

Rousseau School Council Meeting
October 21, 2014 - 6:30-8:00pm

School Council Member Attendees:

Mrs. Susan Boshier (Principal), Laura Hustler (Current Vice-Chair), Stephanie Gasko (Current Co-Secretary), Tara Hamilton (Treasurer), Mrs. Janet Raymond (Teachers' Representative)

School Council Member Regrets:

Kim Strecker (Chair), Kaitryn Campbell (Co-Secretary)

School Community Attendees:

Leah M., Lara H., Danielle C., Amy W., Bridget S.

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome

Laura H. welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Laura H. suggested that the term "Co-Chair" be replaced with "Chair" & "Vice-Chair" to be consistent with other school councils in the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board. This change was *motioned* by Tara H. and *seconded* by Danielle C.

2. Last Month's Minutes

Approval of last month's minutes (September 2014) was *motioned* by Danielle C. and *seconded* by Amy W.

3. Reports

Student Report

Student council was not present at the meeting. Janet R. informed that October 29th will be an orange and black spirit day to coincide with the awards assembly. Students will be asked to bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the food bank.

Teacher Report

X Country

Roughly 65 participants

Assembly, period 6, Wed. 22 for ribbons

Swim Team

Practices underway, good turnout

3 practices remain before the meet

Swim Meet- Thurs. Nov. 6, will book a bus for that so parent drivers not needed

Volleyball

1. Grade 6 boys

2. Grade 6 girls

3. Grade 6 mixed

4. Grade 4/5 mixed

Mr. Peters running practices every day at least one break, sometimes 2, sometimes before school.

Ms. Rankin helping out with Gr. 6 Girls' Games

Mrs. Raymond helping out with 4/5 Coed Games

Junior and Primary Choirs are underway

Will perform at next assembly, Remembrance Day, Chapters night

Remembrance Day

Ms. Fawcett and Mr. Obermeyer are organizing Remembrance Day

Choirs will sing

Various contributions from other classes

10:20 on the Nov. 11th with a moment of silence at 11:00

Chapters Night

Both choirs will perform at Chapters Night

Teachers are entering book lists on google doc

Oct. 30 Assembly

Spirit Day- Orange and black, bring a non-perishable food item

Halloween

Parade on Oct. 31

“Pumpkin Extravaganza”, pumpkins being ordered by Mrs. Bennett for participating classes

Nutcracker Field Trip

Dec. 18, grades 1-6

Thank you to Mrs. Wolf for Organizing

Principal

Mrs. Susan B thanked parents who attended internet safety presentation given by our local community police officer.

Mrs. Susan B was looking for feedback on Rousseau Ramblings student activity tab. Both Laura H. and Danielle C. gave feedback that they appreciated that this is there as a reference point.

The Volunteer policy is going forward to reading at board and will be realized shortly. Parents will require a police check every three years. Rousseau staff will be taking the file of volunteers and organizing these by date that their police check was completed. These dates will be tracked from now on. Some parents will be asked to renew their police check this year. Police checks can now be done online and turnaround times are good (as quickly as one week).

4. Coat Drive

The coat drive starts on Monday October 27. Coats and winter clothing such as boots, hats, mitts, and scarves that are gently used and in good condition will be welcomed. The goods collected will be donated to schools in Hamilton on November 1st. Donations of adult outdoor winter clothing are also appreciated.

It was also suggested that students bring in a pair of mittens for donation as part of the spirit day in November.

***ACTION:** Laura H. to send poster/wording for coat drive to teachers by Thursday October 23, 2014.*

5. Field Trips/Student Activities

Parents have verbalized a desire for more class field trips. School Council has allocated \$10 per student

from last year's fundraising to subsidize field trips.

Individual teachers decide the number of field trips that their class will take.

Student Council suggested having a small sub-committee to assist teachers with the organization of field trips, buses, copying of forms, etc. Danielle C., Leah M., and Bridget S. volunteered to assist with this.

6. Popcorn Card

Popcorn day is on Wednesdays on second break. Lara H. and Amy W. will be running the popcorn sales until January. There has been some concern raised by parents over the issue of long lines, possible hold up, and younger children not necessarily having the time to eat their lunch.

It has been suggested to offer a popcorn card as well as allowing children to pay cash or to offer classroom delivery of popcorn. Lara H. provided that the longest wait time for kids to receive their popcorn is no more than 5 minutes. Classroom delivery would require more volunteers and more planning to ensure the appropriate number of flavours, etc. were available and it would also take away from the mercantile experience the children have.

