

Rousseau School Council Meeting
April 21, 2015 – 6:30-8:00pm

School Council Member Attendees:

Mrs. Susan Boshier (Principal), Laura Hustler (Chair), Kim Strecker (Vice-Chair), Mrs. Janet Raymond (Teachers' Representative), Kaitryn Campbell (Co-Secretary), Tara Hamilton (Treasurer)

School Community Attendees:

Honor H., Tammy M., Jane S., Sandra M., Danielle C., Leah M., Tammy M., Melissa J., Natalie V.

Regrets:

Stephanie Gasko (Co-Secretary)

Agenda Items:

1. **Welcome**

Laura H. welcomed all to the meeting.

2. **Last Month's Minutes**

Approval of last month's minutes (March 2015) was *motioned* by Kim S. and *seconded* by Danielle C.

3. **Review of Action Items**

See appended Action Table.

4. **Reports**

Student Report

No report this evening.

Teacher Report - J. Raymond

Upcoming/Ongoing Events:

-Fri. Apr. 24, 9:10-10:15am, Music Champions Assembly: Grades 4-6 took part. A special presentation of student work and community artists will take place this Friday, in the Rousseau gymnasium. HWDSB has partnered with the Royal Conservatory of Music and community artists to provide an 8-session "Learning Through the Arts" program in schools. Rousseau was chosen by our HWDSB Arts Consultant to participate this year, as a result of Rousseau's commitment to providing consistent and high quality music education in the classroom. Three East Wing classrooms (4/5O, 5/6F, 6R) participated this year, and through music activities, learned about building community, First Nations culture in Canada, and Media Literacy.

Please join us on Friday to experience:

- Ojibwe dance, drumming and singing, complete with Regalia
- music performance by community musician, Jason Shawana
- short Film by community film maker, Vanessa Crosbie Ramsay
- student produced Music Videos

-Wed. Apr. 29, Student Assembly & Spirit Day: (Wacky Hair Day- collect toiletries for Interval House)
Teacher Supervisor, Sonya Reid

-Mon. May 4, Rousseau Music Monday Assembly: Thank you Ms. Fawcett and Mrs. Stinson. Hosted 11:30am-12:30pm at Rousseau. All classes are learning the song "We are One", Choirs will perform. Please join us on MUSIC MONDAY! Music Monday is a 10 year strong initiative of the Coalition for Music Education in Canada, which is made up of Music Educators & Music Education Advocates. Each year, on the 1st Monday of May, students and staff from schools across Canada come together at their individual schools to perform the "Music Monday Anthem" --- a piece of music symbolizes the power of Music to bring us together and symbolizes the importance of Music Education in the lives of our children and students. Rousseau is participating again this year with a celebration similar to last year's format. Our celebration will bring together students, staff, parents and community members to perform the following:

- **ELP classes** performing a song with their teachers

- **Primary classes** performing songs with their music teacher, Mrs. Stinson
- **Primary Choir** performing a song with Mrs. Stinson
- **Junior classes** performing songs with their music teacher, Ms Fawcett
- **Junior Choir** performing songs with Ms Fawcett
- **Rousseau string program students** performing a piece of music
- **Rousseau parents** Colin Lapsley and Nathan Fleet joining in some songs with their instruments
- **Community volunteer**, Krista Rhodes, accompanying Junior Choir (Pianist/Rousseau parent Susan Lee will be out of town adjudicating the Kiwanis Festival)
- **ALL ROUSSEAU STUDENTS** performing the Music Monday Anthem, "We Are One"
- *****PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO VISIT**, see: www.musicmonday.ca to learn "We Are One" and sing with us!!!! Your children can help you!!! ☺

-Fri. May 29, Track and Field: for grades 3-6. Grades 1-2 will do Jump Rope for Heart. ELPs will have a mini Track and Field day (date will be confirmed according to weather report). Parent volunteers are needed.

-Thurs April 30: Strings assembly.

BOKS - "Build Our Kids' Success"

Started the week of April 7th with Mrs. Crocker supervising

BOKS promotes the impact that physical activity has on a child's mind, body and spirit.

ACTIVE KIDS = ACTIVE MINDS

Twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 7th to May 14th, 8:00 - 8:45

A warm up followed by organized play including running activities, obstacle courses and games which incorporate functional fitness movements such as sit ups, jumping, lunges etc.

FREE- fully funded by Reebok Canada Fitness Foundation, Public Health Agency of Canada,

Request for Funds: ELP (J. Raymond)

A request for \$250.00 to be coupled with \$250.00 School funds (SB) (*request approved by Council for \$250*)

Purpose: ***Outdoor Play Improvement Project***

Description of items:

- Trike garage to free up more storage space in shed, and allow students to be more independent in managing care of trikes
- Shelves for shed to enable storage of classroom toys etc.
- large outdoor Plexiglas easel with buckets, brushes, squirters and squeegees
- Picnic table
- Outdoor Mud Kitchen and bowls and big spoons
- Fenced in Dig Pit and trucks, diggers, shovels etc.
- Raised Kinder-Garden and gardening tools

Grade 6 Celebration

To be held Mon., June 22nd @ approx. 10:20 a.m.

