

Minutes of the EVA ACSL November 14, 2011

Attendees: Leslie Adrian, Melanie Barnabe, Annette Bonneteau, Allison Davies, Rachel Donner, Cal Dueck, Kim Huebner, Christopher Lepa, Jason Mattikka, Fred Nash, Karine Rioux, Carol Steel, Judy Stevens, Peter Ward, Shirley Zaporzan

Regrets: Kathleen Tomy

1. Introductions:

a) Approval of Agenda: Motion FN; 2nd JM; carried

b) Approval of Minutes from October 17: Motion PW; 2nd CS; carried

2. Guest Speaker

a) Derek Boutang, Director of Information Technology, PTSD

- Is new to the position as of June and would like to get to know the schools/PACs better;
- Has had 13 years in IT but is new to schools;
- PTSD IT program is one of the best in North America: there's a very strong network, well-equipped with basic IT hardware (computers, SmartBoards, etc.)
- There is room for improvement in some areas including: digital signs, displays, but a lot of the funding for that kind of thing comes from PACs;
- If we want new technologies, he's offering buying power;
- As a council, we've decided to put funding toward school grounds transformation (CS);
- Can the division's computers be made more Mac friendly? (CS)
- Macs are just too expensive to supply to the schools (he can get buy PCs for every Mac) but they do have some in specific, high-end programs where Mac technology is superior (e.g. film editing, some vocational programs); (DB)
- They are exploring being able to support Macs more but right now they are just cost-prohibitive and require much more labour (DB);
- What about iPads in schools? (FN)
- All research shows that kids love technology, but the improved educational outcomes, except for certain instances of high-needs students, are unproven; (DB)
- They are experimenting with tablets in the division but educational research indicates there's no real across-the-board benefit to students yet;
- Can you make improvements to the school's website? (RD)
- No (DB);
- Can the division fund an electronic sign for outside the school? The present sign is cumbersome to use and inconsistent with the school's new look (RD);
- No (DB);
- Can funds for a new sign be obtained as part of the next phase of the renovations? (RD)
- KR and Ann Simms are meeting with the division to discuss the next phase of the renovations and KR will ask then (KR).

3. Regular Reports

a) Good News Sharing:

- Sprit Week was lots of fun and overall a success (MB);

- Kids are fond of the existing play structure; it's well-utilized and maybe should be integrated into the new plan for the school grounds (SZ);

b) Principal's Report (KR):

- We are proud of our memorable school assembly in recognition of Remembrance Day. We were showcasing students' art work from Mme Pepler's class and were fortunate to have a musical performance from our very own grade 8 band. Memorable poetry was created and presented by our grade 8 students with the guidance of Mme Marriott. In short, this ceremony was quite moving and we were able to make links between the impacts of the past with the way we behave within our school community;
- **Ryan Crocker** and the rest of the Crescentwood Grizzlies Football team won the provincial championship this past weekend!
- Congratulations to **Jarah** and **Barak Al-Ahmed, Shane Latour** and **Stefan McIntosh** of the Fort Garry Lions Peewee Gold football team. They won their championship game Sunday at the Blue Bomber stadium and are now the Provincial Champions!
- Students and staff enjoyed our Spirit Week. We were impressed with the number of participants and creativity. Such opportunities enhance our school culture;
- We were honoured to greet the Superintendent of PTSD, Lawrence Lussier, on November 2nd. Mr. Lussier was impressed with the transformation of our school grounds and Phase I of our building. Thank you to Carol and the SGTC committee!
- Heather Poirier will now be joining the team at Oak Park High School. We wish her all the best and appreciate all her contributions. She will be missed;
- Congratulations to Mme Stevens who will be showcasing the illustrations of a brand new book, created by her father. This will take place on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 8:00 at McNally Robinson. NB: the book is not intended for children;
- We are looking forward to our very first tri-conferences this week.
- Our grade 8 students are thrilled to join the band camp on November 24-25, 2011.
- We would like to thank Diane Goltz who wants to contribute with students, creating gift baskets filled with donated items from parents that will be raffled off in December, along with a mini-fridge we won, thanks to Carol Steel.
- We are still looking into carefully reviewing student fees. We also want to consider various options pertaining to clubs that took place during the lunch hour. The loss of the grade 9 leadership students and the contractual entitlement of one hour contact-free time for teachers may make it difficult to run the clubs;
- Our Students' Council will have the opportunity to attend We Day on November 23, 2011. Students will be invited to open their hearts to support those who are less fortunate than many of us through the Siloam Mission. We will be collecting candy and food from November 15-17, 2011. We thank our team who are engaging our students: Mme Marriott, Mme St. Pierre, Mme Gilchrist and Mme Poirier. Mme Hillman will now be joining this committee.
- We felt privileged to have another exciting Restitution I training session offered by Cindy Lévesque, certified Restitution Trainer, complementing our school plan. This Friday, we will have the opportunity to deepen our understanding regarding better supporting our students through our Student Support Team, leaders, and two divisional guests, Philippe LeDorze and Sue Hjalmarson.
- During this month, all teaching staff is meeting with Karine in order to co-create effective Professional Growth Models.

