asking for donations, bagging at Maxi, etc.). They suggest that we create our own Grade 6 FundScrip (group). This has been successful in other schools for funding many activities.
  - ii. Mr. Rabinovitch and the H &S would meet with the grade 6 parents to better explain one evening at the school. We have to invite the parents to attend. Theodore can distribute the party invitations without any conflict.
  - iii. We as parents are free to have grad parties, outings or trips but we should be aware that some ped days will be revoked in the future to make up for lost school days.
  - iv. All grad events are conditional on teacher participation. Therefore even if the situation was different it would still be up to the teachers to make the final decision if there would be a trip or not.
  - v. Home and School needs volunteers for all the regularly scheduled events such as the Book fair, Pizza and Subway days and the Christmas lunch. So please if you are able to spare a few hours contact them and let them know. I thought there was a screening necessary, but that is not the case for these types of events. We have to remember that it is parent volunteers who give of their time and energy, and who still have the same responsibilities as most of us. It is not always easy to work with parents, money and forms and stress is bad.
  - vi. Lastly, I don't know if I'm supposed to mention this or not, but there is a grad sweatshirt in the works!!”
- b) Donnalynn Rainey came to speak about the English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA) letter writing campaign; Meloney Heagney suggested letter template be made even simpler, faster for parents to complete (e.g. petition format in which parent is required to enter full name and email address) in order to encourage more parents to participate; Donnalynn Rainey promised to relay suggestion to EPCA

**Adjourned:** 9:30pm (Donna Gibbons)