Miss Rankin & Ms. Fawcett are currently putting final touches on grade 6 celebration details.

All details will be available soon on a "Rousseau Grade 6 Celebration" blog, with a link accessible from Rousseau Ramblings.

Last week of May (not before): As in the past, we will be asking for grade 5 and 6 parent volunteers to assist with specific tasks (Grade 5 parents: help on the Celebration Day.....Grade 6 parents: help before the Celebration Day)

Grade 6 parent, Alison Emo will be the lead parent volunteer and will be the liaison between Grade 5 & 6 parent volunteers and Miss Rankin & Ms. Fawcett

Request for Funds: Grade 6 Celebration

DJ - Miss Rankin and Ms. Fawcett would like to request from School Council \$350 for the Disc Jockey

Decorations - We would also like to request up to \$100 for decorations if possible, to be finalized in early June with parent volunteer coordinator Alison Emo (*request approved by Council for \$450*)

Cost of decorations varies ---- grade 6 parents who plan decorations sometimes use their own contacts & talents

e.g. in the past, Rousseau parent volunteers have:

- contacted garden centre to "borrow" flower arrangements in exchange for a business card in the program
- parent who did a lot of house staging provided decorative props & decorations
- an artistic parent made flower arrangement from wildflowers/roadside grasses (LOL! It was beautiful!)

Spirit Days and Pay It Forward Activities

Month	Spirit Day	Pay It Forward Activity	Supervising
April	Crazy Hair Day	toiletries for women's shelter	Sonya Reid
May	?	Cystic Fibrosis	Peter Lees
June	soccer tournament kids vs parents,	Sell freezies, send a kid to camp (Tim Hortons)	Ryan Peters

Principal Report - S. Boshier

1. **School Organization as approved by the Board for next year (2015/2016).** Teaching assignments are confidential at this time as they can change before the end of the school year due to teachers applying for jobs in other schools. A final staff list will be shared on the last day of school as well as class placements for September, depending on enrollment. The projected declining enrollment will give us:

- ELP 1 (1 Teacher, 1 ECE)
- ELP 2 (1 Teacher)
- Gr 1 Speech & Language
- Gr 1
- Gr 1/2
- Gr 2/3
- Gr 3
- Gr 4/5
- Gr 4/5
- Gr 6

2. The following Ram-blings Posts will be made shortly:

- Academic Sharing for September Placements - Input from Parents
 - If you have an **academic** concern only, not a specific teacher request or placement in a straight vs a split, (as there is always the possibility of change) that might influence your child's classroom placement for September, please submit it in writing. The dates will be in the post.
- Student Agendas
 - There is an option to pre-order and purchase the student agenda as a tool of choice in grades four to six. The commercially produced agenda will be used as a common communication tool in primary and will not require pre-ordering.

5. Staff Appreciation (Mon. May 11)

Tammy Mansfield has kindly volunteered to organize. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact her. Funding last year was from "Toonie for the Teacher" donations last year, which worked well. We could do this again. Had donations from Pita Pit, Sobey's, Pizza Day provider, and wing provider. Gifts were also given, and a garden planted. The proposed date is Mon. May 11.

Action Item: Kim S./Melissa J. will lead the classroom discussions with kids again regarding how they could best appreciate their teacher.

6. Touch-a-Truck (Sat. May 30)

It was asked that all invitations please go out electronically this year, rather than printing out paper invitations to be delivered in the community. The goal is to get the invitation out to as many schools in HWDSB as possible. An entertainment tent will be hosted. Announcements have gone out to local TV and radio stations. Face painting is planned. This has been an annual event for the past 5 years, that gives children an opportunity to experience what it's like to climb on, sit in, etc. numerous unusual vehicles, which they would otherwise not likely have the opportunity to do.

Action Item: Kim will follow up with Jennifer Mattern regarding Rousseau participation and volunteers.

7. Fundraising for 2015/2016 discussion (Please bring your ideas)

A Rousseau Scrapbooking Day in the gym was proposed from 9am-5pm, with coffee, tea, snacks, and lunch. Sat. May 23 was proposed, or we could wait until Fall 2016.

Action Item: Honor H. and an ad hoc committee will follow up with plans for the event.

Other Business:

8. Science Fair

At other local schools, students participate in Science Fair. Many of those in attendance at this evening's meeting showed interest in the idea of Rousseau students having the option of participating in Science Fair.

