

École Viscount Alexander
Advisory Council for School Leadership (ACSL) Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2015 7:00 pm – ÉVA Library

As approved by ACSL meeting of Feb. 9, 2015

ATTENDANCE					
Member	Present	Regrets	Member	Present	Regrets
Arnason, Neil	X		Nowostawski, Vanessa	X	
Barnabé, Mélanie	X		Peppler, Kim	X	
Bonneteau, Annette	X		Proulx, Chantal	X	
Brenan, Carla	X		Tipping, Shannon	X	
Cahoon, Barb	X		Ward, Peter	X	
Demchuk, Lisa	X		Weslak, Tanya		X
Fonseca, Marcia	X		Widla, Kris		X
Lepa, Chris	X				
Special Guests					
James Allum, MLA for Fort Garry/Riverview			Gale Walker, Education Consultant		
Marie Geelen, Education Consultant					

AGENDA & MINUTES
<p>1. Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Neil Arnason called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm</i> ○ <i>Round table introductions of attendees</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approval of Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Neil Arnason proposed agenda changes to accommodate people who need to leave earlier, proposal was accepted</i> ii. <i>Motion to approve agenda as changed –Marcia Fonseca moved to approve the agenda as changed, Chris Lepa seconded, all in favour – yes, approved</i> b. Approval of Minutes from Nov 10, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Amendments to the Nov 10, 2014 ÉVA ACSL Monthly Minutes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Under the Principal’s report, Shannon gave an extensive outline of the Human Rights project along with sharing a video on the Human Rights project</i> • <i>There was discussion regarding the gym capacity for school events. The capacity is 460 chairs.</i> ii. <i>Motion to approve – Peter Ward moved to approve the amended minutes, Chris Lepa seconded, all in favour – yes, approved</i>
<p>2. Special Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presentation of Community Places Grant (James Allum, MLA for Fort Garry/Riverview) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>James Allum presented a cheque for the Community Places Grant commending the School Grounds Transformation Committee, school, volunteers and contractors for their outstanding dedication to beautifying the school grounds</i> ii. <i>Chris Lepa provided a summary of what the School Grounds Transformation Committee has accomplished over the past four years to James Allum and the ÉVA ACSL attendees. Please go to agenda item 4 e for the detailed summary.</i>
<p>3. Matters Arising (Old Business)</p>

a. Teacher Excellence Award

- i. *We all unanimously agreed that Vanessa Nowostawski is deserving of being nominated for the Teacher Excellence Award*
- ii. *Shannon Tipping wrote a beautiful letter of support*
- iii. *Neil endorsed Shannon’s comments with our nomination for Vanessa*
- iv. *James Allum mentioned how he presented the Teacher Excellence Awards last year and how it was such an incredible moment to see a teacher win such an award*

4. Regular Reports

a. Good News Sharing

- i. *Barb Cahoon – The Grade 5 & 6 and 7 & 8 winter concerts were amazing! Kudos to Vanessa and all the teachers involved in making both nights so successful!*
- ii. *Marie Geelan – Marie worked with all the Grade 5 & 6 students today and found them all to be very respectful.*

b. Chair’s Report

- i. **Farm to School Fundraiser** – *The Farm to School Fundraiser raised \$1,020. The weather was good on delivery day with no delivery issues.*
- ii. **Bonnycastle Meeting** – *A divisional meeting was held on December 2nd to discuss the redistribution of students. The option selected will cause the least amount of change to catchments and movement of students. Things will be tight in some schools until the new school is built. There should be a minimal impact to our school.*
- iii. **Milk Program** – *We will need to start to transition the Milk Program to a new volunteer for the 2015/16 school year*

c. Principals’ Report

- i. *A detailed Principal’s report was handed out and reviewed by Shannon Tipping (see Appendix A attached at the end of these minutes)*

d. Treasurer’s Report

i. **Account Balances:**

Account	Treasurer Balance	Bank Balance	Difference
<i>PAC sub-account</i>	<i>\$3,980.81</i>		
<i>Milk sub-account</i>	<i>\$9,456.55</i>		
Total	\$13,437.36	\$13,435.36	\$2.00

