

**Rousseau School Council Meeting**  
**March 22, 2016 – 6:30-8:00pm**

**School Council Member Attendees:** Mr. John Gris (Principal), Kim Strecker (Chair), Danielle Curry (Vice Chair), Kaitryn Campbell (Co-Secretary), Carson M. (Student Representative), Dea M. (Student Representative), Brady (Student Representative)

**School Community Attendees:** Laura H., Lara H., Alison F., Boya T., Ms. Michelle Fawcett, Leah M.

**Regrets:** Stephanie Gasko (Co-Secretary), Tara Hamilton (Treasurer)

**1. Welcome**

**2. Approval of January's Minutes:** Approval of last month's minutes was *motioned* by Danielle C. and *seconded* by Lara H.

**3. Reports:**

Student Report – Carson, Dea & Brady:

- *March Event:* A "Spring Fling" was proposed, with students wearing spring-like clothing—ideas to be brainstormed in classes.
- *April Event:* April 8<sup>th</sup> is wear pink day, to help to create a culture of acceptance, to be celebrated with positive, non-silly language. Any students who want to help with the posters for this event are welcome to assist.
- *Additional Student/Class Representatives:* Class reps are continuing to meet quite regularly.

Teacher Report – Ms. Fawcett:

- *Musical:* Ms. Fawcett shared that it's going exceptionally well. Sat. Apr. 23 will be an all-day play rehearsal. An email will go out re: times. A former Rousseau student is choreographing, with lots of additional leadership being showed by other non-Rousseau students and volunteers, and assistance from Ancaster High School students with various art activities.

Principal Report – Mr. Gris:

- *Updated Budget:* Was shared [appended at the end of minutes].
- *Items from January's meeting:*
  - a. Fun Fair letter provided
  - b. EQAO Scribes needed: no more than 7
  - c. Parent learning tools: some posted on school website. Parents should also check with their child's teacher to see if there is something specific they can access online.
- *Volunteer Policy Update:* all volunteers to submit annual offence declaration
- *Special Visitors:*
  - 1) Hamilton Police Service – Cyclemania - June 7 – Grade 2-4 students
  - 2) Lacrosse Day – May 17 – in partnership with Nationwide Lacrosse – Gr. 1-6 students – cost = \$450.00 – each grade to receive a 40-50 minute workshop
- *School Improvement Report:*

**ROUSSEAU SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REPORT – MARCH 22, 2016**

Rousseau staff are focussed on learning in two areas:

- a) Higher-Order Thinking skills – how can inquiry be used to promote the development of these skills, especially as they apply to math and writing?
- b) Perseverance – how can we foster resilience within our students? How do we determine which tasks are worth persevering?

How are we accomplishing this learning? Rousseau staff participate in the following HWDSB initiatives as leaders or participants:

- i) MindUp Curriculum
- ii) Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) – as part of HWDSB Mental Health Strategy
- iii) Grade 1 and 4 Math Improvement
- iv) New Pedagogies for Deep Learning (NPDL) as part of an international effort at curriculum and instruction improvement

How will we measure the impact of our learning on our students' ability to be successful?

Rousseau staff are organized into Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). When we meet, each PLC looks at student work or documentation of student work on an area of focus (ie higher-order thinking, perseverance) and we discuss strategies we are using, where we are being successful and where we are stuck. We develop next steps and continue.

- *Vote for Lacrosse event May 17:* \$450 was approved to be spent from Council funds for this event.
- *School Agendas:* A new option was proposed at half the price. Mr. Gris will liaise with a potential company.
- *A Hot Dog Day:* Was approved. Danielle C., Leah H., Kim S., and Kaitryn C. volunteered to cook hotdogs.

The proposed day is Friday April 8. Non-sesame buns (plain) will be offered.

**Action Item:** Mr. Gris will work with teachers to brainstorm additional ideas to spend Council funds generated to be spent this year.

**Upcoming Dates:**

March 24: Book Fair

March 25: Good Friday

March 28: Easter Monday

March 31: Awards Assembly

April 13: Day of Pink – Anti-Bullying Day

April 15: PA Day

**4. Fun Fair/Silent Auction:** Bouncers may no longer be allowed, and there is currently no point person to run Silent Auction.

**5. Other Fundraising Opportunities:**

- Movie Night (tentatively scheduled for Fri. June 17)
- Groove-a-Thon (Thurs. May 19)

**6. Follow up on remaining outstanding action items:** Will be tabled until next month's meeting.

**7. Other Business**

- *Volunteer Appreciation Event:* Information/Invites will go out soon, facilitated by Mrs. Todd/Mr. Gris.
- *Additional popcorn sale day/fundraising:* Suggested for assemblies or other events as another fundraising opportunity.
- *Spirit Wear:* Boya provided an update. This year's order was significantly bigger compared to previous years. This event occurred later in the year this time. It's better to have 1 big order than 2 small because of fees charged. It was suggested that Council purchase a Spirit Wear stock next year, just to have on hand, potentially be sold at Fun Fair at the end of the year.
- *Teacher Appreciation Week:* Will be Mon. May 2-Fri. May 6.
- *Hamilton Refugees:* Laura H. suggested and offered to run a clothing drive for refugees needing assistance in Hamilton. It will run Tues. Mar. 29-Fri. April 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by Kaitryn Campbell.

