

Rousseau School Council Meeting
Tuesday November 22, 2016
6:30 – 8:00 pm

School Council Attendees: Kim Strecker (Chair); Laura Hustler (Treasurer); Helene Monzon (Secretary); Ms. Michelle Fawcett (Teacher Representative); Mr. John Gris (Principal); Rees (Student Representative); Callum (Student Representative)

Regrets:

School Community Attendees: Honor Hughes; Leah Maskell; Maeve Grady; Lara Hyde; Holly Davis; Amy Wolfe; Gint Murphy; Stephanie Gasko

1. **Welcome** – Kim S. welcomed all to the November 2016 meeting.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – October 2016 School Council minutes are posted on the Rousseau website; Approval of minutes motioned by Gint M. and seconded by Laura H.
3. **Ancaster Community Services** – Not in attendance

4. Student, Teacher and Principal Reports

4.1 Student Report

Congratulations to the newly elected Student Council Representatives! Present at the School meeting were Rees and Callum.

- **Election Process** – Students discussed how they became members of the student council. In class lessons on Leadership and chalk talk sessions. Candidates were shortlisted via anonymous blog posts that only students could access. This process resulted in 8 candidates. To encourage equality in the campaign process, candidates had to only use materials brought in by Ms. Fawcett. Speeches were presented to of Gr. 3s – Gr. 3 and up voted
- **Goals for the year** – Create a strong student voice and inspire students to take leadership role: Examples include Changes to Oh Canada and Announcement, to have class reps alternate with student council reps to share leadership at morning announcements and potentially assemblies. The goal here is to motivate leadership at the younger ages so that there is continuity of leadership once the Gr. 6 leaders graduate. Kim S. asked how to choose reps from classrooms? Ms. Fawcett indicates Teachers will perform their own method of election process (potentially providing an opportunity to switch mid year).
- Work with staff and students to improve and generate excitement about the school and make the school a positive place to be. Be comfortable presenting in front of the school.
- Leaders from other schools will be invited (tweeted out to past Rousseau school leaders)

- Spirit days – want to solicit feedback from all students. Routine of Spirit day tied to Pay it Forward initiative, but students would like a “silly” spirit day

4.2 Teacher Report – presented by Ms. Fawcett on behalf of all teachers

- Extracurricular update - Ongoing primary & Junior choir, Swimming, and Volleyball. Thank you to all the parents that have volunteered as parent drivers!
- Choir
 - Chapters Night was enjoyed by all!
 - Choir Invitations
 - **Ancaster Tree lighting ceremony (addendum post Council Meeting) – Thursday December 1, 2016 @ 7:05pm**
 - For Junior Choir members. This year choir will be OUTSIDE on the main stage, children will stay under parent supervision and hop up on stage when announced (just before 7:05pm), then will go directly back to their parents’ care after exiting the stage. Ms. Fawcett with send a notice will go out to parents shortly.
 - **New indoor Ancaster Market – Dates (Saturday) tbd**
 - **Ancaster Avalanche game – Dates (Saturday) tbd**
- Lego club started (Mrs. Bennett & Mr. Berg)
 - Huge response from students; Mr. Gris bought some last year, and will buy one more set
 - Caretaker has put together lego wall – still need to determine where
ACTION ITEM: Will H&S consider purchase of an additional Lego set.

4.3 Principal Report – Mr. John Gris

1. Welcome and Thank you
2. **Air Quality Update** – Boards facility department emailed today, Mechanic did check it out and will return to fix as soon as possible.
 - a. Motor driven not belt driven. John indicates that the purpose is to “exhaust” heat in the summer, so not needed in the winter.
 - b. Question raised by Holly D. as to whether we have Air Intake?
ACTION ITEM: John to follow up on whether Rousseau has an Air Intake and whether it is in good operational standing.
ACTION ITEM: Air Quality Control Test still needs to be scheduled (per previous Action Item #5)
3. Continuous Learning & Improvement Elementary School Annual Plan – DRAFT, updates to follow
 - a. Thinking behind school plan is to determine student needs. What do we know? What do we need to know more about? How does Positive school culture connect to the Report Card/Learning skills
 - b. Math Learning – Dec. 2nd focused session on math – learning, partnering with CH Bray