- We, as administrators, are deepening our understanding of our divisional expectations, with emphasis on student engagement this month. Also, there is a shift occurring during our French Immersion Council meetings, with focus on learning.
- c) Treasurer's Report (CL and JM):**
- On deposit right now: SGTC, \$8,321.15; ACSL, \$10,333.67
 - One payment of approximately \$1,000 remains to be made for milk;
 - Deposits will be made for the second half of the milk program in January;
 - Seems like a lot on deposit – was it all from the milk program (CD)?
 - Will look into it (JM);
 - A full financial report can be obtained from CL, lepes@mts.net.
- d) School Grounds Transformation (CS):**
- Boulders and berms are in place;
 - Another parent survey is going out by the end of the month;
 - A greening survey is being sent to teachers;
 - JS is leading initiative to have all students create an artistic representation of their dream school ground;
 - Next fundraiser: Sobeys cards. Forms will follow a pep rally to be led by Carol and Rachel on Wednesday, Nov. 23;
 - Perhaps last year's top sellers could be involved in presenting at or organizing some elements of the pep rally (RD); KR to look into it;
 - Xmas tree and wreath form coming out Nov. 15; pickup Dec. 10 in 5/6 parking lot.
- e) Lunch Program (RD):**
- RD and KR followed up on a student-led initiative to have students eat in the multi-purpose room again;
 - We decided along with the student leading the request that we would do it one grade at a time every time there's a Lunch Lady day;
 - Lunch supervisors have agreed to come in early to set up the tables and supervise in that area; administration has agreed to buy another microwave to keep in the canteen for students to use; the custodian has agreed to find a cart to put it on and to make sure there are enough tables and garbage cans (with KR); the students must still agree to keep the area clean and put the tables away before they go outside;
 - First try will be Nov. 21.
- f) Milk Report (AB):**
- We would like to support those students who would like to get milk but who can't afford it; the board cannot subsidize the milk program, but parents or other community members can make donations at the board or school office; donations must indicate they are for EVA Lunch Program (KR);
 - Where should people drop off the donations for the gift baskets and wine fridge raffle?
 - At the office, or we can take turns driving to homes to pick up donations if need be (CS).
- 4. New Business:**
- a. Teacher Appreciation Week**
- A coordinator or coordinators are needed (it's a lot for one person); it might be more manageable if the gestures of appreciation are spread over the school year and are delivered at staff meetings (CS);
 - Only downside to that is the impact of one really intense week of food and gifts makes parents' gratitude really evident; it might be diluted too much if it's over the whole school year (CS – I think??)
 - Any volunteers to coordinate (CS)?

- Spread the word to parents to see if we can recruit a coordinator (CD);
- Please email CS, carolsteel@shaw.ca, if you have any good ideas or have a name you'd like to pass on;

5. Old Business

a) Website:

- Allison Davies has volunteered to run the ACSL website; if you have submissions or ideas, please contact her at allisondavies@winnipeg.ca or babysurfer11@shaw.ca (CS);
- Thank you, Allison! (CS)

b) Free Fridge:

- Decision made to fill it with donated wine and raffle at the Holiday Concert Dec. 13 (CD).

c) Cost of school supplies:

- Covered in the principal's report (CD).

d) Communication of clubs and extracurricular activities information

- Covered in principal's report

e) Other:

- When teachers are posting lessons to their websites can they please ensure they are printer-friendly? (SZ)

Next meeting Monday, Dec. 12, 7 pm. Please bring a small bit of holiday cheer to share.

Motion to adjourn: CS; carried. Meeting adjourned 8:20