

Minutes of the EVA ACSL Meeting – Tuesday, October 15, 2013 (modified and approved, Nov. 18)

Attendees: Neil Arnason, Annette Bonneteau, Walter Demczuk, Robyn Olfert, Carol Steel, Marcia Fonseca, Tanya Weslak, Shawna Master, Mélanie Barnabé, Mike Deneka, Wanda Knook, Vanessa Nowastowski, Shannon Tipping, Kim Peppler, Ryan Slashinski

Regrets: Elan Stemkoski, Chris Lepa

1. Introductions

- a. Approval of Agenda: add item to Matters arising : e. discuss budget spending priorities
add item to Regular Reports: m. Music program
Approval of Agenda as modified, CS moved, AB seconded, carried
- b. Approval of Minutes of September 9, 2013 – correction to item 2a (Matters arising)
The amounts transferred to SGTC were, \$3937.26 from the milk account and \$2443.11 from the general account, leaving a \$1000 buffer in each account.
Motion to approve the minutes as amended: TW moved, WD seconded - carried

2. Special Presentation Demo of Haiku program by K. Peppler and R. Slashinski

- Haiku is a program to keep track of assessment outcomes in an instant and ongoing way
- replaces 10 or more pages per student of paper records... assists goal of becoming a paperless school
- system must cover all subject areas; track subject teaching geared to assessment; visualise patterns of subject mastery
- organise by what the student has mastered rather than by what they have completed
- added bonus: parent access but not (yet) intended for parent/teacher communication.
- division and province are onboard with the paperless school goal
- several systems were examined: Haiku best met needs. Signed on for a one-year pilot (free from Haiku) If adopted on an ongoing basis will cost about \$5/student/year.
- Haiku provides student with a calendar and links to supplementary learning aids.
- Some teachers will maintain existing web sites (linked to Haiku)

3. Matters arising:

a. Volunteer forms:

Last year, passed forms out at school event and 4 volunteer forms returned.

This year did a mail out and 44 responses this time.

Will do mail out again next year.

b. Questions about oil leak:

Oct. 31, 2012 school evacuated because of strong chemical smell.

Shannon requested an update report from Gord Howe, PTSD director of facilities and operations, which was read out to the meeting:

* smell was caused by fuel oil residue that came from a tank that was removed in the 1960s

* this leaked into the building during last year's renovations due to high water table.

- * leakage was contained to one area of basement under former boiler room and has not spread to other areas of the building...this was determined by taking cores
- * sleeves with absorbant “socks” have been installed in the 2 core holes in the boiler area to soak up the fuel oil; they are replaced periodically; work has been ongoing since last December and will continue until oil is reduced to permissible levels
- *once this acceptable level is reached, sump pit can be re-used as normal to remove water collecting from the school weeping tile system.

c. **Peak of the Market Fundraiser:**

- * Christina Weise registered us for the fundraiser as she was doing the same for Ecole Crane. Their delivery date was set for October 17.
- * WK has taken over the organisation for EVA parent council. Thank you Wanda.
- * The EVA delivery date was set for Wednesday, November 27, 2013. Actual delivery may be plus or minus a day. Forms will go out to families in early November with return deadline of Nov. 14.
- *There was discussion as to where the proceeds might be directed... in past has been run by SGTC for SGTC but as discussed at last meeting, band members can be asked to help with sorting with proceeds going to the band program.

d. **Budget consultation.** Every year the division circulates budget priorities for Preliminary Budget Consultation and schools add their priorities to this. Parent councils are invited to add their comments and additional priorities but deadline for feedback submission is generally too early (Wed. Oct. 9th this year). The chair read out the divisional priorities. The school added these priorities:

- * promote the use of French oral language and culture
- * engage students in their learning
- * literacy and numeracy

There was general agreement that ACSL supports these priorities...Motion chair to provide feedback to budget consultation by email to division. (moved AB, seconded CS, carried)

e. **PAC budget spending priorities.** The chair reminded PAC that topic of setting budget priorities for new and existing activities had been raised at a previous meeting and a sub-committee to solicit, research and prioritise spending items had been suggested. There was general consensus that this was cumbersome and unlikely to work, but that parent council keep the topic open on an ongoing basis. Other suggestion included: put a “Possible Initiatives” form on the PAC website and invite staff and students to use it; distribute proposal forms to teachers.

