

Minutes of the EVA ACSL December 12, 2011

Attendees:

Melanie Barnabe, Annette Bonneteau, Jodi Carmichael, Rachel Donner, Cal Dueck, Marcia Fonseca, Sheryl Hague, Kim Huebner, Signy Kuch, Christopher Lepa, Karine Rioux, Carol Steel, Judy Steven, Ian Stirling, Shirley Zaporzan

Regrets:

Kathleen Tomy

1. Introductions:

- a. Approval of agenda: Motion by to approve with additions: CS; 2nd CH; carried.
- b. Approval of minutes: RD pointed out omission in the presentation by guest speaker, Derek Boutang – the minutes should have read “he can buy **three** PCs for every Mac.” Motion to accept with changes: SZ; 2nd SK; carried.

2. Regular Reports:

a. Good News Sharing:

- The assembly was energized and the teacher participation was great; the school’s bottom lines are to be included in the next newsletter (KR);
- After some anxiety among some of the grade 5s, they are adjusting well (MF);
- Indoor breaks for grade 7s and 8s welcome (SH).

b. Principal’s Report (KR):

- November was filled with positive energy and student-initiated projects based on social learning. Our school spirit is quite apparent through PR. We have our School Grounds Transformation committee organizing and attending meetings, and reaching out to stakeholders – thank you for all that you do and for involving the students so extensively. **School Field Project, a Community Effort** was the title selected to show how our contributions can have such a constructive ripple effect, as depicted in the article in the **Sou’Wester** which appeared on the very first page of the website on December 7, 2011 (you can view it at <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/our-communities/souwester/School-field-project-a-community-effort-134706213.html>)
- We are presently in contact with the community French journal, **La Liberté**, and PTSD to promote our **Vow of Silence** following **We Day** as well as various humanitarian projects presented during our energetic assembly which took place on December 6, 2011. You may view recent photos on our school’s website at <http://www.pembinatrails.ca/viscountalexander/> .
- We were honoured to see community involvement at this assembly, including students, staff, parents and divisional support. Dianne Zuk, one of our School Trustees, awarded Freddy and Kevin Noriega-Gomez with a certificate from the **Manitoba School Boards Association** (MSBA) for their contribution in supporting women and children living in Second Stage Housing. The school community was wearing purple for the assembly, which symbolizes that we are against domestic violence and are supportive of peace and social justice. Freddy and Kevin have appeared on **CTV** on December 2nd to share what they have done last year with the **Osborne House** and their ongoing projects.

Freddy and Kevin are presently collecting a variety of brand new household items to create 50 very special hampers for various families in need. Also, in the spring of 2012, Freddy and Kevin will proudly open-up a Second Stage home with the support of **Rod Bruinooge** who has been working with this family since last year.

