

**Present:**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Email</b>
Co-Chair	Neil Arnason	Elizabeth McDiarmid	<a href="mailto:neilarnason@hotmail.com">neilarnason@hotmail.com</a>
Co-Chair	Kris Widla	Julian Widla	<a href="mailto:kwidla@hotmail.com">kwidla@hotmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Chris Lepa	Jenna Lepa	<a href="mailto:lepas@mymts.net">lepas@mymts.net</a>
Secretary	Brandy Pantel	Bryce, Julia Pantel	<a href="mailto:brandypantel@yahoo.com">brandypantel@yahoo.com</a>
Member at large	Barbara Cahoon	Alex, Brendan, Myles McTavish	cahoonbl@hotmail.com
Member at large	Tanya Weslak	Trinity, Darius Weslak	Tanya.Weslak@shaw.ca
Member at large	Aleksander Stanosevic	Ilija Stanosevic	adobricstanosevic@gmail.com
Principal	Shannon Tipping		<a href="mailto:stipping@pembinatrails.ca">stipping@pembinatrails.ca</a>
Vice-Principal	Chantel Proulx		<a href="mailto:cproulx@pembinatrails.ca">cproulx@pembinatrails.ca</a>
<b>Guest:</b>	Torrie ?		(teacher)
<b>Regrets:</b>			
Teacher rep.	Vanessa Nowostawski		<a href="mailto:vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca">vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca</a>

1. Introduction

- a. Motion to adjust and adopt revised agenda:
  - Old Business
    - a. Vote on providing water polo team money for wind up
    - b. Report on the \$375 grant from PTSD

**moved - Kris; seconded - Chris; all in favor**
- b. Approval of minutes –Motion to adopt minutes: **moved** – Tanya;  
**seconded** - Kris; **all in favor**
- c. Shannon introduced Torrie who is sitting in as part of the teacher leadership program.

2. Old Business

- a. Vote – **all in favour** to provide up to \$200 to the Water Polo Team as discussed and moved at the last meeting
- b. Neil will apply to the PTSD for the \$375 grant

3. Regular Reports

- a. Good News Sharing
  - Chris reported that we have officially paid all debts to date; therefore, all of the money in the account is ours
  - Holiday concerts were well done

- Water Polo Team was featured in the Winnipeg Free Press – attached
  - Robotics workshops for grades 5 and 6 started today – 22 children on Monday and 18 on Tuesday; March 19, 2016 – an extra-curricular competition will be held for students to practice using their robots
- b. Chair's Report
- Objectives for the next period:
    - i. Memorializing the school ground volunteers
    - ii. Fundraising – bricks in time for the May 30 celebration
    - iii. Need volunteers to take over the roles on the Board as there are several volunteers graduating with their children from the school – milk, pizza, co-chair
      1. Barb is willing to process orders but is not able to be at the school on milk/pizza days
      2. Might work for lunch supervisor to take care of milk delivery but will not work for pizza day
- c. Principal's Report
- See attached report
  - Received provincial grant of about \$3,900 for the Bike Shop – to fund new tools/equipment in the bike shop
  - With winter here it is important to be aware when Environment Canada has issued a cold warning – buses cancelled if -45 at the Forks in the morning – if cancelled in the morning they are cancelled all day
- d. Treasurer's Report – see attached balance sheets  
November 10 – January 11
- Parent Council account 0 income; \$3,162.63 expenses; balance of \$6,927.27
  - Milk account – \$143.75 income; \$2,153.31 expenses; \$9,065.65 balance
  - School grounds transformation – \$8,324.97 income; \$3,582.18 expenses; \$6,388.31 balance – Community Places are going to credit us \$3,518; Manitoba Infrastructure is going to credit us \$2,000; expect to be in the black \$6,388
- e. School Grounds Transformation
- Looking at a work party to do a trash pick-up and spruce up the grounds prior to May 30, 2016 celebration

- f. Band Report
    - Looking for parents to join the parent band committee – down to 3 parents right now – grade 7 and 8 parents
    - See Band Report
    - Honor Band – Parents please encourage your children to try out for the Honor Band if they are interested
  
  - g. Lunch Program
    - Kijiji ad – 4 people responded; doing interviews; only 1 of the 4 lives in the south end of the city
    - Parents appreciate the email regarding board games and centres for indoor recess
  
