

**Rousseau School Council Meeting**  
**October 20, 2015 – 6:30-8:00pm**

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

**School Community Attendees:** Laura H., Melissa J., Amy W., Gint M., Ms. Michelle Fawcett, Tammy M., Leah M., Helene M., Charlie C., Honor H.

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

**1. Welcome**

**2. Approval of September's Minutes:** Approval of last month's minutes was *motioned* by Laura H. and *seconded* by Gint M.

**3. Reports:**

**Student Report – Carson & Dea:**

- *Introduction:* Ms. Fawcett provided an introduction for new grade 6 student council reps (Dea, Brady, Callie, Carson), and thanked Council for the money it provided for the student election campaign. A lot of positive feedback was received regarding the campaign signs around the school and grounds.
- *Special Events:* A Halloween dance will be organized for Friday, October 30, with 2 separate dances for elementary and junior grades. Donations may be collected, e.g., "Trick-or-Toonie" for an organization such as "Micah House" (a refugee house in Hamilton) or a United Nations-related group/cause. Tammy M. volunteered to help organize music, donations, advertising, etc. The students would also like to make sure that a Water Day, Coat Drive, and other events are provided this year, and would like to play a role in planning and conducting these events.
- *Additional Student Representatives:* Student reps will be selected from grades 3-5 by their teachers to provide feedback to the grade 6 student reps, so their opinions regarding school activities can be considered (e.g., make a top 10 list of possibilities). Mrs. Raymond proposed that junior "buddies" could facilitate including the elementary students in some way (i.e., grades ELP-2) to solicit their opinions as well. The grade 6 student reps will also be connecting with the HWDSB government during their tenure. Assemblies to commence on the 27th, organized and led by Student Council. Pay it Forward Initiatives will be collected from ideas shared by student body, with student representatives from each class. Monthly spirit days and Pay it Forward activities will be run by school council, under supervision of classroom teacher Ms. Fawcett.

**Action Item:** Mrs. Raymond will talk to teachers about getting buddy classes together to discuss.

**Teacher Report – Mrs. Raymond:**

- *Volleyball:* Mr. Peters is coaching Girls, Boys and Mixed practices almost every break, with help from Mrs. Raymond, for grades 5-6.
- *Choirs:* Underway, with performances scheduled for Remembrance Day, Chapter's Night, and (Jr.) Light Up Ceremony at Town Hall, Dec. 3. Mrs. Stinson – primary, Ms. Fawcett – junior.
- *Chapter's Night, Tues. Nov. 24:* Choirs will perform. Will ask teachers to populate lists of books with your feedback that fewer is better.
- *Teacher Wish Lists:* A work in progress. Please see the following URL to access the list:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1b1tog5w2AtVTjmX5WykBu4oDKTLedWPbn0mjXV\\_10Dk/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1b1tog5w2AtVTjmX5WykBu4oDKTLedWPbn0mjXV_10Dk/edit?usp=sharing)

**Principal Report – Mr. Gris:**

- *Introduction:* Mr. Gris thanked everyone for their patience as he becomes acclimatized and manages various aspects of the current labour situation.
- *HUB:* Staff will be trained after the labour action has ended, and we will move forward with parent access after that.
- *Nutrition Free Days:* Have been posted on the school calendar.
- *Budget:* Was reviewed in detail. When money is raised by Council, there always needs to be a reason. A copy of the budget is appended to the minutes. Kim S. *motioned* and Gint M. *seconded* that all School Council raised funds be pooled for use for "Curriculum Enhancements".

- *Vendor Evening*: Has been put on hold until after the labour action has ended.
- *Coat Drive/Food Drive*: Amy W. will proceed with organizing, with the assistance of Melissa J. A food drive may be organized by Student Council reps later.
- *School Cash Online*: Has begun to be used with Pita orders. Milk and pizza will be offered next.

**Action Item:** Mr. Gris will make a post regarding how to get School Cash Online registration numbers if you have already registered in the past but misplaced your access number.

- *Playground Equipment*: It's not feasible to get equipment from a closing school, but it might be possible to replace/augment the equipment in future with a partnership with Ancaster High School.

**Action Item:** Gint M. will look into the possibility of a partnership with Ancaster High to build additional playground equipment.

- *Bus List*: Parents should call HWDSB bus info. line if they have any questions regarding buses, but Mr. Gris will arrange to send out a Synervoice message to families re: bussing issues.

**Action Item:** Mr. Gris will arrange to send out a Synervoice message to families re: bussing issues.

- *Budget Request*: A request was made to fund agendas, and Raz-Kids website subscription (\$100/class/year for ELP-Grade 5). These requests will go to the Wish List Sub-Committee.

**Action Item:** Mr. Gris will follow up with staff to discuss the feasibility of using Raz-Kids in classes, and the final cost.

- *Device Provision by HWDSB*: Grade 4's will begin receiving iPads Board-wide this year.
- *Labour Situation*: Thank you for your patience and understanding regarding the current situation.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

October 21: Buffalo Wild Wings Night, 4-10pm

October 30: Halloween Celebration

November 3: Picture Retake Day

November 27: PA Day

**4. Teachers' Wish List (set Sub-Committee meeting date):** Will be Tuesday, October 27 at 3:30pm in Mrs. Laws' former classroom. Childcare will be arranged. The Wish Lists are appended to the minutes.

**5. Assembly/Student Recognition Awards:** Will happen again this year. The first will occur Tuesday, October 27.

**6. Learning Style Strategies Review:** Will be tabled until next month's meeting.

#### **7. Other Business**

- *Spirit Wear*: Will be added to School Cash Online.
- *Business Cards*: Will be tabled until next month's meeting.
- *Holiday Cards*: Sandra M. offered to organize again this year.
- *Fundraising Ideas*: Kim S. will consider all fundraising ideas submitted to her to bring forward at future meetings.

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

Next meeting will take place Nov. 17, 2015 from 6:30-8pm.

#### **List of Action Items – School Council Meeting October 20, 2015**

| 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-  | Mr. Gris              | Y, Tabled       |

|              |   |   |           |
|--------------|---|---|-----------|
|              | thon occurring near Halloween.  |   |           |
| 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                   | Underway  |
| September-10 | Organize Book Drive.  | Kim Strecker                                      | N         |
| September-11 | Providing a learning night or how-to sheet/UTube video to help families use School Cash Online.   | Mr. Gris  | N         |
| September-12 | Organize Milk distribution in interim, collaboratively with other volunteers.   | Leah Maskell, with Kim Strecker, Kaitryn Campbell | Underway  |
| 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                                      |           |
| 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  |           |
| October-3    | Look into the possibility of a partnership with Ancaster High to build additional playground equipment.   | Gint Murphy                                       |           |
| October-4    | Arrange to set up Synervoice messages to families re: bussing issues, for use should there be a need.   | Mr. Gris  |           |
| October-5    | Follow up with staff to discuss the feasibility of using Raz-Kids in classes, and the final cost.   | Mr. Gris  |           |