- We also have students in grade 7 from Mme Hillman's class who are putting projects in place to support the **Siloam Mission** and students in grade 5 from Mme McMahon's class supporting **World Vision**.
 - We are also proud of Mme Hillman's students who won the **Young Writers of Canada Short Story Competition**. For more information, please see the latest **PTSD Community Report** at <http://www.pembinatrails.ca/Community%20Report/CommunityReportFall2011.pdf>.
 - We started off our assembly with Bottom Lines, according to the Restitution model, a way to ensure that our kids are in a Safe and Caring School Community, which is based on our **Standards of Behaviour** in PTSD which is available in 6 different languages located on the following divisional website: <http://www.pembinatrails.ca/community/divisionalguidelines.html>.
 - We would like to thank all parents for your generous contribution towards our **School Grounds Transformation Fundraising Raffle** which will occur on December 13, 2011.
 - We would also like to thank all parents who gave their child in grade 8 the opportunity to participate at **Camp Assiniboia**. The experience was highly enriching and students were completely engaged when practicing musical compositions.
 - Thanks, Mme Nowastowski, for having made arrangements with an ensemble from the **WSO** to perform for our students in grades 5 & 6, reinforcing our music program and inspiring them for the years to come.
 - Thank you, Mme Joffrin, who took the time to have a spokesperson talk to our grade 7 and 8 girls about body image and weigh preoccupation, and to M. Spiers for teaching our students how to play at recess.
 - We are fortunate to have support from parents who are taking the time to coach our teams. This is wonderful for school spirit.
 - **Hands on Techno Trades** was a successful event for our students in grade 8.
 - **Staffing:** Congratulations to Mme Ivany who is expecting her very first child in May 2012;
 - Mme McMahon will working at 0.5 starting in January 2012;
 - We are presently in the process of hiring a Creative Arts Educational Assistant as well as an Assistant Administrative Secretary;
 - **Artist in the School Program (JS):** Robert Christiani is presently working with art students, showing them a casting technique using clay;
 - Will there be an art display at the holiday concert? (CS);
 - Yes, but not all media (for e.g. work by the students who have animation projects won't be displayed); a more inclusive art show will be considered for the next concert. (JS)
- c. Treasurer's Report (CL):**
- The chequebook for the SGTC was misplaced but a new one is on its way;
 - A full report is available from CL, lepes@mts.net.
 - Motion to accept report as presented: SH; 2nd SZ; carried.
- d. School Ground Transformation (SK):**
- Parent survey now available on-line;

- Computers will be available in the library so that parents can complete the survey on the night of the concert;
- 180 surveys were circulated to neighbours;
- A staff survey is being created;
- Students started drawing their visions of the new schoolyard this week; they all will be forwarded to the landscape architect and she will begin working on the plan after the holidays;
- The tree and wreath sale raised \$330; next year order forms will be dropped at neighbouring condos and homes, not just sent home with students;
- KR, SK and CS attended a grant information evening hosted by Evergreen.

e. Lunch Program (RD):

- Trial run of grade 8s eating in the multi-purpose room worked, but so far we've only had one day to try it out.
- We are short-staffed again; Roxanne will run an ad for supervisors in the January newsletter.

f. Milk Report (AB):

- Nothing to report

3. New Business:

a. Booster Juice:

- netted only \$158 last year; is it worth trying to find another volunteer?
- Maybe it's something the grade 8s could take on as a fundraiser for the cultural trip (CS);
- Kim Pepler said she'd be willing to take it on – KR will follow up with her.

b. Pizza Days:

- CS and JC offered to take it on for now, with the intention of talking to grade 8s travel committee to see if they would like to continue it as a fundraiser;

c. Grade 8 Cultural Trip:

- The sooner ACSL has more information on it, the better (speaking both as a parent and for the committee) (CS);
- Where will they be staying – hotel or will they be billeted? (KH); hotel (JS);
- If the trip only occurs once every two years, will it be available to both the grade 7s and the grade 8s? (KH); they will consider that as an option so no students miss the opportunity (JS);
- JS is going to bring the fundraising ideas (Booster Juice, pizza days) back to the trip committee.

d. New structure "pause" (break) (KR):

- Grade 5s and 6s still go outside;
- Grade 7s stay either in the hallway or in their classrooms;
- Grade 8s stay either in the hallway or in the gym;
- All areas are supervised by adults;
- Staff has been receiving good feedback from students; transitioning to classrooms after break times is much smoother.

e. **Students' personal fundraising accounts:**

- Can contributions be made directly to these accounts (i.e. if someone misses a deadline to order something, can they still make a contribution to a student's account)? (MB); yes (KR);
 - How do you find out the balance and how do you access the funds? (SZ) There are withdrawal forms outside the office and balances are sent home a few times a year; you also can call the office any time and Roxanne will tell you. (KR)
4. Old Business:
- None

Meeting adjourned 7:50 pm. Motion to adjourn CS; carried.

Next meeting Monday, January 9, 2012, 7 pm.