- ii. *A reminder that the reserve for a new fridge (if and when needed) is in the milk account*
- iii. *Need to take the microwaves into account when budgeting*

e. School Ground Transformation (SGT Committee)

i. **SGTC Account Balances:**

Account	Treasurer Balance
<i>SGTC</i>	<i>\$341.65</i>
<i>PSTD (In Trust)</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Grant(s) (In Trust)</i>	<i>\$53,979.50</i>
<i>Grant(s) (Pending)</i>	<i>-</i>
Total	\$54,321.15

ii. **SGTC Summary Update provided by Chris Lepa:**

- *There have been a lot of people who have put an enormous amount of time, effort and dedication over the past four years to the School Grounds Transformation and it is incredible to see what has transpired in that time:*
 - a. *Pathway added around the perimeter of the school yard*
 - b. *Berms, boulders and trees have been added*
 - c. *Asphalt was re-done*
 - d. *Basketball hoops and benches were added*
 - e. *Outdoor classroom was added*
 - f. *Play structure was upgraded to meet safety standards*
- *The greatest reward is seeing how much the children and surrounding community are now enjoying the school grounds, benefiting both the school and surrounding community*
- *The SGTC is currently down to 2 members and proposes to join the ÉVA ACSL as a subcommittee however will continue to keep the SGTC bank account separate as it currently is which is reported on at the monthly ÉVA ACSL meetings in the Treasurer's Report*
- *The current signing officers for the SGTC bank account are out of date and we require a motion to change them to the same signing officers as for the PAC account (any 2 of the treasurer and co-chairs: Chris Lepa, Neil Arnason, Peter Ward).*
 - a. *Motion was placed that the signing authority for the École Viscount Alexander School Ground Transformation Committee Community Account at the Bank of Montreal be made the same as for the PAC account (any two of Neil Arnason, co-chair; Peter Ward, co-chair; Chris Lepa, Treasurer) and that the current signing officers be removed from the list of signing authorities (Sharon Simon, Carol Steel and Signy Kuch) – Chris Lepa moved to approve, Neil Arnason seconded, all in favour – yes, approved*

f. **Band Report**

- i. *A detailed January Band Newsletter was distributed for review (see Appendix B attached at the end of these minutes)*
 - *Vanessa thanked all the parents, students and surrounding community for their support of the winter concerts. \$2,500 was raised at the winter concerts through the silent auction, bake sales and silver collections.*
 - *There are 3 events upcoming in January including the Grade 7's performing at the Solo and Ensemble Festival, the Band-a-Thon and Atelier Jazz performing at St. Avila*
 - *There was recently a great turnout of students from ÉVA at Live at Massey Hall*

g. **Lunch Program**

- i. *We have hired six new supervisors since September however have lost four due to other employment opportunities. Continue to try to fill supervisor roles to keep the staffing levels at an appropriate level.*
- ii. *There are some outstanding lunch fees that have yet to be collected. Need to determine the action plan to collect the outstanding fees.*
- iii. *An email reminder went out today to remind parents and students about the code of conduct and behavior expectations during the lunch hour. There have been some challenges with students, garbage being left behind and milk and food being wasted.*
- iv. *Another gentle reminder that the Lunch Program does not provide lunch to students. If students forget their lunch, it is the parent's responsibility to provide lunch to their children.*

The lunch program has initiated a new process where students need to sign for food if they don't have food with them for that day. This has helped to reduce the amount of food being provided by the Lunch Program.

- v. The Lunch Coordinator and Supervisors had a great meeting about respect, what it means and how to use it. All of the supervisors would like to have posters made and put it up to remind students what the expectations are of them during the lunch hour.*

h. Pizza Program

- i. Neil discussed approving the next round of Pizza Day dates. It was agreed they would start on January 29, 2015 and continue every two weeks afterwards. Forms will be sent out shortly.*

- Motion to approve Pizza Day dates – Annette Bonneteau moved to approve the Pizza Day dates, Peter Ward seconded, all in favour – yes, approved*

i. Milk Program

- i. The Milk Program is going well*
- ii. Based on the feedback received from the Lunch Program, a reminder will be given to clean up milk containers appropriately (recycle) and to not be wasteful of your milk*

