

École St. Germain Parent Advisory Council Meeting
Wednesday February 6/2013, 7:00pm, ESG Library

Meeting Minutes

Attending: M. Henri Peloquin, Nicole Hohner, Cindy Baerr, Jan Thiessen, Alison Huppe, Lorelei Douglas, Mme. Amy Haworth, Michelle Lagadi, Melonie Cleutinx, Audra Peters, Tracy Igonia, Cindy Bennett, Susanne Dandenault, Sharon Coughlan.

Regrets: Mare Richardson, Heike Sobkow, Inga Sif Kristjansdottir, Suzanne Suzio, Bev Padeanu, Meaghen Shangreaux, Jaquelin Martinez, Nicole Medland, Janice Morissette.

Guests: Denise Pope, Aimie Panteluk, Christine Melnick.

1. Call to Order: 7:02 pm

2. Approval of Agenda: motioned by Alison Huppe, seconded by Michelle Lagadi. PASSED

3. Approval of Minutes for January 2013: motioned by Susanne Dandenault seconded by Jan Thiessen. PASSED

4. Welcome all guests and Christine Melnick: Christine Melnick, MLA for Riel and Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism shared her passion for the Share the Magic charitable program, which collects books and distributes to less affluent communities. Share the Magic accepts donations of all gently used books, including preschool, school-age, adult, fiction, non-fiction and magazines. Books can also be dropped off at Christine's office located at St Mary's and Meadowood. A possible upcoming book donation drive at ESG was discussed.

Christine asked PAC whether there was anything she could do to support ESG as our MLA. Henri Peloquin outlined the space issues faced by ESG, as the

school is currently over capacity and 2013-14 projects 575 students. Henri advised that ESG will be requesting a new portable for 2014. Christine offered to help ensure the space issue is on future agendas. Christine also advised she can support ESG with \$100 annual ESG scholarship and a legacy book program.

5. Unfinished Business:

- **Rocks and Rings-** was very well received by children and teachers. The purchase of a starter kit was discussed at a cost of \$499, plus shipping of approximately 20%. Discussed this being a worthwhile initiative to support, as curling is a lifetime, Canadian team sport. Melanie Cleutinx motioned that PAC support the purchase of a starter kit, up to \$600, on the condition that school administration and gym teachers support. PASSED

6. New Business:

- **New Members:** Vote was taken on Aimie Panteluk becoming a new PAC member. PASSED.
- **School Safety (Jan Thiessen)** – In light of the recent Newtown tragedy, school security is top of mind for parents and teachers. The current security systems and practices were discussed. As of Dec 2012, ESG has monitored cameras at all 4 entrances, which stores data. Doors remain locked, with the exception of front entrance and portable entrance. Potential security improvements were discussed, including a possible monitor in the office, panic button, system where visitors must be buzzed in, etc. It was noted that staff are vigilant in regards to visitors and that safety is discussed at staff meetings. ESG is also very sensitive to mental health issues and deals with cases on an individual basis. ESG has many great programs which develop social skills, empathy, etc. The current practice of “lock-down” drills were also discussed.
- **Pick up/drop off issues at the front of the school(concerned parents)-** the ongoing traffic safety issues were discussed. Henri Peloquin advised that an adult patrol was recently outside for 3 days, directing traffic. Henri plans to have parking authority come out to further address the issues.
- **Book fair volunteer sign up** – Book fair is March 12-14. Volunteers required on March 14 from 3-8 pm. Email Cindy Baerr if available.
- **Sobeys fundraiser** - coming soon.

7. Treasurer’s Report – see Appendix A for details.

8. Administrator's Report:

- **CJS Scholarship** - Henri noted that PAC ESG scholarship of \$300 is quite low and recommended a minimum \$500. Tabled for discussion/vote at next PAC meeting.
- **Grade 7 ski trip** - Feb 14 & 15.
- **Festival du Voyageur (Feb 15-22) activities** – will be announced soon.
- **Snow saws**-will be available for kids to use during outdoor recess soon.
- **Operation Donation** – ESG will be having a food drive with Winnipeg Harvest. Parent information to follow.
- **Feb 12th LRSD Budget meeting** –Susanne Dandenault will attend with Henri. Interesting discussions on K-3 cap of 20 (required by 2017) and budgets are expected.
- **Valentine's Day** – individual classes may celebrate. ESG is once again asking children not to distribute valentines to schoolmates.
- **Pink Shirt Day for LRSD (Feb 27)** –. An excellent anti-bullying Powerpoint presentation will be shared with children.
- **Grade 8** – Feb 13: CJS will come in to discuss course selection. March 1: CJS school tour for students. March 5: Parent night.
- **Report Cards** – will be distributed February 28.
- **Chess Club** - is running and still looking for parent volunteers. Chess knowledge is not required. Check school website for dates. PAC support was discussed. Sharon Coughlin motioned to support up to \$200 for Chess Club honorarium and expenses. Seconded by Cindy Bennett. PASSED.

9. Committee Reports:

- Education Committee – tabled for next meeting.
- Environment Committee – tabled for next meeting.
- Fundraising Committee – tabled for next meeting.

10. Next meeting March 6th and meeting adjournment 8:55 pm.

APPENDIX A

Ecole St. Germain Parent Advisory Council				
January 2013 Financial Statement				
Account Balance at January 1, 2013				\$14,859.77
Credits:				
		Interest	\$0.80	
Total Credits				\$0.80
Debits:				
	#100	QSP fundraiser	-\$782.71	
	#101	Patrols	-\$105.00	
	#102	Babysitting-January 2013	-\$20.00	
Total Debits				-\$907.71
Account Balance at January 31, 2013				\$13,952.86
Plus Future Income				
Total Future Income				\$0.00
Less Future Commitments:				
		Greening Project	-\$462.24	
		Shrubs	-\$257.38	
		CJS Scholarship 2012/2013	-\$300.00	
		Student Leadership (patrols, etc.)	-\$862.50	
		Babysitting for PAC meetings	-\$60.00	
		Staff Appreciation Week	-\$400.00	
		Grade 8 Farewell Dinner (\$15/student	-\$750.00	
		PAC costs	-\$207.27	
		BBQ 2013/2014	-\$300.00	
		Water fountains	-\$1,500.00	
		Book Club	-\$7.21	
		Festival du Voyageur	-\$1,000.00	
		Rocks and Rings	-\$350.00	
Total Debits				-\$6,456.60
Total Funds Available				\$7,496.26