

**Rousseau School Council Meeting**  
**January 19, 2016– 6:30-8:00pm**

**School Council Member Attendees:** Mr. John Gris (Principal), Kim Strecker (Chair), Danielle Curry (Vice Chair), Stephanie Gasko (Co-Secretary), Mrs. Janet Raymond (Teachers' Representative)

**Regrets:**

Kaitryn Campbell (Co-Secretary)

**School Community Attendees:** Laura H., Leah M., Honor H., Gint M., Alison F.; Natalie B.

**1. Welcome & Introduction:**

Kim S. and Mr. Gris welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Approval of Last Month's Minutes:**

Approval of last month's minutes (November 2015) was *motioned* by Gint M. and *seconded* by Danielle C.

**3. Call for Other Business:**

No other items added at this time.

**4. Reports:**

**Student Report - Brady**

- This month's pay it forward initiative is having students write a letter to a person who would appreciate it such as a refugee; senior citizen; veteran; etc. It is up to the individual students to decide who they want to write their letter to.
- The spirit day for January is Pajama Day and will take place on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Principal Report – Mr. Gris:**

- The principal's report is attached to these minutes.
- Highlights:
  - o School website - checkers page and Rousseau musical pages added.
  - o Mr. Gris walked through a summary of School Council Purchases from October 2015 through January 2016 – see agenda item 8.
  - o Lego robotics program will happen. Possibly a team of 10 students. Mr. Gris also looking into a Lego club. Possibility of families that may want to donate Lego that they are no longer using
  - o Principal Direction for Rousseau:
    - o Teachers discussed at the January staff meeting with a focus on literacy and numeracy; will continue discussions at future meetings.
    - o Mrs. Raymond discussed the tools that teachers need to do their assessments. Teachers feel supported.
  - o Rousseau recently received 3 tech tubs; staff are being trained in how to use those apps efficiently with the students. Tech tubs are for Grade 4 teachers. All students have access to technology at Rousseau.
  - o Mission statement from board. Principals got together to provide input to the board. School councils will also have the opportunity to provide input. Board staff has joined into staff meetings.
  - o Extra-curricular: Brady said kids were really excited about floor hockey; European hand ball introduced for younger grades. Teams could be based on experience instead of unexperienced. Parents at the council meeting suggested that younger grades would rather play floor hockey given

- o the experience these children already have in playing ice hockey.
- o Peter Pan takes place on February 2nd. There are limited tickets (100) for Junior end. ELP2 is also going. Goldirocks will be available for students that aren't able to go to Peter Pan.
- o Mrs. Todd is ready to do spirit wear in case any students are interested.
- o Gint M. Suggested that each teacher provide parents with recommended supplementary tools such as apps to supplement learning at home. Kim S. Suggested we ask teachers to provide links/apps/other suggestions. There are some links available under resources on the school website page.

*Action Item: Teachers to provide recommendations for supplementary learning tools to use at home.*

### **Teacher Report – Mrs. Raymond:**

- Floor Hockey
  - o happening already for junior students, starting soon for primary.nutrition breaks
  - o various teachers helping to oversee
- Checkers <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rousseau/student-activities/checkers/>
  - o Mr. Obermeyer has invited gr. 4, 5, and 6 to join a checkers club
  - o Working toward a Checkers Tournament on Mar. 2 @ Ancaster Fair Grounds
- Basketball
  - o mixed junior
  - o Underway with coaching from Mr. Peters and a Rousseau Parent, with Ms. Barrow helping by attending games
- Primary choir
  - o Mrs Stinson will be teaching songs from the Lion King, which helps students who are involved polish their knowledge of the songs and allows some uninvolved students to participate in the excitement of the school musical
- Junior Choir
  - o Continuing with Ms. Fawcett

### **5. The Lion King Musical:**

Rousseau will be presenting the musical, The Lion King. The cast comprises approximately 75 kids. There were 50 tryouts for 15 stage roles. Show dates are May 12, 13, and 14th. Information on ticket sales will be sent out when available.