  - h. Pizza Program
    - Last year started the last week of January – 10 pizza dates
    - This year every 2nd Thursday starting January 28 (a break over Spring Break)
    - Will send out an order form
    - Room 17 will be available for most of the dates – Shannon will confirm
  
  - i. Milk Program
    - Nothing to report
4. New Business
- a. Report on Breakfast Program Initiative
    - Church ladies are providing all of the muffins; funded through grants for menu – fruit cups, cereal, juice boxes, bagels, fresh cereal; etc.; could use help serving and baking; donation of napkins and cups; Shannon and Chantelle are getting their Safe Food Handlers Certificates on Saturday and two other staff are going for training with the church ladies
    - PAC could help in many ways – call out for volunteers; list of needed donations; funding for sustainable items
    - Letter to Sobeys and Walmart for donations for Breakfast Club – will consider writing a letter to these organizations
  
  - b. Open House presenter
    - March 2, 2016 – last several years Mme Mercer and her class have made cookie wheels to be served at the door with fruit and juice at the welcome table – put out a call to parents for additional cookies; budget \$200

- Neil **moved** to make \$200 available for the Open House refreshment; Kris **seconded; all in favour**
- 6-8 pm with the first ½ hour presentations and then a gum ball activity around the school; Barb will talk about PAC

c. Family Fun Evening

- February 10, 2016 – had discussed having a call out to parents to help with stew and bannock – this year is going to be catered; will consider volunteers next year

Motion to adjourn – Tanya; all in favour!

**ACTION ITEMS**

*New*

- Neil will request \$375 grant from PTSD
- Neil and Chris L. will brainstorm about ways to memorialize the grounds transformation committee members
- Barb will talk about PAC at the Open House

*Carried Forward*

- PAC will look at reviving School Ground Transformation committee to address the weeds for May 30 celebration
- Fundraising - bricks



# ÉCOLE VISCOUNT ALEXANDER

AMBASSADEURS DU FUTUR ...

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## PRINCIPAL'S SCHOOL REPORT MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016

### Happy New Year and Welcome Back for 2016!

#### School Information:

**December Concert:** Thank you to all the parents and community members that attended the concert in December. This was a new format having the Grades 5-6 classes starting the evening with the steel drums and choir selections. Then following the intermission, the Grades 7-8 shared their musical talents in band and jazz. We are looking for parent feedback of the format to assist us with future concert organization.

**Basketball Season starting:** Basketball season has started. Thank you to the parents and staff who have volunteered their time to coach the various basketball teams. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Mr. Spiers as he is always looking for more people to be involved.

**Theme of Generosity:** All classes were involved with community service projects in the month of December as part of our generosity theme. Classes were involved with organizing hampers, collecting coats and assisting with seniors in the community. Thank you to community members that assisted with these initiatives.

**School Spirit Week:** Classes, along with Mme Nowostawski, organized a school spirit week prior to the holidays. Students had fun with pajama day, twin day, sports day, profession day and formal day. Mme Nowostawski and Mr. Wehrle organized activities during the lunch hour during this week. As part of spirit week, students also sold candy canes so that they could send a message to friends and a candy cane. Santa made sure that all students received a candy cane. After costs were covered, remaining money was sent to Siloam Mission.

**Book Fair:** We were able to raise approximately \$800.00 for library books this year from the book fair proceeds.

**Mad Science/Robotics Workshops:** Grades 5/6 students completed their eight week session of Mad Science in December. Today and tomorrow will be the start of our Grade 5/6 robotic workshops with Mr. Herb Reynolds from Manitoba Robot Games. The school is financing the costs of the workshops for the students. Each student pays for the robot kit that they will be able to build, decorate and take home. For those interested, they can participate in the Manitoba Robot Games in March. Grades 7 and 8 students will have a presentation on Thursday this week for the creation of a Mini-Sumo robot. Those interested in participating in the workshops, they will be organized for the month of February and March.

**Breakfast Club:** We will be starting to offer a breakfast club for students who would like to eat a small breakfast snack before classes. Thank you to our community churches and Mr. Neil Arnason who attended organizational meetings regarding this new initiative. Mme Proulx and Mme Tipping have been submitting grants to assist with the costs. The program will start tomorrow with one grade at a time to identify how the program will be used. Our hope is that eventually we will be able to offer it to all grades at the same time in the morning from approximately 8:10-8:30 a.m. Our resource teachers, counsellor, administration, an EA and church volunteers are to assist with the program. If parents would like to assist, please contact Mme Tipping or Mme Proulx.