4. **Regular reports:**

f. **Good News Sharing:**

- * The Free Press book section featured the parent of an EVA student (Conner Anderson, Gr. 6). Toni Anderson is Manitoba’s top-selling author, writing “romance mysteries” (<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/entertainment/books/in-the-dark--no-more-223729481.html>)

* Tulip planting as a Phase II celebration, fun was had by all!

g. Chair's report:

* *Lunch program* is operating well; a new co-ordinator (Elan Stemkoski) has been hired and she is completing hires of additional supervisors. We need about six each day, so she is trying to bring hires up to 6 and develop a list of part-time substitutes.

* *Council of Presidents* (representatives from each school in the division) meets once or twice a year. Opportunity to share what is going on in different schools and to review divisional policies. Fall meeting (Wed. Oct. 30, 2013) always includes a budget review and this year a presentation on staff evaluation (professional growth) and on planning for Waverly West. The chair invited any member of PAC who was interested and available to come, but there were no takers.

* *Minister's award*: "Manitoba Celebration of Excellence in Teaching" nominations are now open. PAC can nominate a teacher for these awards.

h. Principal's report:

* a detailed Principal's report was handed out and reviewed (see Appendix)

* a question was raised about fixing the new asphalt area where a divot causes standing water. The office and SGTC are looking in to who will fix this.

i. Treasurer's Report (Chris sends regrets but submitted accounts by email)

Amounts (to nearest \$100, prior to transfers to SGTC)

* Pak \$4,200

* Milk \$10,300

* SGTC \$13,900

* SGTC at PTSD (Trust) \$12,600

* Grants (in Trust) \$40,500

j. School Ground Transformation. CS reported on problems with water pooling on the new asphalt, and the activities for celebrating completion of Phase 2 (Willow Island): a tulip planting day and a special assembly (see principal's report). CS reported on fundraising and grant application for phase 3 (recreation equipment); SGTC is able to draw on the considerable experience and talents of Janice Lukes in doing grant applications. Janice was instrumental in the success of the St. Avila SGTC program.

k. Lunch Program

* Rachel Donner and Shannon developed job descriptions; posted to neighbouring schools. NA developed ads for Kijiji. There were many good responses from both sources. Using the local paper (Canstar's Sou'Wester) proved infeasible (too slow and expensive)

* several candidates for co-ordinator were interviewed (by RD, ST and NA) and a short

list was invited to “shadow” Rachel for a lunch hour. Elan Stemkoski hired...she had a conflict for this meeting but will try to get to next meeting of PAC. Hiring of additional supervisors is ongoing.

* income and expenses being reviewed by Shannon and ES to assess if lunch fees are sufficient to cover costs.

I. Pizza Program

* this Thursday is the first day; will occur every second week until early December.

* Volunteers are lined up and coming.

* A fixed room for central distribution is desirable (but not always possible).

* Order must be placed at least 1 week before day; order form is on the school website.

m. Milk Program... all is good; 118 students participating.

n. Music Program

* Show and Save fundraiser is going well, 582 books sold this year (vs. 200 last year); \$500 profit.

* Band parent committee is active

* More fundraisers are planned: bake sale (\$600 last year); raffle best seat (need a lottery license).

* “Bowl with the band” night.

* Leigh-Anne Kehler, a professional playwright, is returning to help each Gr 5 and 6 class write and perform a fairy tale play for the holiday concert.

* Band Camp for grade 8’s only... scheduled for Nov. 5-6

* Middle Years Honour Band selections.

* Clinton Marshall will be here as a guest conductor and concert band clinician in November.

* Grants being pursued for new instruments, letters of support for instruments are required.

