

# St. Pat's Home and School Meeting

## Feb.21 2017

**Called to Order:** 7:02pm

**Present:** Caroline Ostrowski, Nadia Cirelli, Marie Cirelli, Tara Mark, Jael Symes, Donnalynn Rainey, Tracy Witzke, Kuljinder Kaur, Michael Rabinovitch, Meloney Heagney, Stephanie Davidson, Mimi Hamon, Pam Robinson, Jennifer Taylor, Melanie Moore, Ms. McRae

**Regrets:** Trina Pearson

**Accept minutes:** N/A

**Accept Agenda:** Mimi Hamon, Pam Robinson

### Welcome and Introductions

### Report and announcements:

#### 1. Administration – Mr. R:

- On behalf of our entire staff, the Teacher Appreciation Week was so appreciated! The food, massages, wine, gift cards, everything! So great, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We cannot thank the parents, volunteers and students enough. It was really great.
- Jump Rope for Heart. I'm not sure if you had the time to check, but St. Pat's did amazing on the amount raised for the Jump Rope for Heart, over \$12 000.00!! The next school was not even close to what we raised, just to show how exceptionally well our students and parents did. Ms. Macro and Ms. Clark are new to our school and are absolutely blown away by the generosity shown by this school. To all the parental volunteers, thank you for all your help as well. We should be very proud!
- Celebration of Learning, March 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 from 5-7pm: This is a parent / teacher connection rather than an interview. It is a chance for parents to come into the school with their children and view their work thus far. Please, while here, go and see other classrooms and view the work of other grades and what we have been doing around the school.
- Play: Annie JR April 13 2017: The kids have been hard at work for their production of Annie JR. Please, come and see the production. There are matinee and nighttime performances.
- Winter Carnival: Cancelled because there is no winter! We were thinking of still getting the skating in but at this rate, there won't be any ice left. So, we'll have activities around the school Thursday and Friday. Inside activities planned: Bingo in the gym, etc. Not 100% sure yet, but we will have lots for the kids to do before Spring Break.
  - Should we still serve the hot chocolate we planned to serve at skating? Yes, we can set up in the gym and have the classes still come for their hot chocolate.
- Exam Schedule: Will be up on the website soon. Exams will start after Spring Break.

#### 2. Staff - Ms. McRae:

- The Grade 6's have been enjoying their skiing around Pincourt this winter. We must thank Pincourt very much for the free buses to get the kids around.
- From all of the teachers, thank you all so very much for a wonderful Teacher Appreciation week. We loved it and felt the love from our students. Thank you.
- The teachers have asked if Home & School was able to look at their list of requests.
  - We can give the teachers their requested items, but Home & School cannot pay the taxes. Mr. R is looking into whether he can cover the taxes on \$1600.00 worth of items. Or would teachers be willing to be reimbursed for the purchase and not the tax?
- Last year there was a \$50.00 in literacy money? Is that available this year?
  - Yes, it is on the way from Scholastic. There is \$2300.00 that St. Pat's earned from the Book Fair. Split up between the classes, it works out to around \$50.00 / class towards books.

#### 3. Governing Board – Donnalynn Rainey:

- It was a very busy meeting. All the field trips for next year were approved.
- I put in my recommendations for repairs to the school: water fountains, bathroom renovations, Air conditioning units for the gym.
- We would like to increase the visibility of the Governing Board to the parents in the school, what it is we do. Not many parents seem aware of what the Governing Board does, so we might recommend a newsletter?

Any input on what you would want to see put in a newsletter? Do parents have questions on the Governing Board and what we do?

- Parents Committee: There is a meeting in Dorval, March 2 2017 at 7:00pm focusing on Sex Education in the schools. All parents are welcome. It is for all schools in the Lester B Pearson school Board and all levels of education.

4. Treasurer Mimi Hamon:

- For this month, on the report, the Pizza / Subway is showing as a negative,. Two TCBY cheques went through in the same month. There will be more return showing next month as it balances out.
- The new bounced / incomplete cheque system is working. We have cleared up many cheques that were still outstanding.
- We were \$100.00 less then allocated for the Grad T-Shirts.
- The Clothing Store has received more orders for the tuques and sweat pants.
- \$70.00 in bank charges for this month.