5. New Business

a. PAC Volunteer Activities for 2015

- i. Discussion post-poned to the next ÉVA ACSL meeting*

b. Manitoba Artist in the Schools Funding Proposal (Kim Pepler)

- i. Kim Pepler presented a funding proposal to receive financial support for an upcoming activity for the grade 5 classes. A local well-known stained glass mosaic artist, Ursula Neufeld will be in the school from January 19 – 23rd, thanks to a Manitoba Artist in the Schools grant that was received last June. As stained glass mosaics can be quite costly for the materials alone, Kim would like to respectfully request a small sum to help finance this project on top of the grant monies received (see Appendix C attached at the end of these minutes)*

- Motion to approve funding proposal of \$500 – Melanie Barnabe moved to approve the funding proposal of \$500, Chris Lepa seconded, all in favour – yes, approved*

6. Special Presentation

a. Creating Safe and Caring School Cultures (Marie Geelan, Education Consultant)

- i. Marie gave a brief powerpoint presentation on her approach to developing respectful behaviours in schools. She commended the students she worked with today for their attentiveness. She also spent time with the lunch supervisors. She introduced GaleWalker and indicated that Gale would be taking over these collaborations with PTSD in future.*

7. Meeting Adjournment

Peter Ward moved to adjourn the ÉVA ACSL January 12, 2015 monthly meeting, Annette Bonneteau seconded, all in favour – yes, meeting adjourned

APPENDIX

A. Principal's PAC Report for January, 2015

<http://parentcouncilÉVA.weebly.com/parent-council.html>

B. January Band Newsletter

C. Manitoba Artist in the Schools Funding Proposal



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PRINCIPAL'S SCHOOL REPORT MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015

School Information:

Happy New Year and Welcome Back for 2015!

Staff Changes: At the end of the November, we said goodbye to Mme Stéphanie Girouard, Assistant Administrative Secretary, who had the opportunity for a full time position at Vincent Massey Collegiate. We want to thank Mme S. Girouard for all of her work with students, staff and community. We wish her every success in her new position. Mme Tracey Dionne is our new Assistant Administrative Secretary who works in the mornings. We welcome Mme Dionne and look forward to working with her.

December Concerts: Thank you to all the parents and community members that attended the concerts in December. The audience enjoyed music from jazz bands, along with the Grade 7 and 8 bands with a fabulous evening of music. Thank you to Mme Nowostawski and Mme Larner for their work in preparing for the concert. The Grades 5 and 6 classes then presented the "Wizard of Odd" which was written with students in conjunction with Mme Kehler, Artist in the School. Mme Dombek worked with students to create the backdrops and artistic touches on stage and Mme Nowostawski directed the production. Thank you to everyone who attended this concert during a busy time of year. It provided opportunities for the community to come together and celebrate the student talent at École Viscount Alexander.

Manitoba Theatre for Young People: Students in Grades 7-8 participated in a Middle Years presentation entitled "Jabber". The presentation included topics from the social studies curriculum learning outcomes, as well as our December theme of empathy.

Basketball Season starting : Basketball season has started. Thank you to the parents and staff that have volunteered their time to coach the various basketball teams. We currently have four basketball teams, plus the Grade 6 teams for the season.

Mathletics – In November, a representative from Mathletics visited our school and offered a 2 week free trial of a Math program for students. There were several benefits to the program as it coincided with our provincial curriculum, allows students to practice at home, as well as allows for differentiation and also provides an on-line competition of math facts with students all over the world. After our two week free trial, there was positive feedback from parents, students and staff about the program. We purchased the program for all students in the school to focus on Math Numeracy and to address our school plan goal. The cost of the program is \$12.00/student for a total of \$3,360.00. Would this be something that ACSL would consider to cost share as it impacts the entire school body? Interested teachers will be receiving additional training from the educational consultant from Mathletics this Thursday after school.