Motion to Adjourn: moved RO/ seconded TW. passed.

Appended: Principal’s PAC Report October 2013



ÉCOLE VISCOUNT ALEXANDER

AMBASSEDEURS DU FUTUR ...

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PRINCIPAL'S SCHOOL REPORT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013

School Information:

Learning about École Viscount Alexander: I've met with Grade 5-8 classes and staff asking them what they like about École Viscount Alexander and what they would like to see us working on during the year. I've started to compile this information and will share and review with staff and parents at a later date. I would like to gather the same information from parents at some point.

School Plan: The finalized version of the School Plan will be shared with the Home and School Association at the November meeting. Priority areas:

- Promote the use of French oral language and culture
- Student Engagement
- Literacy
- Numeracy

Official Enrolment for this school year: September 30 enrolment figures have been submitted and we have a total number of 268 students at École Viscount registered for this school year.

Strong Beginnings: École Viscount Alexander's staff appreciated the opportunity to work on an individual basis with students assessing abilities in English Language Arts, French Language Arts, and Mathematics. Staff will be meeting later this week on October 16 and 17 in partnership with the administration and support team to review our results. This provides an opportunity for us to consider where resources and programs would best be allocated to assist students' learning needs. We would once again like to thank the community for their support.

Celebration of Phase 2 Completion: Carol S., Janice L. and Ed S., helped students plant tulip bulbs around the base of the new trees on October 8. Our official celebration will be held on October 28 at an assembly at 8:45 am in the gym. Parents are welcome to attend. We will be thanking the various organizations that have provided grants for the playground area, as well as creating a video of thoughts by students and staff.

Bus Ridership: All students 5-8 will be participating in Bus Ridership this week, October 17. This is a program to teach students about bus safety and the important procedures to follow when you are on the bus, as well as learning to exit the bus in case of an emergency.

Teacher Professional Development: On October 18th, teachers will be participating in professional development in the area of co-teaching and technology, as well as reviewing our practices for anaphylaxis.

and asthma. We will also have a Professional Development session on October 25th, which is a provincial day. Most staff will be working at the school to learn and integrate Haiku into their daily practice.

Photos: Photos were taken by LifeTouch in September, with retakes scheduled for October 28th in the morning. A yearbook option was also discussed? Would you be interested in this option? This was something that was mentioned when I met with students to discuss their thoughts about Viscount Alexander. It would be approximately \$17.00 for a coloured book with 24 pages. This would also be an opportunity for parents to assist with the development of this book with students.

Parent-student-teacher conferences: Conferences will be held the evening of November 12th and November 14th. If you would like to speak with the teacher prior to this time to discuss your child's academic progress, etc. please do not hesitate to contact them. Any concerns or questions regarding your child's progress or academic programming are always encouraged at any time throughout the year. Information regarding the website to schedule your appointments was emailed on Friday, October 11th.

Lunch Program: Welcome Elan Stemkoski who is the new lunch coordinator. Thank you again to Rachel Donner who assisted us with organizing the program and with interviews and is currently helping Elan with the program. Thank you to Michelle Dueck, Sandra Romani, Martha Brandt, Annette Bonneteau as well as our EA staff Diane Goltz, Judith Blair, Maniksha Anand, Stephanie Girouard and Lindsay Stangl who have been assisting until regular supervisors can be hired.

Emergency Drills: We had several fire drills and one lockdown practice since the start of the school year, along with an evacuation drill. All went really well.

Klinic Teen Talk on Technology: Linked explores bullying and the serious impacts it can have on people's lives. This presentation shows how people might use social media like Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr in positive ways, and how these media are often used to hurt others. It looks at different kinds of bullying and violence and how they can affect someone's relationships and mental health. Actors model help seeking behaviours for anyone affected by bullying, and helpful local resources are shared. This will be a 60 minute presentation for Grades 7 and 8 students on November 1st. A letter will be sent home prior to this presentation in case parents have any questions.

