

Minutes of the EVA ACSL Meeting – Monday, February 8, 2016

(FINAL –as approved at April 11 PAC meeting)

Attendees: Neil Arnason, Tanya Weslak, Aleksandra Stanosevic, Shannon Tipping, Chantal Proulx,

Regrets: Barb Cahoun, Christopher Lepa, Brandy Pantel, Kris Widla

Guests: Karen Wieringa (EVA Resource teacher), Geoff Woodcroft (St. Paul's)

1. Introductions

- a. The guests were welcomed – they were invited to discuss the Breakfast program
- b. Approval of minutes – January 2016: minutes were circulated but there was no motion to approve as the meeting did not meet quorum.

2. Matters arising (old business)

- a. **Breakfast Program** KW and GW described the breakfast program in detail; some points to note are:

- * started one grade at a time but is now extended to all 4 grades; now about 60 students per day, mostly coming off buses
- * serve healthy and nutritious foods (dairy, fruit/veg, grains)
- * 2 staff members help run the program
- * benefits discussed: meets needs of students who don't get adequate breakfast at home; incentive to get students to school on time.
- * donations: 90% of supplies are coming from the church; school has provided a small grant; division has been asked for a \$3000 grant for this year and will apply in June for \$5000 for next year
- * PAC support: could help with supplies, also may want to invest in a dishwasher (use washable utensils and dishes to reduce waste) and fridge/freezer for gym area.

3. Regular reports:

a. Chair's report

a. PAC has belonged to Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) for as long as I can remember...they run a good annual meeting in spring with interesting workshops and speakers and provide excellent resource materials (their guide to starting and running a PAC/ACSL is up on the parent council website under resources). The annual membership is \$80. and is now due.

Motion: by NA, KW seconds: that we approve membership in MAPC for 2016 and approve the \$80 membership fee (subsequently passed *nem con* by an email vote on Feb. 11 as quorum was not met at the meeting).

b. .Principal's Report

- * a detailed Principal's report was handed out and reviewed (see Appendix).
- * note the item on *Mission Vision and Values* on p. 3 where PAC is invited to get involved. Also a possible request for funding from PAC for a new school *Sign/notice* board.

c. **Treasurer's report**

CL submitted a report by email of the current account status.

PAC a/c: \$13,546 (includes pizza deposits for Jan-June...about \$5000 of this will be paid out for pizza day invoices)

Milk a/c: \$9209 (post-dated cheques have been processed... about \$5000 of this will be paid out in milk invoices)

d. **School Grounds Transformation**

no report

e. **Music Program**

VN submitted the February Band Newsletter (attached)

f. **Lunch Program**

no report

g. **Pizza Program**

Jan-June orders have been processed and the first pizza day was on Jan. 28, 2016. There are 10 pizza days in Jan-June, every 2 weeks (except spring break); we serve close to 400 pizza slices to over 200 students on each pizza day.

h. **Milk Program**

Post-dated cheques for split payments have been processed and deposited. Program going well. Lunch monitors handle distribution of milk to the classrooms.

Motion to adjourn TW, carried.

Appended: Principal's PAC Report, February 2016
Band Newsletter February 2016



École Viscount Alexander

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Principal's Report

February 2016

Staff Celebrations/Changes:

- Mr. Spiers' family had a new addition to their family. A new baby girl, Elan, was born in January. Mr. Spiers will be taking a paternal leave in February.
- Mme Anderson, our library technician, has started her maternity leave. We are currently looking for someone to resume her position until her return.
- Mme Singer is expecting her first child and we are starting to look for someone to take her position until the end of the year.

Band-a-thon: Grade 7 and 8 band students participated in their band-a-thon on January 22 and 23. Students worked in sectionals and full band rehearsals on the Friday evening before enjoying some cooperative games in the gym. They then had a sleepover and continued their musical practices on Saturday morning until 11:30 a.m. Thank you to all the parents and staff that assisted with this activity. Money raised will be used for students to participate in summer band workshops.