Hampers/Koats for Kids: Thank you to community members that assisted with gathering winter clothing to assist Winnipeg families. Mme Marriott organized this initiative and we had a tremendous response. This reflected our goal of empathy in the month of December. Hampers were also organized and delivered with

Ecole Viscount Alexander staff and St. Paul's Anglican Church also assisted with helping Winnipeg families over the holiday season.

School Spirit Week: Mme Jarvie's class organized a school spirit week prior to the holidays. Students had fun with pajama day, crazy hair day, sports day, and twin day.

Reader's Theatre Competition: Prior to the holidays, Mr. Monin initiated a competition for Reader's Theatre. We had several students participate and we are hoping to continue this activity next year.

Fundraising: Mom's Pantry and Poinsettia sales were completed over the month of December. The funds that were raised went to student accounts. These funds can be used for field trips, end of the year activities, yearbooks, etc. Grade 7 students also organized a honey sale for assisting with the cost towards the Quebec trip at the end of the year.

Student Council Candy Canes: Student Council sold candy canes so that students could send a message and a candy cane to others in the school. These were distributed on the last day of school.

Dance Grade 7/8 – While Grade 5/6 students were participating in their classroom parties, Grade 7/8 students participated in a school dance organized by the Student Council. Students have the option of entering the dance, playing games in the multi-purpose area and participating in a photo booth using our new green screen. Photos are posted in the hall.

Mad Science: Grades 5/6 students completed their eight week session of Mad Science. This was a new initiative this year. If parents have any feedback, please let us know in the office as we would like to continue this next year.

Intramurals: In December Grade 5/6 had volleyball intramurals. Grade 8 students were the referees for the intramurals and were great role models for the younger students.

Respect Work/Marie Geelen: Marie Geelen will be coming to school on January 12th to work with students around the area of respect. Our hope is that she can work with lunch monitors and parents to have parental input into the school respect agreements.

Professional Learning Communities: In order to address our school plan goals, staff has started to organize meetings in their professional learning communities in the areas of literacy, numeracy, safe and caring community, technology.

SCHOOL TRANSITIONS

Bonnycastle meeting: A divisional meeting was held on December 2nd to outline to parents the options for the Bonnycastle community and the Board decision was distributed via email to all families. Thank you to parents of our community that attended. Bonnycastle will be a K-4 school with Grade 5 students at Bonnycastle in French Immersion located North of Bison Drive to attend Ecole Viscount Alexander School. January 27th we will be inviting parents from Bonnycastle community to meet with us to address any concerns that they may have and review our transition plan. Ecole Viscount Alexander parents that would like to join us are most welcome.

Transition Plan for this year:

- January meetings with Parent Councils (January 26th Crane parents at Crane, January 27th Bonnycastle parents at EVA, St. Avila TBA)

- February admin meet students – January 29th Band/Admin to St. Avila, February –Crane/Bonnycastle TBA
- February 25th – Open House for new families to visit the school
- March/April – teachers meet the students at their school
- May – students visit EVA (tentative May 8th – Grade 5; May 15th – Grade 7)
- June – staff create class lists with other transitioning schools

Open House – February 25th we will be having an evening Open House for new and current students, including students at Ecole Crane in Grade 4 and Grade 6 students from Ecole St. Avila, who would like to visit the school and hear about our program. Would a representative from the SGTC or ACSL be willing to say a few words?

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

Artist in the School: Ursula Neufeld, a local well-known stained glass mosaic artist, will be working in our school from January 19-23 thanks to a Manitoba Artist in the Schools grant that we received. She will be working with our Grade 5 students creating a “Bienvenue/Welcome” sign for our front doors, as well as creating a Day of the week sign for the office. The cost of the artist is \$600 and this will be covered through school funds. Mme Pepler would like to put a proposal forward for up to \$500 for the materials that may be required to complete this project.

Band-a-thon: January 23rd and 24th Mme. Nowostawski along with staff and parent volunteers will be hosting a band-a-thon for Grades 7 and 8 students for a sleepover in the school. Students will be involved with clinician sessions based on their individual instruments, full band rehearsals, as well as fun group activities.