Community Building: Starting in November, once a month, students will be divided into mixed grade groupings to work with all staff in the building various school initiatives such as our school beliefs, etc.

Halloween: A note will be going home to parents outlining appropriate attire for Halloween in order to maintain a safe and comfortable environment for everyone. Students may wear orange and black outfits. If costumes are worn, they need to adhere to the dress code as well as no masks, weapons and costumes that are not violent in nature.

Pizza Lunch: We will be having our first pizza lunch this Thursday at 11:30 a.m. and another lunch on October 31st.

DIVISIONAL/PROVINCIAL INFORMATION

Pembina Trails School Division Budget Consultation: Pembina Trails School Division consults with various groups to provide input in creating the divisional budget. Parent Councils across the division have the opportunity to provide input into the 2014-2015 school budget. Please complete the budget consultation and submit the information to the division.

SAGE Day: This is a provincial professional development day for teachers to meet in according to their specialty areas. Our staff has requested a day at school where we will be exploring and integrating the Haiku learning management system.

OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS

Roots of Empathy: Mme Marriott will be starting at the Roots of Empathy at the end of October with Mme McMahon/Bevan's Grade 5 class. Last year she completed this program with Mme Pepler's class. The goal of the program is to encourage empathy by having a class follow the development of a baby. Research has shown that this program decreases aggressiveness and bullying. Candace, James, and daughter Sophie, who will be 3 months old at the start of the program, have volunteered to work with our school and Mme McMahon/Bevan's class.

Deer Meadows Farm: Grade 7 students went to Deer Meadow Farms where they learned how to use hand held GPS devices in the labyrinth corn maze. They also had time to visit the animals and enjoy working together.

WE Day: Student Council members have been elected and presented at our assembly on October 9th. Several other students at each grade level were drawn to participate with the Student council for a total of 30 students attending We Day on October 30th.

Volleyball Teams: Staff and parent coaches have been diligently working with students. Thank you to all of our parents that have taken on this responsibility. All games, tournaments and practices can be found on the school website.

Artists in the School: Leigh-Anne Keller a storyteller will be working with the Grade 5 and 6 students at the end of the month to create a story and prepare a play for their Winter Concert that will be held on

Crochet Club: Mme Huot has started a crochet club over the lunch hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Several students have participated in this event.

Craft Club: Mme Goltz started up the craft club this week to assist in preparing cards for our assembly. Thank you to Mme Girouard who has replaced Mme Goltz during lunch supervision in order to assist with opening the club.

Homework Club: Mme Pepler has started Homework Club over the lunch hours on Tuesday and Thursday.

Cross Country Club: Mme Marriott, Mme Leclercq, Mme Boock, Mr. Spiers and Mr. Monin have been working with the running clubs in Grades 5-8. They have gone to several divisional meets and our students did very well.

Student Council Elections were held on October 1: Mme Hillman conducted an election for those interested in being part of our student Council. The council was presented during our assembly on October 9 and they launched a school initiative for Free the Children. Our school is participating in the campaign for "We create Change" and "We are Hunger". We are gathering nonperishable food items until November 4th for We are Hunger. For We Create Change for every \$20 raised, we will be able to purchase a brick for a school in Africa.

Earth Status: We have completed over 1000 recycle projects and therefore we have reached Earth Status. The banner will be presented to students during our assembly on October 28th.

Bulletin Boards: Miss Dombek has been working with students to paint the bulletin boards in the hallway. They are painting the logo on the bulletin boards to brighten up the area and a sense of school spirit in the halls.

Band Camp: November 5th and 6th, students from Grade 7 and 8 will be participating in a band camp at Camp Assiniboia.

Jazz Concert: Students will be participating in a Jazz Concert at the WAG on Saturday, October 27th.

Upcoming School Events:

Nov 5 & 6	Camp Assiniboia (gr8 band)
Nov 8 (10:15 am)	Remembrance day Assembly
Nov 11	Remembrance day (No Classes)
Nov 12 & 14	Tri Conferences
Nov 22	Grade 6 girls Immunization