- c. Mind Up “Quiet Space” – an area in the classroom, where a child can go and take a step to get calm – mind break; Rousseau previously engaged/evaluated the Learning Styles strategy
- i. Learning Styles were supposed to come and continue following kids to see how these plans were working. This strategy has not continued.
 - ii. Kids involved were supposed to be updating and giving input annual. Rousseau had paid to have 1500 surveys, but only about 400 have been used. Would like to have some ongoing continuity between teachers. (Previous Principal and staff changes were not continued) – Ms. Fawcett indicates that this type of thinking should be integrated in the teaching process. Different learning styles. Mind Up Curriculum was launched in 2015 – expectation is not there that everyone should be doing it – but there is an expectation that everyone should be willing to try something.
ACTION: Follow up on what happened with Learning Styles and additional 1500 surveys
 - iii. “Yoga ball style chairs” are being requested for some classrooms. Would teachers consider using the \$500 provided by School Council?
Luxfit Ball Chair Premium Fitness Exercise Ball for Home and Office – Stability Ball Chair – Amazon.ca \$69.95 (sadly the URL viewed in meeting was still Amazon.com prices)
ACTION: Provide teachers to links for purchasing for their classrooms
LINKS:
 - https://www.amazon.ca/Gaiam-LAP-KT-6002CF-Balanceball-Chair-Black/dp/B00FR2RYRI/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1480024997&sr=8-1&keywords=chair+ball
 - https://www.amazon.ca/Gaiam-Kids-Balance-Chair-Blue-Green/dp/B01DY5J792/ref=sr_1_12?ie=UTF8&qid=1480025233&sr=8-12&keywords=chair+ball
 - iv. Gint brought up Grade Book (used more of a Secondary school tool) – Power School (used for Admin) – would like to have report cards in Power School eventually. e-Portfolio – some school piloting. What is current boards stance (John thinks this is for grade 7-8)
4. IT Consultant is coming to talk about HUB (online application/course material HUB – submit assignments, view course material). Rousseau used to call the library “HUB” but it is back to the “Library”.
 5. Funding Idea – RAZ kids used by almost all classes, would like school council to consider paying. **No opposition – School council approves spend.**
 6. Projector for Library – can we buy with School Council funds – **No opposition – School council approves spend.**
 7. Holiday performances

- a. Thanks to Ms. Fawcett and Ms. Crocker for work in Choir Chapters night
 - b. Seasonal singing at December Awards assembly and possible additional Choir will do an additional performance – getting parents involved
 - c. \$500 originally assigned for Holiday show will not be required (back to School council)
8. Parent Access to Teachers & School – Feedback from Council Requested
- a. Send a message in Agenda – best way to connect with the teacher. Teacher would prefer scheduling a time via Agenda or Phone call, email (for those that have provided)
 - b. Students will be called to office if they have to leave early – need a consistent protocol
 - c. Note in Sticky on Agenda, Teacher can then put sticky in attendance
9. Hour of “Code” – all the apps/ipads are available for access, Coding an robotics

5. **Budget – presented by Laura Hustler**

- Laura working with Cathy and John to understand the budget
- Balance in School Council \$8974.40 (95% sure)
- Laura targets to have a parent/user friendly budget by January 2017 meeting
- # of Accounts in School council to be closed (every thing fundraiser account) – funds will be moved into SC accounts – Cathy needs to work with Board to confirm. Proposed accounts to be closed: Garden Centre; Pita Pit; Wild Wings; Touch a Truck; Hot dog
- Ideally moving forward - Popcorn with fund small things - eg. Like Lego, SC account fund bigger items.

6. **Holiday card project**

- Place to donate funds in name of teacher, funds are then donated to where SC identifies
- City Kidz for consideration for a Charity of Choice previously
- Need to determine best way to communicate to families and collect: e.g. to Provide Teachers with large envelopes to collect or collect in the yard in the past – so that teachers don’t get this. BUT how to deal with the bus kids.
- Kim S. indicates she will lead (volunteers welcome)

ACTION: John to poll teachers as to Charity of Choice

7. **Adopt a family Holiday project**

- This will continue this year. Gifts for families a few families picked, last year the Charity was Ancaster Community Services

ACTION: Helene to follow up on who is the owner on this project

8. **Wreath fundraising idea – presented by Holly Davis**

- Kids together to make wreaths and then sell them. Sell here at school in morning (potentially Ancaster Indoor Market?)

- Ask for parent involvement as well as donations for purchase of materials; request for purchases at Nurseries to have a donation back to school
- 2 weeks to gather and then work on them afterschool – need access to gym
- Will be categorized as an H&S project. Right after school would be ideal. Probably 2 days consecutively.
- H&S needs to design a sign-up sheet (week prior to the event)
- Price point \$25, \$35, \$45 – twig version, foam versions, live versions (approaching nurseries in name of Rousseau Home & School)

ACTION: H&S needs to request a permit

9. **Christmas play or musical?** – Christmas assembly in place of a Holiday Play or Musical

10. **Lost and found**

- L&F Articles have been placed on tables inside of the main School entrance
- Clothing stays out for assembly – if still there by end of week (Friday) – we will donate
- Mabels Labels H&S – investigate

ACTION: Helene Investigate how we can engage Mabel’s Labels for Rousseau

11. **Spending committee updates** – As previously discussed (pls. see above)

12. **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Edge vs. Life Touch – **Decision: Switch to Edge Approved**

2. Lunch Lady - **Decision: Yes to Holiday “fun day” menu (Breakfast/Lunch)**

ACTION: Pick a date in addition to current Monday’s

ACTION: H&S Holiday Hotdog or Pancake Fundraiser

ACTION: Request Stats from Lunch Lady on orders

3. Request to be careful with the use of terminology that all children may not celebrate “Chirstmas”

4. Air quality control

a. Test date is still outstanding

b. Additional take-aways as outlined above

5. First Aid

- a. Eye wash station purchased but yet to be installed. John indicates he will have this installed by Wednesday November 23, 2016 – will be placed with first aid kit in the office.