**Business arising from previous minutes:**

1. **Chocolate Fundraiser: Committee Leaders: Kuljinder Kaur & Tracy Witzke**

- By now, you should have received your order form. Parents need to fill out the form and send it back as soon as possible so we can get the chocolate ordered.
- This year, we are trying a new approach. You need to opt IN instead of opting OUT. So parents are not given chocolate who do not wish to sell it.
- We are looking to receive the chocolate the week after Spring Break.
- This fundraiser has been very successful elsewhere, so we are hoping for it to be here as well. The chocolate is made here, in Sherbrooke. Lamontagne is one of few companies who were given the recipe by Laura Secord to make here.
- We are asking for \$200.00 more to allocation to get prizes for the top sellers. We are still thinking about different possibilities for prizes: some we have are: raffles, principal for a day, special prize for the top seller, lunch for the top sellers, or their class. We might even get small prizes for any child who participates in the fundraiser.
- The donation only option is being very well received by parents. There are a lot of parents who are just not interested in selling the chocolates. We are very grateful to all parents who choose to donate only.
- We will be sending letters home to announce the prizes.
- **Motion: We motion to add \$200.00 to allocation for the Spring Fundraiser for prizes. Motioned by: Jael. Second by: Mini. Motion was granted, the vote was unanimous.**

2. **Teachers Wish List**

- **Motion: We motion to combine our allocated \$841.38 from Resource and \$\$817.25 from Science to get the teachers their \$1658.63 in items they requested. Motioned by: Tara. Second by: Meloney. Motion was granted, the vote was unanimous.**

3. **Pizza / Subway Allocation for March:**

- **Motion: We motion that \$3100.00 be allocated for the month of March to the Pizza/Subway Fundraiser. Motioned by Pam. Second by: Tara. Motion was granted, the vote was unanimous.**

4. **Teacher Appreciation Week:**

- Do you want to know what we did?? Ok, it was a blast!
- So much food was donated! It was wonderful!
- We did a gift basket every day. One was a movie basket with donated movie tickets.
- Cupcakes by Nadia! Nadia very kindly made each teacher a cupcake! They were so beautiful! We went around handing them out and all the teachers just loved them. So thank you Nadia very much for those.
- The Thursday we had a masseuse comes in for 2 hours. I put out a sign-up sheet and the 12 spots were filled up very quickly!
- Friday was the Wine Cart. We had 29 bottles of wine donated by our wonderful parents. I got some gift cards because not all the teachers like wine. We went around to each class and the teachers got to pick what they wanted from the cart. Very popular with the teachers!
- Friday we also did a catered lunch with cake.
- We spent \$460.00 for everything and came in below allocation!

- At the end of the week, I found this huge, handmade card from all the teachers to show how much they truly appreciated all the hard work everyone did. They loved their special week!

**5. Carnival Week:**

- Our letter was sent to Tim Horton's asking if they wish to donate the hot chocolate this year. No answer as of yet.
- There is \$300.00 in allocation for Carnival week, so we will get the kids hot chocolate even if Tim Horton's says they cannot donate.
- We will still get it for the kids even if the outdoor activities are cancelled.

**6. Hair Donation:**

- We will talk about and set a date for this event next month.
- We need to find someone who wishes to head the event and to find a hair dresser to come in.

**New business:**

**1. Grade 4 Vaccines:**

- The date is set for April 4 2017. Can we reset the date? It is very close to the play and do not want any kids to suffer from any reactions so close to the play date. Can we set it for after? Mr. R will look into.

**2. School Pride:**

- 139 tuques were ordered! That is amazing! We are looking to receive the order next week. Remember to label your tuques!!

**Varia**

- a) The Celebration of Learning is coming up, any way we could coincide that with World Book Day which is April 22 2017. We cannot for this year but could we do something at St. Pat's for World Book Day? Maybe have our last Book Fair at the same time?
- b) Playground Talk: can we put Donnalynn in touch with the people who did the play ground at Edgewater?

**Adjourned: 7:50pm**