Exploratory Band for Grade 6: Also in the month of February, Mme Nowostawski will be starting to work with the Grade 6 students at École Viscount and at École St. Avila to start exploring band instruments for next year. Later in the year students will need to choose either band or art for their option the following year, as they are unable to take both options.

February 2 – PD day: February 2nd is a PD day across Winnipeg. Teachers will be continuing to work on our school plan goals.

Human Rights Project: As outlined in November, we will be starting our introduction and discussions regarding the preparation of Human Rights tile for the divisional culminating activity in May. The project will include an introduction to students, discussion around the Human Rights articles and then students choosing an article to visually represent the article on a tile. All students in the division, and staff interested in participating, will be creating a tile to be displayed in May.

Festival du Voyageur: February 20th will be our Festival du Voyageur day where students will be participating in various activities related to Voyageur activities. Students will be working in their family groups during this afternoon. Will the pancake breakfast be in conjunction with the Festival du Voyageur?

Ski Trip: Information has been sent home for the ski trip and for those that misplace the information it is also located on the website. Mr. Monin, along with several other staff members, organize this trip for students in Grades 7/8. Students’ accounts can be used to assist with financing this trip. Students will soon start their lunch hour meetings to review expectations and safety procedures.

End of Year Life Days: Our planning for the last week of June continues (June 22-26). The Grade 7 students have been confirmed for a Quebec trip. Due to numbers identified and the capacity of buses, we had to stop accepting registrations at 53 people. Students/Parents have already started to fundraise for this event and a parent meeting to assist with the organization will take place in the near future. Additional activities that have been planned during this time for students are school are community volunteer opportunities, quilting, Mini-U Camp, bike adventure, Adrenaline Adventures. Some activities may include entry fees, etc. which can also access student accounts. If parents are willing to provide a workshop for students or would be able to assist, please contact Mme Tipping. Friday, June 26th all students will be attending Fun Mountain. We have currently planned bussing for all students; however, the divisional buses were not available so we have booked with another company. Would parents be willing to share the costs for this end of the year activity?

Calendar:

January 16	Human Rights Project Introduction/ Grade 7 Band Presentations/Grade 7 Art Workshop
January 22	Grade 6 immunizations
January 23/24	Band-a-thon sleepover
January 26	Chantal/Shannon visiting Crane Parent Council
January 27	Bonnycastle Parent Meeting at Viscount at 7:00 pm
February 2	Metro PD Day (no classes)
February 9	Advisory Council for School Leadership Meeting at 7:00 pm
February 16	Louis Riel Day (No School)
February 20	Festival du Voyageur pm
February 24	Grade 8 Optimist Band Festival; Grade 8 Art Students to pottery excursion; possible Grade 8 visit to Vincent Massey for transition
February 25	Ecole Viscount Alexander Open House for new families



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January Band Newsletter January 6th, 2015

Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a relaxing holiday season! As I had sent out the last band newsletter a little later in December, here are just a few reminders:

Band Parent Committee Meeting

The next meeting will take place Thursday, January 8 at 7 pm in the EVA band room. The main topic of discussion will be the Band-a-Thon.

Live at Massey Hall

The next Live at Massey Hall will take place Friday, January 9th from 7 pm-9 pm in the VMC band room. This is an opportunity for students to practice their improvising skills in a casual environment. They don't even have to play unless they'd like to!

Solo and Ensemble Festival-Grade 7 Students Only

On Friday, January 16, the grade 7 band students will be performing at the Solo and Ensemble Festival. The students have been rehearsing during class in small groups and will have the opportunity to perform and receive feedback from an adjudicator. We will be leaving school at 9:00 am and will return around 1 pm. The festival takes place at the North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church. Permission slips will be handed out to the students this week. Parents are welcome to attend the kids' performances. The cost of admission is \$2.

Band-a-Thon

All band students have the opportunity to participate in our second annual Band-a-Thon. Students will work in sectional and full band with specialists on their instruments. Each ensemble will have the wonderful opportunity to rehearse in full band with Dr. Fraser Linklater who is the Director of Bands at the University of Manitoba. In total, the students will be playing seven hours! Students will receive pledge sheets and are encouraged to pledge money to support their endeavour. All funds collected will be used to provide scholarships to students which will be presented at the final band concert in May. Last year, we provided 17 scholarships! We are looking for parent volunteers to help supervise and cook spaghetti dinner Friday evening and pancake breakfast on Saturday morning. A sign-up sheet will be sent out shortly.