Next meeting will take place April 19, 2016: Fun Fair from 6-7pm & Council from 7-8pm.

**List of Action Items – School Council Meeting March 22, 2016**

Item Number	Action Item	Responsible Person(s)	Complete? (Y/N)
September-1	Follow up regarding the Hub's availability/use in the future.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-2	Mark the nutrition free days on the school calendar(s).	Mr. Gris	Y
September-3	Clean up the current version of the Council budget report and provide all with a simpler version of the most recent expenditures/incoming funds in October.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-4	Confirm teacher participation in Chapters Night.	Mrs. Raymond	Y
September-5	Organize Rousseau Family fundraiser night in October or November at Buffalo Wild Wings.	Tammy Mansfield	Y
September-6	Follow up regarding the possibility of a Groove-a-thon occurring near Halloween.	Mr. Gris	Y, Tabled

September-7	Organize a vendors' evening.	Kim Strecker, Honor Hughes, Danielle Curry	Y, Tabled
September-8	Look into a school that would benefit from Coat Drive fundraiser items.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-9	Lead Coat Drive.	Amy Wolfe, with Melissa Jeffrey	Y
September-10	Organize Book Drive.	Kim Strecker	Y
September-11	Providing a learning night or how-to sheet/UTube video to help families use School Cash Online.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-12	Organize Milk distribution in interim, collaboratively with other volunteers.	Leah Maskell, with Kim Strecker, Kaitryn Campbell	Y
September-13	Look into the availability of playground equipment available from decommissioned schools.	Mr. Gris	Y
September-14	Look into the possibility of providing an alert to "bus families" or recommend an alternative, viable course of action, to prevent students and their caregivers from waiting outside in inclement weather for an unreasonable amount of time, or caregivers from being late to work/additional responsibilities.	Mr. Gris	Y
October-1	Talk to teachers about getting "buddy classes" together to discuss including the elementary students in some way to generate ideas for school activities.	Mrs. Raymond	Y
October-2	Make a post regarding how to get School Cash Online registration numbers if parents have already registered in the past but misplaced access number.	Mr. Gris	Y
October-3	Look into the possibility of a partnership with Ancaster High to build additional playground equipment.	Gint Murphy	Y
October-4	Arrange to set up Synervoice messages to families re: bussing issues, for use should there be a need.	Mr. Gris	Y
October-5	Follow up with staff to discuss the feasibility of using Raz-Kids in classes, and the final cost.	Mr. Gris	Y
November-1	Updates from teachers to be provided in regard to how \$500/\$250 allotments are spent.	Teachers/Mr. Gris	Y
November-2	Principal Direction for Rousseau.	Mr. Gris	Y
November-3	Discussion regarding Classroom Reassignments.	All	Y
January-1	School Council summary of concerns/suggestions for Classroom Reassignments for consideration by HWDSB.	Laura H. leading with other parents assisting	Being worked on currently
January-2	Mr. Gris to provide a template letter for businesses requesting donations for Fun Fair Silent Auction.	Mr. Gris	Y
January-3	Mr. Gris to check with Mr. Peters to determine if scribes are required to assist with EQAO testing in May/June (May 25-June 8).	Mr. Gris	Y
January-4	Teachers to provide recommendations for supplementary learning tools to use at home.	Mr. Gris/Mrs. Raymond	Y

School Council Purchases - March 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Funded through</u>	<u>Available</u>
01/13/2016	Balance Forward	13968.98		Purchases	13968.98
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from wild wings	transfer	155.06	\$30 per student	13813.92
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from fun fair	transfer	4214.82	\$30 per student	9599.1
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from popcorn	transfer	2535.94	\$30 per student	7063.16
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from pita pit	transfer	264.18	\$30 per student	6798.98
02/10/2016	gym mats	1970			4828.98
03/08/2016	mini whiteboards mrs. Bennett	45.37		enhanced materials	4783.61
03/11/2016	extra gym equipment - Stinson	122.91		enhanced materials	4660.7

12/01/2015	Balance Forward	0		Trips	0
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from wild wings	155.06	transfer	\$30 per student	155.06
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from fun fair	4214.82	transfer	\$30 per student	4369.88
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from popcorn	2535.94	transfer	\$30 per student	6905.82
12/01/2015	trip subsidy from pita pit	264.18	transfer	\$30 per student	7170
01/08/2016	Grade 6 speaker from RBG		244.5		6925.5
02/02/2016	Peter Pan tickets		1180		5745.5
02/04/2016	busses for Peter Pan		1016.97		4728.53
02/04/2016	Scientists in Schools - Barrow		175		4553.53

03/21/2016	Balance Forward	3500		Fun Fair	3500
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03/21/2016	Balance Forward	0		Popcorn	974.3
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03/21/2016	Balance Forward	1308.82		Pita Pit	964.82
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03/21/2016	Balance Forward	516.68		Touch a Truck	516.68
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03/21/2016	Balance Forward	31.05		Spirit Wear	29.58
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TOTAL AVAILABLE 15198.91