### **6. Fun Fair June 3rd (call out for committee/set date for first meeting):**

- The first planning meeting will take place on Monday February 8, 2016 as suggested by Danielle C. The committee needs volunteers in order to run a successful event; in addition a volunteer is needed to organize the silent auction.
- This event raises \$10,000 - \$12,000 for our school.
- An update on the planning meeting will be provided at the next school council meeting.

*Action: Kim S. asked Mr. Gris to provide a template letter to send out to businesses requesting donations for the silent auction.*

### **7. EQAO Dates:**

May 25 - June 8.

*Action: Mr. Gris will check with Mr. Peters to see if scribes are required.*

**8. Funds Update (Spent/Still Pending):**

Summary of update attached.

**9. Principal Direction for Rousseau:**

Discussed under Principal Report above.

**10. Classroom Reassignments for Future:**

- Mr. Gris provided a summary of the reorganization process: Board staff begin predicting school staffing requirements in February prior to school year. There are cap sizes to classrooms. The Superintendent has ultimate approval. In April or May, parents are provided with an opportunity to provide the school with information about their child that the school might not already know so that the school can consider this information when composing classes.
- Students find out placements at end of school year. Student enrollment data is reviewed the first Monday after school starts in September. The following week schools are notified if there will be changes. All changes are to be put in place by October.
- Parents questioned whether or no reorganization could be avoided if students were not made aware of their classroom placements until September.
- Parents want to know how we can minimize impacts on children that must go through reorganization.
- Laura H. inquired if school council can rally HWDSB since ultimately this is a board decision.

*Action: Laura H. to lead committee to put forth a summary of concerns/suggestions for Classroom Reassignments to HWDSB on behalf of School Council*

**11. Follow-Up on Remaining Outstanding Action Items:**

- Teacher Alignment (Gint M.) – no further discussion
- Book Drive (Tara H.): Will take on book drive looking for donations. Goes until February 19th - any school age books are welcome. Schools will be divided between classrooms and library.

**12. Other Business: n/a**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephanie Gasko.

The first Fun Fair planning meeting will take place February 8, 2016 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm.  
Next school council meeting will take place February 16, 2016 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

**List of Action Items – School Council Meeting January 19, 2016**

Item Number	Action Item	Responsible Person(s)	Complete? (Y/N)
September-1	Follow up regarding the Hub's availability/use in the future.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-2	Mark the nutrition free days on the school calendar(s).	Mr. Gris	Y
September-3	Clean up the current version of the Council budget report and provide all with a simpler version of the most recent expenditures/incoming funds in October.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-4	Confirm teacher participation in Chapters Night.	Mrs. Raymond	Y
September-5	Organize Rousseau Family fundraiser night in October or November at Buffalo Wild Wings.	Tammy Mansfield	Y

