

**Rousseau School Council Meeting**

**Tuesday March 28, 2016**

**6:30pm – 8:00 pm**

**School Council Attendees:** Kim Strecker (Chair); Laura Hustler (Treasurer); Helene Monzon (Secretary); Mr. John Gris (Principal); Janet Raymond (Teacher Representative)

**School Community Attendees:** Stephanie Gasko; Amy Wolfe; Holly Davis; Leah Maskell; Honor Hughes; Gint Murphy; Tony Gaglione (Head Caretaker)

**\*\*Parents – please remember to subscribe for email updates at: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rousseau/subscribe/>**

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**Meeting Summary**

1. Welcome to all – Kim Strecker
2. Approval of Minutes - February 2016 School Council minutes are posted on the Rousseau website; Approval of minutes motioned by Laura H. and seconded by Kim S.
3. Tastebuds and Student Nutrition Program
  - a. 171 Programs across Hamilton; run by parents/teachers/staff volunteers, offered in 2/3 of Hamilton Public, Catholic, French Public and French Catholic schools. \$.24 minimum costs/student \$.60. Not responding to economic poverty – it is nutrition poverty. Program to model healthy eating. Not fully funded – Ministry funds 15%, Tastebuds does funding(raising) to provide. Partnerships with Lococo’s, cheese wiggles. Bin is provided for each class 2/3 days/week. Public School Gordon Price does 2 food group snack 2X/week. 7% poverty at Rousseau  
  
**ACTION:** Discuss further under “Other business”. Consider a fruit bowl offered Tuesday through H&S. Consider tapping into local farmers – Laura H. to speak to contacts regarding helping source from local farmers. John G. and Janet R. to bring to staff for input (add to next Staff meeting Agenda).
4. Teacher Report – Provided by Janet Raymond
  - Thank you for Hot dog day!! and for the Hot Chocolate!! Students really enjoyed these:)
  - Monday, March 20th **Comic Art Workshop** for gr. 2-5, well received
  - **Communication Festival** was successful
  - Brooke Vesentin from gr. 6 is going on to represent Rousseau at the Family of Schools 5 Competition April 11

- Her topic is Feminism
- March 29 **Lockdown Drill**
- March 31 **Twin Day and Movie Night**
- April 3- 4/5 **Forest of Reading Trip** to Ancaster Library
- April 4 - **Pieces of History** in class workshop for both ELP classes (Dinosaurs)
- Gr. 6 is hosting a **Canadian author** on April 6 in class
  - Part of the Hamilton GritLIT Festival <http://www.gritlit.ca/>
- April 11 **Book Fair**
- April 12 **Day of Pink**
- April 12 **Lacrosse Day** at Rousseau
- May 1st **Music Monday**- assembly likely in the morning, parents will be welcome
  - Classes are already learning the song
  - Ms. Fawcett working to involve parents, strings, musicians
- May 10 - grade 6 class led by Brooke Vesentin is planning a school event for junior students and possibly student leaders from other Ancaster schools related to "50-50 Day" The theme of this international event is gender equality
  - <http://www.letitripple.org/films/50-50/5050-day/>.

## 5. Principal's Report

- a. Welcome and Thank you
- b. Air Quality Update – Jr. wing exhaust fans fixed over March break and is now operational. Testing was performed using a portable monitor and the school is showing "Normal" level readings (Board target is 1000 and we are within the target levels). Testing for particulates in the air – "Standard Test"
 

**ACTION ITEM:** John G. to follow up on what the Standard test involves
- c. Asbestos Update/Basketball Court Update
  - i. Asbestos Update – review conducted by John G. and Tony G. and tiles with issues have been identified for repair/removal. "A" Team to come into school (proper abatement procedures followed) to remove problem tiles.

- ii. Basketball Court Update – holes in outdoor Basketball court will be fixed (paving)

**ACTION ITEM:** John G. to confirm procedures to be taken in removal (e.g. off school hours, containment procedures of the area, etc.)

- d. Continuous Learning & Improvement – currently partnering with CH Bray on Learning Math – skill development. Working to ensure students understand conceptually. John shared a video by Jo Boaler (Stanford Mathematics professor) “IM2 Math – Everyone Can Do Math” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdE2VvvsfM4>.
- e. Learning Styles – New cost of \$150US to enter names into software in order to continue use. John asked if this would be covered by raised funds or H&S? Approach purposed would be to have Jr. students (4-6) complete online, and Primary students complete a hard copy (by/with parent). This has yet to be discussed at the Staff meeting. Question regarding platform/database this is on and whether the data captured could be extracted (e.g. excel) for use in other tools. Can this information be printed from the software and attached to the Ontario Student Record.

**ACTION:** John to present this to the staff and follow up on software questions (e.g. ability to extract information. School Council has a follow up to determine how to fund the additional \$150US cost (Laura).

#### 6. Budget Report – Laura

- a. As of end of February 2017 ~ \$1800 in School Council bank accts, ~\$368 in Popcorn account – much of these funds have been earmarked for approved spend (e.g. Art Auction, Science Fair, Grad, Outdoor Garden Project, etc.)
- b. Funds allocated for Teacher spend – teachers are spending, but council would like approved funds to be spent by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 otherwise funds will be reallocated.
- c. \$10/child kindergarten student has been earmarked for either a trip or visitor.

#### 7. Home and School Meeting Updates

- a. Rousseau Movie night March 31<sup>st</sup> – free event with donations accepted at the door – concessions will be sold and any funds raised will also be donated. Funds raised will be given to 541 Eatery and Exchange (in Hamilton) – guest speaker will be present to provide some background on 541 Eatery and show a short video.
- b. April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – Booster Juice day (Orders to be placed on School Cash Online by April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

- c. April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Groove-a-thon
  - d. Next meeting – April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm-8:00pm @ Rousseau Elementary School in the Staff room
8. Ancaster Pupil Accommodation Review – Gint
- a. 10 options to be presented to the Board of Trustees – as a community member representative, Gint indicated that the guiding principles that were followed for Rousseau was to continue to have Rousseau open, that a new school should be built and that there should be a max of 400 pupils – this is to maintain the integrity of Rousseau Elementary and the maintaining the “village” feel of Ancaster and Rousseau.
  - b. The Initial staff option presented was modified slight (as applicable to Rousseau), in that the initial option proposed an “addition” to Rousseau; however, the modified proposal recommends a “new build” for Rousseau
  - c. Trustees are still responsible for the final decision (regardless of options and recommendations)

**Key Dates:**

- April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Report submitted to the Trustees
- May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Delegation Night – each school can choose anyone to make a presentation to the Trustees – BUT a request to present must be submitted. REQUESTS to be a delegate should be made to [reviews@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:reviews@hwdsb.on.ca)
- June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Final Report & Decision

The School Council meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Helene Monzon. Next meeting to take place on Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:30 pm.