Junior Jazz Band

Junior Jazz will start on Tuesday, January 27 at lunch hour. For those who are planning on learning a secondary instrument or are new to their instrument, I will provide times at noon hour prior to January 27 to help students become more comfortable on their instruments.

Manitoba Provincial Junior Honour Band Audition

Every year, the Manitoba Band Association hosts the Junior Honour band. Students in grades 5-8 from across Manitoba have the opportunity to send in a recording of them playing. The students selected to participate form an ensemble and rehearse for three days with a guest conductor in April 30-May 2. At the end of the three days, the students will perform a concert with the Intermediate Honour Band. This year's conductor is Westgate's band teacher, Ross Brownlee. The \$20 application fee is waived as I am a member of the Manitoba Band

Association. Interested students are invited to check out the audition material at www.mbband.org and talk to Mme Nowostawski for more information.

Summer Band Camp Opportunities

Starting to make plans for your summer vacation? Please consider sending your child to a summer band camp hosted by the Manitoba Band Association. Participants receive one-on-one instruction with a specialist on their instrument, full band rehearsal, jazz experience, recreational activities, and perform a concert for one week in August. As someone who has participated as both a camper and an instructor, I can speak firsthand at how great this camp is. One of the camps is at Vincent Massey and therefore in our area. Funds raised by the Band-A-Thon are used to present scholarships to students at the final band concert to assist cover the costs. For more information, please contact Mme. Nowostawski or check out the MBA website at www.mbband.org.

Important Dates 2014-2015

January 8	Band Parent Committee Meeting
January 9	Live at Massey Hall
Friday, January 16	Solo and Ensemble Festival (Grade 7)
January 23-24	Band-A-Thon Sleepover
Tuesday, February 24 11:20 am	Grade 8 performance at Optimist Festival
Wednesday, February 25	EVA Open House-Grade 7s and Morning Jazz only
Monday, March 9	Provincial Honour Band Audition CD Due
March 19-20	Brandon Jazz Festival
April 14-17	Level One Festival-Grade 7-Date and Time TBA
April 30-May 2	Junior Provincial Honour Band
May TBA	Final Band Concert
June 11	Jazz Cabaret
June 18	Jazz Community Tour (Atelier and Morning Jazz only)

Appendix C

Manitoba Artist in the Schools Funding Proposal

January 7, 2014

Dear EVA PAC Committee members,

I would hereby like to request financial support for an upcoming activity for our grade 5 classes. Ursula Neufeld, a local well-known stained glass mosaic artist, is going to be in our building from January 19-23, thanks to a Manitoba Artist in the Schools grant we received last June. She has worked in several schools, here in Manitoba and indeed around the world. The Winnipeg Free Press did a feature on her park-like back yard a few years ago, featuring some of her glass mosaics.

We are planning to make a 'Bienvenue/Welcome' sign to install in the windows above the school's main entrance. Under Ursula's guidance, it will truly be a work of art and a memorable statement for EVA School! Time permitting' we will also make a 'JOUR' sign, with small interchangeable frames with the numbers of 1 thorough 6.

She will only be working with the grade 5 classes as it is such a short time period. Our plan is to try to have her back next year with a 2 week residency grant so as to be able to work on a larger project and involve more of the student population. We hope to make a bench or 2 that can withstand the rigors of a Manitoba winter – like the mosaics in her back yard – and working alongside our School Grounds Transformation Committee and Parent Council we can further our beautification initiatives to transform our school grounds.

As stained glass mosaics can be quite costly for the materials alone, we would like to respectfully request a small sum of money to help finance this project. Ursula will be bringing all the tools we will require, but the school will need to purchase the frames for the mosaics, as well as all the glass sheets and grouting supplies. I think we would need up to \$500, depending on what you feel might be reasonable.

Thank you all very much in advance for considering our request for support.

Sincerely,

Kim Pepler