

## **Minutes of the EVA ACSL Dec. 13, 2010**

Attendees: Rachel Donner, Carol Steel, Shirly Zaporzan, Janet Lucas, Cal Dueck, Fred Nash, Edith Samuels, Kim Pepllar, Peter Ward, Kathleen Tomy, Signy Kuch, Julien Allard, Jim Gardiner, Pam Warkentin

Regrets: Sheryl Hague, Gail McIntosh, Sandra Romani, Caroline Mehra

### **Call to Order: 7:05 pm**

#### **1. Introductions**

- a) Motion to approve agenda with note that budget had already been approved and can be removed from agenda. Motion by CS, 2<sup>nd</sup> by JL; carried.
- b) Minutes from November 2010:
  - Cal questioned the PAC 's previous policy of not fundraising for "big-ticket items". ES explained that PAC has previously fundraised only for the funds they have required for yearly operation and have tried not to interfere with school fundraising. A larger project has not been envisioned recently, but the policy can be revisited in the future with consultation with administration.
  - 4B: suggestion to note "avid discussion" in lieu of any specific comments on the bible topic. And to change "bible distribution" to "bible offer"  
Motion to approve by KT, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CS; carried.

#### **2. Regular Reports**

##### **a) Good News Happenings**

- RD had some grade 6 girls approach her at lunch with a request for some gym time to work on volleyball skills. In the absence of available adult supervisors, RD was able to get some grade 9 students to supervise and help with skills and it was a great experience for both groups;
- KT shared that Mme Helmer has allowed grade 9's to practice music in her room at lunch. This has been appreciated by students, parents and supervisors and has been very positive for the kids;
- ES has seen how well the former EVA students are doing in the band at VMC. Mme Helmer has provided a great foundation and JA added that lots of sectional leaders are former EVA students;
- SK reported many happy customers at the Xmas tree sale;
- JA shared how proud he was of the student body . They were extremely respectful at the Remembrance Day ceremony. He also reports the climbing wall is complete;
- JL : how great it was to have a current member of the Forces at the Remembrance Day ceremony and how beautiful it was;

## b) Principal's Report:

- Since the last meeting, the leadership students have been very busy. With the help of Mme Marriott, the group had a pizza day, a portion of the group went to a United Way leadership conference and they concluded their responsibilities as volleyball coaches.
- The school enjoyed a wonderful Remembrance Day Ceremony. I am so proud of the children who were absolutely wonderful and acted with great reverence.
- The grade eight students participated in their annual band camp. Mme Helmer and the students worked extremely hard during these two days and had lots of fun outside despite the cold. Meanwhile, the Art students went to the WAG and visited a couple of Art studios. Mme Stevens also set up a display from an invited artist to demonstrate the use of a potter's wheel.
- Recently, we had our student led conferences and on December 3<sup>rd</sup> we had an in-service in regards to technology. Teachers looked at the potential uses of the glouer.
- We are moving forward with a grade 8 and 9 ski trip on March 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. Emails and information have been sent out by M. Monin. Grade five, six and seven will be going on their annual ski trip on March 7<sup>th</sup> organized by Mme Fenney. Information will be forthcoming.
- A survey concerning course selection for the grade eight students transitioning to Vincent Massey Collegiate has been sent.
- Mme LeClerc and a group of volunteer students are composing a play for "Festival théâtre jeunesse".
- Noon hour activities have begun.
- Leadership has been selling "Tigre" wear.
- This holiday season we are participating with the Christmas Cheer Board in organizing hampers of toys and food items.
- Mr Spiers and Mme Marriott have organized a session at a sweat lodge.
- Students sold Poinsettias for their personal student accounts.
- Immersion teachers and Basic French teachers attended a seminar with Fred Genesse, a researcher from McGill University. His message and research showed that all children can succeed in school and learn another language. An interesting debate on immersion has been taking place in Ottawa about immersion. Please check these links: Stop panic over **French immersion**  
<[http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.ottawacitizen.com/health/Stop%2Bpanic%2Bover%2BFrench%2Bimmersion/3903478/story.html&ct=ga&cad=CAEQARgAIAAoATAAOABA\\_rLT5wRIAVB-WABiAmVu&cd=AK3FTi1uT7E&usg=AFQjCjNHfksRuiloP0TbFH04s7b1VUKGwwg](http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.ottawacitizen.com/health/Stop%2Bpanic%2Bover%2BFrench%2Bimmersion/3903478/story.html&ct=ga&cad=CAEQARgAIAAoATAAOABA_rLT5wRIAVB-WABiAmVu&cd=AK3FTi1uT7E&usg=AFQjCjNHfksRuiloP0TbFH04s7b1VUKGwwg)>
- Board is addressing challenges  
<[http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.ottawacitizen.com/Board%2Baddressing%2Bchallenges/3903465/story.html&ct=ga&cad=CAEQARgAIAAoATAAOABA\\_bPU5wRIAVB-WABiAmVu&cd=Qd4kJFimZeQ&usg=AFQjCNGAbV7wYfX1ed26201OHI9AH-gT7A](http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.ottawacitizen.com/Board%2Baddressing%2Bchallenges/3903465/story.html&ct=ga&cad=CAEQARgAIAAoATAAOABA_bPU5wRIAVB-WABiAmVu&cd=Qd4kJFimZeQ&usg=AFQjCNGAbV7wYfX1ed26201OHI9AH-gT7A)>