Janet R. suggested that ELP students purchase popcorn at the beginning of break 2 and that older students purchase popcorn at the 20 minute mark of break 2 to avoid some line up/wait issues.

Lara H. offered to take the lead for developing a popcorn card and will also look into the possibility of a popcorn ticket card option. The popcorn cards will be punch cards that will allow for 20 bags of popcorn. Families will be able to share cards. It is preferred that popcorn cards be kept by teachers or the children. Popcorn cards will be available for purchase by cash only (no checks). The introduction of a popcorn card was *motioned* by Danielle H. and *seconded* by Lara H.

ACTION: *Lara H. to develop a 20 bag punch card for popcorn.*

7. Chapters Night

Chapters night will take place on November 25th. Both of the Rousseau choirs will be performing. Teachers will provide a list of books they would like to have in their classroom. Parents attending Chapters night have the opportunity to purchase these books for the teachers. Some parents choose to leave the book in a basket provided for each teacher and others choose to take the book with them and provide it to the teacher as a Christmas gift.

Rousseau receives 20% of the sales made that evening (where the purchaser mentions Rousseau) back in gift cards. A further discount is given to Rousseau on any books purchased with the funds raised.

A welcome table will be put together and teachers will be at the table on rotation throughout the evening.

Purchasers will not be able to use discount cards but will still be able to collect plum rewards for purchases made for Rousseau.

8. Child Minding

The option of providing child minding during School Council meetings was discussed at the September meeting as a means to allow more people to attend the meetings. Mrs. Susan B. confirmed that students with babysitting certification could provide the child minding for school aged children that attend Rousseau.

Parents wanting to use the child minding service will be required to sign up by the Friday prior to the meeting by sending an email to Kim S. It was suggested that school council pay \$20 per babysitter. This was motioned by Lara H. and seconded by Leah M.

9. Breakdown of School Council Funds Spent

Tara H. summarized the funds spend. See Attachment 1.

***ACTION:** Teachers to put orders in by Friday so that items can be ordered.*

10. Write a cheque campaign

The Write-A-Cheque campaign has not formally started. The campaign will officially start on November 3rd. This is our main fundraiser and will be announced soon through a blog post and a letter home. Families are being asked to donate any amount that they are able to. Funds received through the Write-A-Cheque campaign will be spent in January. Laura H. has put together a flyer.

11. Other

The possibility of an activity to be held in the winter months such as a community potluck; movie night; family dance; etc. will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next Mom's Night Out will take place at the Brown Dog Café in Ancaster on Monday October 27th at 8:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephanie Gasko.
Next meeting will take place October 18, 2014 from 6:30-8pm.

Attachment 1: School Council Spending Summary:

Student Council Spending 2014/15			
			total
Opening balance		21,936.86	21,936.86
	popcom*	925.36	21,011.50
	2013/2014 music**	1260	19,751.50
	projector***	358.11	19393.39
Item			19,393.39
new curtains for stage****		2000	17,393.39
Paper cutter for staff room		150	17243.39
podium		150	17093.39
\$10/child for excursions (236 children)		2360	14733.39
carpet for room 7		300	14,433.39
\$500/classroom for curriculum enhancement (not tech), 1		6500	7933.39
\$400/classroom for technology, 13 classrooms		5200	2733.39
		total	2733.39
*popcorn sales go to books and athletics			925.36
	elephant balls (12 @\$30.00)		-360
	Total to date		565.36
**in 2013/2014 \$1200 was given to the music program. Of that money, \$740 has been spent. Mrs. Fawcett will arrange to spend the rest.			
		total	1200
		spent	-740
		total to date	460
***358.11 has been set aside for a new projector. Mrs. Boshier will be buying it within weeks			
****curtains are estimated at \$6000. The cost will be split between account from Play, this year SC spending and next year SC spending.			
	2014/15	2000	
	2015/16	2000	
	play budget	2000	(see Mrs. Raymond)
	total	6000	
Other			
The following must be submitted to the School Board Facilities Department through a work order by Mrs. Boshier.			
Student Council will then look at spending for these items.			
	Paint the front of stage		
	Moveable stairs with railing for stage		
	Concrete ramp to eliminate stairs at East doors		
	Hall hooks and cubbies		
the SC is also looking into possible sponsorship for an Event Tent with the Rousseau logo.			