

Rousseau School Council Meeting
Tuesday October 18, 2016
6:30 – 8:10 pm

School Council Attendees: Kim Strecker (Chair); Stephanie Gasko (Secretary); Ms. Beth Bennett (Teacher Representative); Mr. John Gris (Principal)

Regrets: Laura Hustler (Treasurer)

School Community Attendees: Maeve Grady; Rebecca Nicolas; Lara Hyde; Rhea Lalla; Helene Monzon; Holly Davis; Leah Maskell; Danielle Curry; Amy Wolfe; Gint Murphy; Charlie Coull

1. **Welcome** – Kim S. welcomed all to the October 2016 meeting.
2. **Presentation from Edge Imaging** – a presentation was made by Edge Imaging staff regarding their school photography services. Edge Imaging is requesting that Rousseau consider a change from the currently photography services to their services for the school year 2017/2018. The most significant changes in the Edge Imaging services described are: taxes are included; add-on packages are less expensive than life touch; have family plan – only pay for 1st two children in the same school; photos come in a booklet form; offer a spring sibling photo option; provide grade 6 graduation photo package as well.

Action: School Council to decide if Rousseau will change from Life to Edge Imaging for the 2017/2018 school year.

3. **Approve Minutes – Temporary Secretary** - September 2016 School Council minutes are posted on the Rousseau website; Approval of minutes motioned by Stephanie G. and seconded by Gint M.

4. Student, Teacher and Principal Reports

Student Report – no student report.

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

Mrs. Laws: swim team is well underway; 4 more practices; no conflict with Cross Country; requesting \$ for science fair prizes.

Mr. Lees: is in need of lower levelled readers

Action: Send out request to Rousseau families for donations of low level readers.

Mrs. Fawcett: Jr. Choir is practicing second break every Thursday; playing at Chapters and requesting to perform at Ancaster Tree Lighting event; Ancaster Avalanche has invited the choir to sing o Canada at a hockey game – date to be determined; Student council elections will be underway soon. Students are learning criteria of a leader. Will be having students in all grades take turns with morning announcements etc.

Mr. Obermeyer: is wondering if we could investigate purchasing picnic tables for outside.

Action Item: Investigate possibility of purchasing picnic tables for outside

Mrs. Raymond: wants school to go see Shrek but we are limited by numbers; Shrek will therefore only be for kindergarten classes; remaining classes will go to see James and the Giant Peach.

Mr. O'Brien: met HWDSB regarding a library refresh; currently in process of ordering new furniture.

Ms. Bennett: pizza day orders due Monday October 24; first pizza day will be Thursday October 27; gluten free may be an option if parents make a specific request; Mrs. Bennett will be starting a Lego club starting in November; also considering a coding club.

Mrs. Stinson: 1st cross country meet went well; 2nd meet at Lee Academy on Friday at noon.

Mrs. Crocker: running primary choir; will be performing at Chapters Night.

Principal Report – Mr. John Gris

1. Welcome and Thank you
2. Ancaster Community Services – would like to present to School Council; looking for ½ hour for a presentation; Rousseau partners with ACS to conduct food drives, etc. Agreed to have ACS present at November meeting

Action: confirm with ACS that they will be presenting at the November School Council Meeting.

3. Air Quality Check – some repairs currently taking place on HVAC system; AQC will take place after repairs complete.

Heat Advisory – over certain temperature; reduce activity; keep hydrated; school closure could happen upon discretion of a school director or public safety official.

4. Kindergarten playground update – if parents arrive early they are able to come and wait on the basketball court area; if they want to leave early they may sign them out; concern of teachers is when parents take children without telling teachers; it is a safety concern for teaching staff. Cars should also be backing in.

Action: Reminder to Rousseau families about policies regarding safety in the school parking lot; including backing into parking spaces.

Other Playground updates – will be putting in buddy benches; may paint new 4 square and other games

Action: 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.

5. Pupil Accommodation – board is requesting one parent rep to sit on advisory committee; there will be a minimum of 9 meetings between November and March.
The following links provide further information on the pupil accommodation review process:
From the Hamilton Wentworth Board:

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Pupil-Accommodation-Review.pdf>

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/reviews/>

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/reviews/files/2016/02/Guide-to-Pupil-Accommodation-Reviews.pdf>

Action Item: invite Alex Johnstone to school council meeting to discuss accommodation review.

Action Item: Gint M has kindly offered to represent Rousseau at the nine Accommodation Review meetings.

6. School Improvement Plan – in progress; will be shared at a later date

5. Positions Still Available

The school council position of secretary is still available. Helene Monzon has kindly offered to fill the position of secretary for the remainder of the 2016/2017 school year. Thank you Helene!

6. Lunch and Snack Choices for this year updates

Rebecca Nicolas presented an overview of the Lunch Lady program. It was agreed to offer a lunch lady program on Mondays of each week. Once a month, additional lunch programs will be offered.

Action: 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.

7. Financial Updates (spending sub Committee)

Kim Laura was not present–

Had \$8900 to spend; each teacher given \$500 as well as \$500 split between rotary teachers(\$6000) ; \$500 to science fair; \$500 to Mrs Crocker for a holiday show; \$500 for Grade 6 grad; \$ for cross country bussing; \$1000 to subsidize bussing; \$200 put aside for school beautifications (from Home and school); \$25 for each teacher for art auction

8. Health & Safety Procedures in Place and Up to Date

Health & Safety and first aid procedures have been reviewed by Kim Strecker; new first aid kits are now available within the school; will the school get an eye wash station – will purchase a bottle for this purpose

9. School Ideas

This was in regards to school beautification project

The School Council meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephanie Gasko. Next meeting to take place on Tuesday November 15, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

List of Action Items – School Council Meeting October 18, 2016

| Item Number | Action | Responsible Person(s) | Complete? (Y/N) |
|--------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| September-1 | Mr. Gris to send out announcement advertising School Council Secretary position (announcement to be drafted by Stephanie G.). | John G.; Stephanie G. | Y |
| September-2 | Laura H. and Danielle C. to follow up on a submarine sandwich lunch program. | Laura H.; Danielle C. | Y |
| September-3 | Rebecca N. to look into available lunch programs. | Rebecca N. | Y |
| September-4 | Mr. Gris to send K. Strecker suggested dates for Spending Sub-Committee meeting | John G. | Y |
| September-5 | Mr. Gris to advise K. Strecker when Air Quality check will take place. | John G. | |
| September-6 | 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 |
| September-7 | Boja P. to provide order forms and organize the ordering of spiritwear. | Boja P. | |
| September-8 | Mr. Gris to discuss with ELP staff the request from JK/SK parents to wait inside the playground gate. | John G. | Y |
| October - 1 | School Council to decide if Rousseau will change from Life to Edge Imaging for the 2017/2018 school year. | John G., Kim S. | |
| October - 2 | Send out request to Rousseau families for donations of low level readers. | John G., Kim S.? | |
| October - 3 | Investigate possibility of purchasing picnic tables for outside. | Kim S.? | |

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| October - 4 | Confirm with ACS that they will be presenting at the November School Council Meeting. | John G. | |
| October - 5 | 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. | |
| October - 6 | Invite Alex Johnstone to school council meeting to discuss accommodation review. | Kim S., John G. | |
| October - 7 | Gint M has kindly offered to represent Rousseau at the nine Accommodation Review meetings. | Gint M. | |
| October - 8 | Rebecca Nicolas will set up Lunch Lady Program; send text to John Gris for blog post and synervice message; will also provide a paper copy detailing the program to families. | Rebecca N. | |
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