September-6	Follow up regarding the possibility of a Groove-a-thon occurring near Halloween.	Mr. Gris	Y, Tabled
September-7	Organize a vendors' evening.	Kim Strecker, Honor Hughes, Danielle Curry	Y, Tabled
September-8	Look into a school that would benefit from Coat Drive fundraiser items.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-9	Lead Coat Drive.	Amy Wolfe, with Melissa Jeffrey	Y
September-10	Organize Book Drive.	Kim Strecker	Y
September-11	Providing a learning night or how-to sheet/UTube video to help families use School Cash Online.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-12	Organize Milk distribution in interim, collaboratively with other volunteers.	Leah Maskell, with Kim Strecker, Kaitryn Campbell	Y
September-13	Look into the availability of playground equipment available from decommissioned schools.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-14	Look into the possibility of providing an alert to "bus families" or recommend an alternative, viable course of action, to prevent students and their caregivers from waiting outside in inclement weather for an unreasonable amount of time, or caregivers from being late to work/additional responsibilities.	Mr. Gris	Y
October-1	Talk to teachers about getting "buddy classes" together to discuss including the elementary students in some way to generate ideas for school activities.	Mrs. Raymond	Y
October-2	Make a post regarding how to get School Cash Online registration numbers if parents have already registered in the past but misplaced access number.	Mr. Gris	Y
October-3	Look into the possibility of a partnership with Ancaster High to build additional playground equipment.	Gint Murphy	Y
October-4	Arrange to set up Synervoice messages to families re: bussing issues, for use should there be a need.	Mr. Gris	Y
October-5	Follow up with staff to discuss the feasibility of using Raz-Kids in classes, and the final cost.	Mr. Gris	Y
November-1	Updates from teachers to be provided in regard to how \$500/\$250 allotments are spent	Teachers/Mr. Gris	Y
November-2	Principal Direction for Rousseau	Mr. Gris	Y
November-3	Discussion regarding Classroom Reassignments	All	Y
January-1	School Council summary of concerns/suggestions for Classroom Reassignments for consideration by HWDSB	Laura H. lead with other parents assisting.	
January-2	Mr. Gris to provide a template letter for businesses requesting donations for Fun Fair silent Auction.	Mr. Gris	
January-3	Mr. Gris to check with Mr. Peters to determine if scribes are required to assist with EQAO testing in May/June.	Mr. Gris	
January-4	Teachers to provide recommendations for supplementary learning tools to use at home.	Mr. Gris/Mrs. Raymond	

## Rousseau School Council Meeting – January 19, 2016

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

1. Thank you
2. Website update (student activities)
3. Items from November's meeting
  - a. Financial Update: Please see attached
  - b. Principal Direction for Rousseau:
    - i) School Improvement work began at December staff meeting:  
**What do you value as an educator?**  
  
**What do you value as a learner?**  
  
**What is important for our students?**  
  
ii) In January – we discussed that we will need to find ways to measure what is important for our students. To that end, in February we will continue to have Board staff attend our staff meetings to support our learning – specifically to help us find ways to measure these attributes. We will also need to measure our students' skills in literacy and numeracy as well as in rotary subjects to help us focus on our learning. We are establishing a connection between the needs of our students and our learning as educators. Staff were asked to consider one aspect of literacy and numeracy that they viewed as a strength and another aspect that we might address as an area of improvement. Please see chart below. Staff also received information about the HUB.
  - c. Current HWDSB focus: Transforming Learning Everywhere (TLE) Gr. 4, Math (Gr. 1 and Gr. 4), Collaborative Proactive Situations (CPS), Mental Health
  - d. Extra-curriculars: Intramural floor hockey (Gr. 4-6), Intramural Handball (Gr. 1-3), Checkers (Gr. 4-6), Lion King Jr. (Gr. 1-6), Mixed Basketball (Gr. 5-6)
  - e. Upcoming trips: Peter Pan – Theatre Ancaster (Feb. 1) and Goldirocks – Mohawk (Apr. 6)
4. Reorganization
5. Thank you from Ancaster Community Services



## Rousseau Elementary School

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<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rousseau>  
PRINCIPAL: JOHN GRIS

### Upcoming Dates:

January 20: Checkers sign-up

January 21: Gr. 4 teachers and Mr. Gris at TLE In-service

January 26: Awards Assembly

January 27: MS. Barrow, Mr. Lees and Mr. Gris at Mental Health in-service

January 28: Free Parent Workshop at Fessenden

January 29: PA. Day

February 1: Peter Pan trip

February 3: Fire Safety Inspection and Presentations

February 8: Gr. 1, Gr. 4 teachers and Mr. Gris at Math in-service

February 15: Family Day Holiday

February 18: Term 1 report cards sent home



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### ROUSSEAU STUDENT AREAS OF STRENGTHS AND NEEDS

What do you value as an educator? *A supportive team – tools for the job – resources and time*