Breakfast Program: Our breakfast program is well underway. We started out in a progressive manner introducing this initiative to each grade level one day at a time. After two weeks, we opened up the program to all grade levels at once. On Monday, January 25th, Honourable James Allum attended our breakfast club. Grants have been submitted for next year. We did receive \$1,000.00 from our Healthy Schools Grant to assist with costs this year. Our community partners have been assisting with volunteering and donating food. Thank you to many of our parents that have also been donating products for students.

Class Projections: We have received our estimated divisional projections for next school year. These were shared at the meeting.

South Pointe: A community meeting was held on January 27th to outline the plan for the South Pointe opening prior to the construction completion of the new school. The numbers are being finalized but currently satellite classrooms in Grades 5 & 7 will be located at École Viscount Alexander. École South Pointe will open as a K-7 school. Grade 8 students will remain at their current location until the end of the year.

Transition: Transition for the new students entering Viscount started in the month of January for the feeder schools and will continue in the month of February. Activities included:

- Atelier Jazz Ensemble, along with Mme Nowostawski and Mme Proulx will meet with Grade 6 students at École St. Avila on February 12th.
- Mme Tipping/Mme Proulx will be visiting École Crane and École Bonnycastle in February to meet the Grade 4 students at each school as guest readers during I Love to Read week.
- Grade 8 students will be visiting Vincent Massey for a school tour on February 23rd in the afternoon
- Staff from Vincent Massey School will be starting to visit Grade 8 students in February. Some of the visits will be during their "*Habilités de vie*" classes so students can ask specific questions. They have already started to accumulate and organize questions for the visit.

- **Open House:** Our Open House for new families is scheduled for March 2nd from 6pm to 8pm. The outline will be similar to last year with all families meeting in the gym, presentation from students, outline of programs and then a tour of the school by students incorporating an activity. We have asked Canadian Parents for French to have a table set up for families; Grade 7 students will be playing their instruments in the halls during the school tours. Thank you to B. Cahoon who has agreed to speak on behalf of the Advisory Council for School Leadership.

Tipi Joe: Due to an Aboriginal grant from the school division, we have been fortunate to have funds to invite an aboriginal artist to our school. On February 9th and 10th, students in Grades 5-7 will be participating in some workshops with Joe Lanceley, an artist that worked with the Grade 8 students in October. He will be meeting with each class and doing some soap stone carvings.

Soiree métisse: To prepare and start off our Festival activities, we have organized an exciting community event along with École Crane. The evening will include the professional French musical group, Ça claque!, which will have musical and dancing performances. It is a very interactive and enjoyable group. Families will also have the opportunity to participate in various activities in the classroom organized by the Louis Riel Institute. Upon entry, everyone will receive a “passport” and they can indicate which activities they attended during the evening. A dinner, for those who pre-ordered, will start at 5:30 pm, activities start at 6:00 pm and Ça claque! will perform at 6:30 pm. We will continue until 8 pm. Due to a divisional grant, we have been able to finance this activity at a minimal cost to families (\$2/person or \$5/family).

Festival du Voyageur: Our program leaders (Mme Jarvie, Mme Boock, Mme Marriott and Mr. Monin) have worked diligently to organize our entire school to attend the Festival du Voyageur activities at Fort Gibraltar as this is not always easy to register such a large group for the French activities. Students will be participating in various activities that are age appropriate. All students will be attending a concert over the lunch hour. All students will require a lunch, as well as dressing appropriately for the weather as we will be outside most of the day. Thank you to the financial support of the Advisory Council to School Leadership, along with school financing, we’ve been able to reduce the cost for families to \$10. We look forward to this exciting school community activity!

Art/Band Upcoming Event: February 23rd – Grade 8 students will be attending the Optimist Festival. Grade 8 art students will have an alternate art activity during the same time. Both groups will then be taken to Vincent Massey at 1:30 pm for their school tour.