Action Item: Mrs. Raymond will discuss this as a possibility with the junior grade teachers for the next academic year.

9. PRO Grant

Tabled due to lack of time.

10. PIC Accepting Submissions

Action Item: Mrs. Boshier will send out a blog posting with the link.

11. Ancaster Fair

Bussing our students to the fair as a class or a group excursion was discussed.

Action Item: Mrs. Raymond will discuss this as a possibility with all Rousseau teachers for next academic year.

Action Item: Laura H. will look into the logistics of Rousseau participating in this event as a school sponsored trip.

12. Fun Fair

Seeking donations for the silent auction continues to be a priority for preparing for the fun fair. Natalie Booth is in charge of the silent auction. If anyone has any items that can be donated please contact Natalie at natalietombooth@yahoo.ca.

Action Item: Mrs. Raymond will post an announcement regarding this on her class blog.

Kim S. provided a list of volunteer roles to those in attendance.

Action Item: Mrs. Boshier will post it on the blog.

Jane S., discussed a great Silent Auction idea—ask the teachers if they're willing to volunteer time or activities that the kid could bid on (e.g., 1 hour music lesson with Teacher A; walk to the Purple Pony with Teacher B; go to the park to play with Teacher C for an hour; dress your teacher for a day; go for a nature

walk with Teacher D...).

Action Item: Mrs. Raymond will remind the teachers regarding the Art Auction art request for classes to work on as a group, maximum 3 pieces per class, all students must be involved in all pieces.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by Kaitryn Campbell. Next meeting will take place Tues. May 19, 2015 from 6:30-8pm.

List of Action Items – School Council Meeting April 21, 2015

Item Number	Action Item	Responsible Person(s)	Complete? (Y/N)
February-1	Create a list of all volunteer positions required for Fun Fair activities.	Kim S.	Y
February-2	Post list of volunteer positions needed for Fun Fair on School Blog.	Susan B.	N
February-3	Organize collection of goods for the Prom Project. Collection likely to take place the last week of March.	Laura H./Kim S.	Y
March-1	Obtain quotes for a Rousseau tent to be used for fun fair, track & field, cross country, etc.	Laura H.	Y
March-2	Post Ministry of Education policy for School Councils on the Rousseau website.	Susan B.	Y
March-3	Contact parent representatives for each classroom. Send these representatives specific information to start a discussion with their child's classmates parents.	Laura H.	Y
March-4	Review parent engagement surveys to see if any barriers were identified that may prevent parents from participating in school council or school council meetings.	Kaitryn C.	Y
March-5	Brainstorm ideas for School Council mandate. Bring these ideas to the April meeting. *If you have ideas, please email them to School Council Chair Laura H.	All	Y
March-6	Brainstorm ideas for 2015/2016 fundraising initiatives. Bring these ideas to the April meeting. *If you have ideas, please email them to School Council Chair Laura H.	All	Y
March-7	Set up an online survey to obtain feedback regarding the frequency of the milk program.	Laura H./Susan B.	Y
March-8	Obtain feedback from teachers regarding logistic concerns and their preferences should the milk program change to 3 days per week from the current 5 days per week; allowing parents a revised ordering schedule (ie. monthly); etc.	Janet R.	Not required
March-9	Set up an online survey to obtain feedback regarding School Council meeting times.	Laura H./others	Y, done with survey task above
March-10	Confirm date for the teacher appreciation lunch.	Laura H.	Y
March-11	Continue to seek donations for the fun fair silent auction. Contact Natalie Booth at natalietombooth@yahoo.ca with a list of any available donations.	All	Ongoing
April-21	Classroom discussions with kids regarding how they could best appreciate their teacher prior to Staff Appreciation Day.	Kim S./Melissa J.	
April-21	Follow up with Touch-a-Truck planners regarding Rousseau participation and volunteers.	Kim S.	
April-21	Follow up with plans for a Rousseau Scrapbooking Day event, Sat. May 23.	Honor H./others	

April-21	Discuss possibility with the junior grade teachers of hosting a Science Fair for Rousseau students for the next academic year.	Mrs. Raymond	
April-21	A blog posting with a link to news/instructions for PIC accepting admissions will be sent out.	Mrs. Boshier	
April-21	Discuss possibility with all teachers planning an Ancaster Fair trip for Rousseau students for the next academic year.	Mrs. Raymond	
April-21	Look into logistics of planning an Ancaster Fair trip for Rousseau students for the next academic year.	Laura H.	
April-21	Make a post on classroom blog re: Fun Fair and volunteer needs.	Mrs. Raymond	
April-21	Remind teachers regarding the Art Auction art request for classes to work on as a group, maximum 3 pieces per class, all students must be involved in all pieces.	Mrs. Raymond	