## Ottawa Citizen

Here are some Activities that I have pursued during the month:

- Workplace and safety document and tour
- CPR and basic first aid training
- Justice and Equity committee with the MTS
- COSL (Council of Educational Leaders)
- Evening with Sir Ken Robinson
- AMDI (Manitoba Association of Immersion Principals)
- Transition Committee

Important dates:

- Grade eight transition meeting for all families at Vincent Massey on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 7PM
- Grade eight dance and supper: Holiday Inn South, June 17<sup>th</sup>
- Grade nine dance and supper: Holiday Inn South, June 24<sup>th</sup>

### **c) Chairperson's Report (Cal Dueck)**

- Cal asked JA for more information on the Justice and Equity committee. JA informs he would like to look further into the requirements for becoming a UNESCO school. Among the criteria would be french services, diversity, justice.

### **d) Financial Report (Edith Samuels)**

- ES presented the report to date (see attached);
- ES detailed that we currently have around \$2,000. Intended spending for the year is likely around \$1,700 so we are covered for future expenses for this year. Motion to accept PamW, 2<sup>nd</sup> PW. Carried.

### **e) Lunch Program, Clubs and Fee Increase feedback (Rachel Donner)**

- Clubs run by leadership are now underway;
- One parent-led club is also underway;
- Five students remaining with unpaid lunch program fees;
- Four additional students are being partially subsidized by the school;
- M. Allard is speaking to those students who have not paid lunch fees and will instruct them to leave.

## **3. Committee Reports**

### **a) Parent Survey Committee (Peter Ward)**

- Peter presented survey analysis (see attached)

### **b) Vision**

- General discussion about the council's vision and future meetings. JA wonders about what kind of topics would appeal to parents and motivate them to attend meetings. Even when interesting topics are being presented, low turnout has been a problem.
- CS: turnout has improved this year and doesn't believe speakers necessarily bring parents out to meetings.
- JL: perhaps we should let parents know how to get items on the agenda. KT agreed this could help and JA suggested issuing a protocol for parents to follow.
- FN: we should have a vision prepared for the beginning of the year so we have a general idea of goals and what will be coming up. We could also send out a little blurb promoting the next meeting when the agenda gets sent out.
- PW: expand that to the whole year. Provide a vision statement including goals for the year, and why we are here.
- JA: you need to look at the mandate and decide on the purpose of the group from there.
- ES: our role is as an advisory council to the school's administration. We also take on extra projects to enrich the students' school experience.
- SZ: we have to find out what people are interested in, address that and maybe people will come out
- CD: a vision session is required for the next meeting. Future goals should be identified. Everyone present should send in their ideas in advance (at least a week before the next meeting) concerning what we would like to see happen in the school. This should include the needs/wants of the staff as well.

Due to time constraints the rest of the agenda was postponed. SZ motion to adjourn at 8:45pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> SK, carried.

Dainties, coffee and holiday cheer followed.