Ski trip: Approximately 80 students participated in our annual ski trip last week. Thank you to the staff that organized and prepare the students for this activity. We were very fortunate that although we didn’t have enough Grade 8 students to pay for an entire bus, the Russell Inn paid the cost of the extra bus in order to allow our students to attend and not increase the price for students. Therefore all students who wanted to attend were able to do so. Thank you to Mr. Monin who organized and worked out the details with the hotel. For those students that did not attend the ski trip, alternate activities and a schedule were organized to ensure that all students continued to have enriching learning experiences. The alternate activities included art activities in the area of clay and sketching. Thank you to Mr. Gordon Campbell and Mr. Michael Wodlinger who assisted us with these activities. Also a swimming activity and pizza lunch were organized with the assistance of Mme Boock.

Cancer Care Manitoba: Students in Grade 5, during their month of January, students organized a Kernels fundraising campaign to raise funds for Cancer Care Manitoba. Our school raised approximately \$500 for Cancer Care by selling popcorn.

We are Silent: Students participated in We Are Silent on January 26th. We Bake for Change is on February 11th. Proceeds will go to Free The Children for children in Equador. Parents are welcome to volunteer.

Robotics: Over 40 students in Grades 5/6 completed their robotic workshop at the end of January. Students were very excited to show their very creative robot designs on their last day. Grades 7/8 students have started their workshops last week. We have approximately 30 students participating in creating a Mini-Sumo. We offered workshops on both Monday and Tuesday evening. Parents purchased the kits and the school budget paid the cost of the facilitator (\$680.00). For those students who would like to continue to explore robotics, the Manitoba Robot Games is held on March 19th. Thank you to parents that participated in the workshops.

Grade 5 Invent an Alien: Mr. Wayne Ellis, Vice-President of the Canadian Space Society, visited the Grade 5 students on Thursday, February 4th to prepare them for their Invent an Alien project. Students will be creating their own aliens to live on the planet Pluto. They are preparing the projects and will be showcasing them in a science fair.

WISE Science workshops: Students in Grade 8 participated in the heart surgery workshop from WISE program. Grade 6 students are currently planning for their workshops in the near future. The school has financed the cost of the \$50/workshop through the school budget in order to reduce the costs for families.

I Love to Read activities: As outlined in the newsletter, one of the activities that will be showcased during I Love to Read month is Reading Idol at EVA. Students were invited to choose from a selection of texts in French to present in a Readers Theatre format. Presentation will be held on February 16 either live or on video. Prizes will be awarded for students and teams.

Dance Group: Mme Quigley has organized a Grade 7 and 8 dance team the past couple of years. She has decided to start a Grade 5 and 6 dance group in February.

Famine Concert – Feb. 17: In April students will have an opportunity to participate in the 30-hour famine. Some of our students will not be at the appropriate age to participate in a food famine, but we are going to be suggesting that they have a technology famine. In order to present the idea of the famine that will in April, Bold as Lions musical group will be doing an introductory presentation and concert for students on February 17. The group has already met with student leadership that are interested in assisting with this project.

Sign: We are currently investigating the possibility of replacing our sign outside for an electronic board. This would allow us to maintain this information up to date rather than having to try and change the information when weather is allowing us to do so. This may be a project that the Parent Advisory Council would like to assist with costs.

Mission, Vision, Values: We are going to be starting to work with Mr. Jean Beaumont, a former Superintendent of Fort Garry, to work with all of our community members (staff – teachers, EA, custodians, secretarial staff, students and parents) to review our mission, vision, & values. We are hoping that he would be able to meet with parents, perhaps at an ACSL meeting in April to have parents provide feedback. The feedback from all stakeholders will be collated and then a working group consisting of students, staff and parents would meet on a regular basis to review the information and create a vision for the school.

DIVISIONAL AND PROVINCIAL INFORMATION:

February 11 budget: The divisional draft budget for next year will be shared at the board meeting on February 11 at 8:00 pm. The information will be posted on the Divisional website on February 12. Feedback is requested either in a letter directed to the Board of Trustees or appearing as a Delegation.

