

Rousseau Home and Schools Association Meeting

January 30, 2018 – 6:30 pm

HSA Association Member Attendees: Holly Davis (Co-Chair), Laura Manzine (Co-Chair), Kim Strecker (Fundraising Chair), Lara Hyde (Secretary), Rhea (Hospitality Rep)

Regrets: Lisa P (Treasurer)

School Community Attendees: Beth Bennett, John Gris

1. Welcome & Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes: Minutes were mistakenly not sent out by co-chairs, therefore could not be approved.

2. Principal's Report:

I) John shared a short video from OFHSA on Parent Engagement and the differences between HSA and SC. It was noted that if HSA has a recommendation regarding curriculum, it will be included in minutes but must be brought up at SC.

II) There are currently two surveys on the school and board websites (parent survey and HWDSB budget priority survey). These surveys are opportunities for parents to provide input (surveys close Feb. 28 and March 4).

III) Math Update—Manipulatives are in; all set for Family Math Night (Feb. 28). Cost of manipulatives: \$2296.76. John asked if HSA would subsidize it or part of it. HSA's decision: No (see item #5 on agenda). Teachers will spend March PA Day learning how to use these.

Free After-School Scholars' Program (gr. 3 & 6) will be available on Mon and Wed from 3:30-4:45, starting the last week of Feb for 10 weeks. Focus is on math and will be by invitation. Ms. K is school lead. Includes snack. John asked if HSA would subsidize snack. HSA's decision: No (see item #5 on agenda).

Family Math Night on Feb. 28 will be student-led, with students demonstrating how math instruction has changed in schools. John asked if HSA would subsidize food for the event. HSA's decision: No (see item #5 on agenda). **ACTION: Kim to talk to Starbucks, Fortinos, Tim's about possible donations for snacks.** Kim also suggested providing examples of how to make your own math manipulatives at home on the HSA Facebook page and at the school.

3. Budget Update: Groove-a-thon raised \$7200 (some of that went to gifts for kids). As of Sept. everything raised from Fun Fair (\$9000) was allocated. Trip money hasn't been spent yet.

ACTION: Holly will write cheque to school for trip funds. Money raised from Fortinos' event is being saved for Fun Fair expenses. This leaves us with approx \$6000 left to spend on other requests.

4. Review of Fundraising Events and Calendar for Remaining School Year:

No Movie Night was held in October

No pancake event was held in December

Move Movie Night from January to ? Funds to go to charity. Need to check with Movie Night organizer Nathan F. for availability. **ACTION: Kim to talk to Nathan.**

Committee decided to add a fundraiser the week before March Break. Sub-committee to decide what the fundraiser will be. **ACTION: Holly to send out e-mail invitation to join subcommittee.**

Holly proposed inviting someone to do an Internet Safety talk at the school. Police will do it for free. **ACTION: John to reach out to community liaison officer to see if we can do it in April.** Parents to be invited to attend during instructional time. **ACTION: Holly to reach out to guy who did it at ASPS (Paul Davis) to inquire about his fee and availability for future session at Rousseau.** HSA to consider applying for grant to cover this for next year. HWDSB website has a list of all available grants. HSA and SC can apply for any of them.

5. Review Budget Allocation Requests and Vote on Budget Allocation for Funds Acquired to Date:

Funding Recommendations (John Gris):

I) Math Manipulatives: Total cost \$2296.76 (manipulatives have been ordered and are in use by classrooms). *John to confirm amount? This amount is different from what is on sheet.

II) Classroom Enhancements (Teacher Requests): \$3084.42 (with a few more requests to come in).

III) Scientists in Schools Program: \$180 + tax for 10 classes = \$1800 (+ tax)

IV) Forest of Reading Program: 1 set per class = \$1763.91 (ordered and in use by classrooms)

V) Laptops: \$250 each X 8 = \$2000 (ordered but not in yet).

Funding Recommendations (Students):

I) Soccer Nets. **ACTION: John to look into pricing. Approx. \$180 per net?**

II) Four-square utility balls

III) Outdoor basketball nets, including an additional one for junior side of building.

IV) New backboards for outdoor basketball.

Funding Recommendations (Other):

I) Laura M. asked about screen time in class and stated that ergonomics are a concern. (Response: Each teacher does it differently; guidelines don't exist.) Kim S. suggested that we look into purchasing stands so kids don't hunch over and get curved neck syndrome and other problems. We don't teach kids how to use this technology properly. Radiation a concern. Beth B. mentioned that "All the Right Type" app teaches kids how to sit properly, etc. **ACTION: John to add link to school website. Kim S. to send info regarding iPad stands to John, to create proposal for purchasing these. John and Beth to look further into costs for ergonomic devices.**

HSA Council voted to allocate current available funds (approx. \$6000) in the following manner:

- Forest of Reading set of books for each class. \$1781.50
- Scientists in Schools: 10 classes X \$180 = \$1800
- Kids' Requests (soccer nets): \$400
- Teacher Requests: approx. \$2000 (difference remaining from available \$6000)

Basketball fundraiser (Steve Nash) to cover cost of backboards, nets, four-square utility balls.

ACTION: Lara H. to ask her husband about whether nets purchased by Rousseau basketball dads are still around, negating need to buy new ones.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Lara Hyde. Next meeting February ?, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.