What do you value as a learner? *Choice and time*

What is important for our students? *Respect, feeling supported, belonging, being connected, part of a team, a sense of community*

DIVISION	STRENGTH	NEED	NEXT STEP
ELP Literacy	- ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>written expression/take a risk to get it down on paper</li> </ul> <u>ELP</u> – corresponding sounds/symbols <u>Gr1</u> - build on the sound/letter correspondence and just get it out	How will we measure written expression?
Numeracy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>grit, stick-with-it-ness</li> </ul>	How will we measure "grit"
GR. 1-6 Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>talking/oral communication</li> <li>background knowledge</li> <li>collaborative learners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>written expression</li> <li>following steps/ instructions</li> </ul>	How will we measure written expression?
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>graphing</li> <li>geometry/ "visual math"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mastering basic math facts</li> <li>reasoning related to graphing, data, etc.</li> <li>Interpreting word problems</li> </ul>	How do we give opportunity with automaticity while also working on understanding?

**School Council Purchases - Oct. 2015 - January 2016**

Date: 18/01/2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Funded through</u>	<u>Available</u>
10/24/2015	Balance Forward	1123.21		Purchases	<b>1123.21</b>
11/11/2015	Student Council Election Materials		62.44		<b>1060.77</b>
11/11/2015	3 pitch equipment		236.55		<b>824.22</b>
11/11/2015	Staff Room enhancements		204.25		<b>619.97</b>
11/25/2015	S. Laws - supplemental math workbooks		500	Enhanced Materials	<b>119.97</b>
01/12/2015	Enhanced Materials transfer	2604.74		\$500x10	<b>2724.71</b>
01/12/2015	Enhanced Materials transfer	2395.26		\$500x10	<b>5119.97</b>
01/12/2015	Art Supplies from Spirit Wear	31.05		\$20x10	<b>5151.02</b>
01/12/2015	Art Supplies from Touch a Truck	144.95		\$20x10	<b>5295.97</b>
01/12/2015	Gym Mats from Touch a Truck	1970			<b>7265.97</b>
01/12/2015	trip subsidy from wild wings	155.06		\$30 per student	<b>7421.03</b>
01/12/2015	50% funding - RAZ kids	603.15			<b>8024.18</b>
01/12/2015	Art supplies from Garden Center	24		\$20x10	<b>8048.18</b>
01/12/2015	trip subsidy from fun fair	4214.82		\$30 per student	<b>12,263</b>
01/12/2015	trip subsidy from popcorn	2535.94		\$30 per student	<b>14798.94</b>
01/12/2015	trip subsidy from pita pit	264.18		\$30 per student	<b>15063.12</b>
03/12/2015	K. Wolf - sensory bin materials		24.58	Enhanced Materials	<b>15038.54</b>
09/12/2015	St. Coun. Election Materials - laminating		30.77		<b>15007.77</b>
12-16/2015	C. Barrow - student stories binding		46.87	Enhanced Materials	<b>14960.9</b>
08/01/2016	K. Wolf - sensory bin materials		67.43	Enhanced Materials	<b>14893.47</b>
01/28/2016	M. Fawcett - RBG visit		244.5	Trip Subsidy	<b>14648.97</b>
01/13/2016	RAZ kids - 50% funding		603.15		<b>14045.82</b>
01/13/2016	Art supplies - jr classes		76.84		<b>13968.98</b>
12/16/2015	Balance Forward	890		Holiday Card	<b>0</b>
	City Kidz		445		
	Ancaster Community Services		445		
01/18/2016	Balance Forward	10319.56	6819.56	Fun Fair	<b>3500</b>
01/18/2016	Balance Forward	2041.24		Popcorn	<b>0</b>
01/18/2016	Balance Forward	803	264.18	Pita Pit	<b>1308.82</b>
01/18/2016	Tech Balance Forward	3234.78	2718.1	Touch a Truck	<b>516.68</b>
				<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE</b>	<b>19294.48</b>