Divisional support workshops for families:

- Transitions Forum: Information and Choices for Teens with Special Needs and their Families (Grades 5-12). Wednesday, February 10th from 7-8:30 pm at Shaftesbury High School Gymnasium.
- Recreational Activities Information Evening for Parents of Children with Special Needs K-12 Wednesday, March 9th 7-8:30 pm at Shrine House on 1155 Wilkes Avenue.

Document for parents of Middle Years students: The province of Manitoba on their website have created a resource for parents. The link was shared at the meeting. The link is below:

<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/midyears/parents/index.html>

Provincial Assessments: Grade 7 and 8 students will be participating in provincial assessments in February. The results will be submitted to the province on February 26th. Parents will be receiving reports about their child's results following the submission to the province.

Dates:

February 9-10	Tipi Joe (Grades 5-7)
February 10	Metis Family Fun Event
February 11	We Bake for Change Pizza Lunch Grade 5 Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
February 12	Atelier Jazz to Ecole St. Avila
February 15	Louis Riel Day– No School ☺
February 16	Festival du Voyageur – all students/staff going to Fort Gibraltar
February 22/29/ March 7	Mini Sumo – robotics for Grades 7/8 (Mondays)
February 9, 16 and 23	Mini-Sumo – robotics for Grades 7/8 (Tuesdays)
February 23	Optimist Festival – Gr. 8
February 25	Pizza Lunch
February 26	PD – No School ☺
March 2	Open House for new families Morning Jazz – Jazz Festival
March 3	Atelier Jazz – Jazz Festival
March 5-19	Mr. Monin and Mme Tipping away with students on the Japan Exchange



February Band Newsletter

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Congratulations to the grade 7 band students who participated in the Solo and Ensemble Festival on January 15. The students formed small ensembles of up to six people and prepared one selection to perform for an adjudicator. They later had the opportunity to work with the adjudicator to receive feedback on their playing.
- Congratulations to all of the band students for their participation in the Band-a-Thon. Thank you to all of the parents and family members for their donation of baking and time throughout the weekend, as well as a few former EVA students who helped out in various ways, too. Thank you also to those who were able to pledge money. A total will be published in the next newsletter.
- Congratulations to Jordie Ouellet who successfully auditioned for the U of M Youth Jazz Collective. This ensemble, which is normally for high school students only, rehearses once a week from January until June and focuses on jazz improvisation.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN FEBRUARY/MARCH

Friday, February 12-Atelier Jazz performs at St. Avila

Atelier Jazz will be performing at St. Avila for the incoming grade six students. They will also be asked to say a few words about the highlights of attending EVA.

Friday, February 19-Junior Jazz Begins!

A Junior Jazz Band for all interested grade 7 band students will be offered once a week starting on Friday, February 19 at lunch. There is no audition required and any instrumentation will be accepted. More information to follow.

Tuesday, February 23-Optimist Festival (Grade 8 and Symphonic Bands)

The Grade 8 Concert Band and the Symphonic Bands will be performing at the Optimist Festival at the Convention Centre. Each ensemble will perform two pieces and work with adjudicators following their performances. The Grade 8 band will perform at 9:50 am and Symphonic Band at 11:20 am. Parents are welcome to attend our performances. There is an admission fee of \$2.