ACTION – Install Eye Wash Station by Wednesday November 23, 2016

6. Picnic tables (H & S)

- a. **Will bring up with H&S on Friday**

7. Parking...reminder was sent – done

- a. Last spot isn't a spot – will be painted yellow

8. Painting...went well and completed presented at assembly

9. Need reminders about buddy benches

10. Alex Johnstone...January was agreed. **ACTION: John will reach out to Alex.**

11. ARC

- a. Gint is approved for ARC – schools have an obligation to solicit, but because School Council approved before the formal invite went out his nomination stand
- b. Standing agenda item will be added for ongoing updates – Gint or John to Cover

ACTION: Kim S. or Helene M. to add to upcoming Agenda's

Other Business

- Ms. Muchella Class – hooks, can we get labels updated? John confirms that Ms. Bottrell will address this within the week

The School Council meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Helene Monzon. Next meeting to take place on Tuesday January 17, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

List of Action Items – School Council Meeting November 22, 2016

Item#	Meeting Identified	Action	Responsible Person(s)	Target Date	Complete? (Y/N)
1	September	Mr. Gris to send out announcement	John G.;		Y

		advertising School Council Secretary position (announcement to be drafted by Stephanie G.).	Stephanie G.		
2	September	Laura H. and Danielle C. to follow up on a submarine sandwich lunch program.	Laura H.; Danielle C.		Y
3	September	Rebecca N. to look into available lunch programs.	Rebecca N.		Y
4	September	Mr. Gris to send K. Strecker suggested dates for Spending Sub-Committee meeting	John G.		Y
5	September	Mr. Gris to advise K. Strecker when Air Quality check will take place.	John G.	tbd	
6	September	Mr. Gris to seek input from Board as to what is considered an unsafe temperature on extreme hot weather days (ie. what temperature would trigger a school closure).	John G.		Y
7	September	Boja P. to provide order forms and organize the ordering of spiritwear.	Boja P.		Y
8	September	Mr. Gris to discuss with ELP staff the request from JK/SK parents to wait inside the playground gate.	John G.		Y
9	October	School Council to decide if Rousseau will change from Life to Edge Imaging for the 2017/2018 school year.	John G., Kim S.		Y
10	October	H&S Investigate possibility of purchasing picnic tables for outside.	Kim S.	Nov25	
11	October	Confirm with ACS that they will be presenting at the November School Council Meeting.	John G.	tbd	
12	October	Rousseau families are welcome to come to the school on Saturday October 22 at 1 pm to assist playground beautification (ie. painting four square courts, etc.). Rhea Lalla will send text to be used for blog post to Mr. Gris regarding the Saturday afternoon paint session.	Rhea L., John G.		Y
13	October	Invite Alex Johnstone to school council meeting to discuss accommodation review. Update: Request should be for January Meeting	John G.	tbd	

14	October	Gint M has kindly offered to represent Rousseau at the nine Accommodation Review meetings.	Gint M.		Y
15	October	Rebecca Nicolas will set up Lunch Lady Program; send text to John Gris for blog post and synervoice message; will also provide a paper copy detailing the program to families.	Rebecca N.		Y
16	November	Follow up on whether Rousseau has an Air Intake and whether it is in good operational standing.	John	tbd	
17	November	H&S Request is to consider purchase of an additional Lego set for Lego Club	Kim to Danielle	Nov23	
18	November	Follow up on what happened with Learning Styles and additional 1500 surveys	John/Helene	tbd	
19	November	Provide teachers to Yoga Ball Chair links for purchasing for their classrooms LINKs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.amazon.ca/Gaiam-LAP-KT-6002CF-Balanceball-Chair-Black/dp/B00FR2RYRI/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1480024997&sr=8-1&keywords=chair+ball • https://www.amazon.ca/Gaiam-Kids-Balance-Chair-Blue-Green/dp/B01DY5J792/ref=sr_1_12?ie=UTF8&qid=1480025233&sr=8-12&keywords=chair+ball 	John	tbd	
20	November	Holiday Card initiative - Poll teachers as to Charity of Choice	John	tbd	
21	November	Adopt-A-Family Holiday Project – determine Owner	Helene/Kim S.?	tbd	
22	November	H&S – Request Permit for Wreath Fundraiser	Kim S. to Danielle	Nov23	
23	November	Lunch Lady – Pick a Date for December Holiday Meal (in addition to Monday schedule)	???	tbd	
24	November	H&S – Holiday Hotdog or Pancake Fundraiser follow up	Kim S. to Danielle	Nov25	
25	November	Request stats on Lunch Lady program	Helene	Dec1	
26	October	First Aid - Eye Wash Station Installation Nov Update: Unable to confirm Nov. 24AM	John	Nov23	

27	November	Add Standing ARC Update to School Council Agenda	Kim/Helene	Jan	
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