Wednesday, March 2-EVA Open House

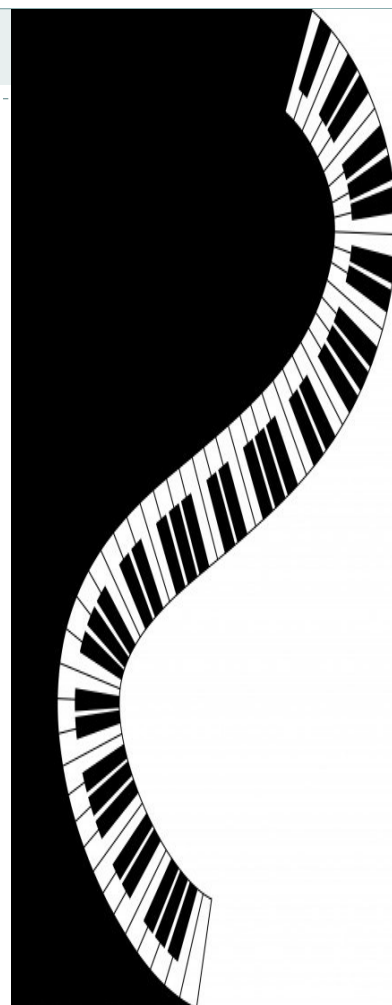
EVA will be hosting its annual open house on March 2 from 6 pm-8 pm. It has become tradition that Morning Jazz and the grade 7 band students perform to allow visiting families a chance to glimpse our band program. Morning Jazz will play in the gym as families enter from about 5:40 pm until 6 pm, while the grade 7s will play around the school in small ensembles from 6:30 pm-8 pm. More details to follow soon.

Wednesday, March 2 and Thursday, March 3-Optimist Jazz (Morning and Atelier Jazz)

Morning and Atelier Jazz will be performing at the Optimist Jazz Festival. Morning Jazz will perform on March 2 at 1 pm and Atelier Jazz will perform on March 3 at 10 am. Parents are welcome to attend our performances. There is an admission fee of \$2.

March 17-18-Brandon Jazz Festival (Morning and Atelier Jazz)

Morning and Atelier Jazz will be performing at the Brandon Jazz Festival March 17-18. Each ensemble will perform, work with professional jazz musicians, attend performances of other school's, and attend a concert featuring the Brandon University Jazz Orchestra.



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SUMMER BAND CAMP OPPORTUNITY

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.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL JUNIOR HONOUR BAND

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 May 5-7. At the end of the three days, the students will perform a concert with the Intermediate Honour Band. This year's conductor is Dauphin High School's Taylor Schmidt. Having student taught with Mr. Schmidt, I can guarantee that this would be an exceptional experience for your students. 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.

Did You Know...

The bassoon is the largest and lowest sounding member of the woodwind family, except when the contrabassoon is asked to play (which plays an octave lower than the bassoon).

FUNDRAISING

Thank you to all students, parents, family members and friends who continue to generously support the band program. A final total of the pledge amounts will be published in the next newsletter.

We have now completed the fundraising for the year! Thank you to all parents, family members, and friends who supported through volunteering, donating, and/or purchasing!



BAND PARENT COMMITTEE

Thank you to all parents and guardians for continuing to support our exciting program. The next Band Parent Committee Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, April 12 at 7 pm**. The focus of the meeting will be to plan the details of Bowl with the Band, the Spring Concert, and the Jazz Cabaret. Baked goods will be served!



“Without music, life would be a mistake.”

-Nietzsche, philosopher

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 12	Atelier Jazz performs at St. Avila
February 19	Junior Jazz begins
February 19	Live at Massey Hall
February 23	Optimist Band Festival - Grade 8 Band 9:50 am - Symphonic Band 11:20 am
March 2	EVA Open House-Morning Jaz and Grade 7 Band perform
March 2	Optimist Jazz Festival –Morning Jazz at 1 pm
March 3	Optimist Jazz Festival-Atelier Jazz at 10 am
March 7	Provincial Junior Honour Band Audition Deadline
March 11	Live at Massey Hall
March 17-18	Brandon Jazz Festival
April 8	Live at Massey Hall
April 12-15	Level One Festival (Grade 7 Band Only-Date TBA)
May 5-7	Provincial Junior Honour Band
May 6	Live at Massey Hall
May 18	Spring Band Concert
May 20	Live at Massey Hall
May 30-June 3	2016-2017 Jazz Band Auditions
June 3	Live at Massey Hall
June 9	Jazz Cabaret
Thursday, June 16	Jazz Community Tour (Morning and Atelier Jazz Only)

Questions? Concerns?
Please contact Mme. Nowostawski

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BRACE YOURSELVES



MUSIC IS COMING