**Open House** – March 2 we will be having an evening Open House for all future students from École Crane and École Bonnycastle in Grade 4, École St. Avila in Grade 6 and any other new students in the community who would

like to visit the school and hear about our programs. Would a representative from the SGTC or ACSL be willing to say a few words?

**Band-a-thon:** January 22 and 23 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.

**Tipi Joe:** Joe Lancelo worked with our Grade 8 art students at camp in October. Through divisional grants, we have been able to invite Mr. Lancelo back to work with our Grades 5-7 classes. He will meet with each class to complete soapstone carvings as well as teaching about the aboriginal culture as part of our social studies curriculum.

**Metis Family Fun Evening:** To help kick off the Festival du Voyageur activities, École Viscount Alexander, along with École Crane will be organizing a family fun evening on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. During the evening we will be having a French band, Ça claque!, performing, along with activities organized from the Louis Riel Institute. There will also be food available for a minimal cost (approximately \$10) from the caterer that provided our student festival lunch last year. More information will be sent home in the near future.

**Festival du Voyageur:** February 16<sup>th</sup> will be our Festival du Voyageur day where students will be participating in various activities. Our entire school will be attending the Festival at Fort Gibraltar. The costs will be \$10 per student which is only part of the cost, thanks to the cost sharing with the school and the parent council. Information will be sent home in the near future for this event through Permission Click.

**Ski Trip:** Information has been sent home for the ski trip and 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 will soon start their lunch hour meetings to review expectations and safety procedures. Currently there is some discussion around the numbers attending and whether or not it will proceed.

**End of Year Life Days:** Our planning for the last week of June continues. 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 24<sup>th</sup> all students will be attending Fun Mountain.

**Calendar:**

Jan.11/12; 18/19; 25/26	Grades 5/6 robotic workshops in Room 14 4h00 – 6h00 pm
January 15	Gr 7 Solo & Ensemble Festival
January 20	We are silent / On est silencieux
January 21	MTYP Harriet Tubman
January 22/23	Band-a-thon
January 29	Grade 8 – Human Rights Museum
February 3-4	Voyage de ski 7/8
February 5	PD Day – No Classes ☺
February 9-10	Tipi Joe (Grades 5-7)
February 15	Louis Riel Day – No classes ☺
February 22/29/ March 7	Mini Sumo – robotics for Grades 7/8
February 16	Festival du Voyageur field trip
February 23	Optimist Festival – Gr. 8
February 26	PD – No Classes ☺
March 2	Open House for new families
March 2 & 3	Optimist Jazz Festival
March 5-19	Mr. Monin and Mme Tipping away with students on the Japan Exchange trip
March 11	Report cards go home
March 17 & 18	Brandon Jazz Festival
March 18	Admin Day – No Classes ☺
March 28-April 1	Spring Break ☺



# December/January Band Newsletter

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- Symphonic Band participated in a clinic with Greg McLean from Saskatchewan.
- Atelier Jazz performed with the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra.
- Cassidy McNeill, Claire Olfert, Joseph Nardella, Owen Brandt, Darrius Weslak, Sarah Bell, Aidan Holm, Riya Bhinder, and Quinn Lucas participated in the PTSD Middle Honour Band November 18-19.
- Jordie Ouellet, Alex Stewart, and Kristina Simone attended a trumpet workshop with Karen Donnelly from the National Arts Orchestra
- Sarah Bell and Aidan Holm participated in Holiday Horns, a workshop at the U of M where they worked with WSO horn player, James Robertson.
- Milan Lukes participated in Double Reed Day at the U of M and worked with WSO oboist, Robin McMillan.
- Quinn Lucas, Taryn Sampson, and Charlotte Gill participated in Low Brass Christmas where they worked with WSO trombone player, Steve Dyer.
- Riya Bhinder, Conor Anderson, Maggy McGunigal, and Naisha Pichon participated in the Holiday Tuba Festival at the Concert Hall.
- And, of course, thank you to all students for their outstanding participation in the Winter concert. Thank you once more for your ongoing support of our students and music education.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY

### Friday, January 15

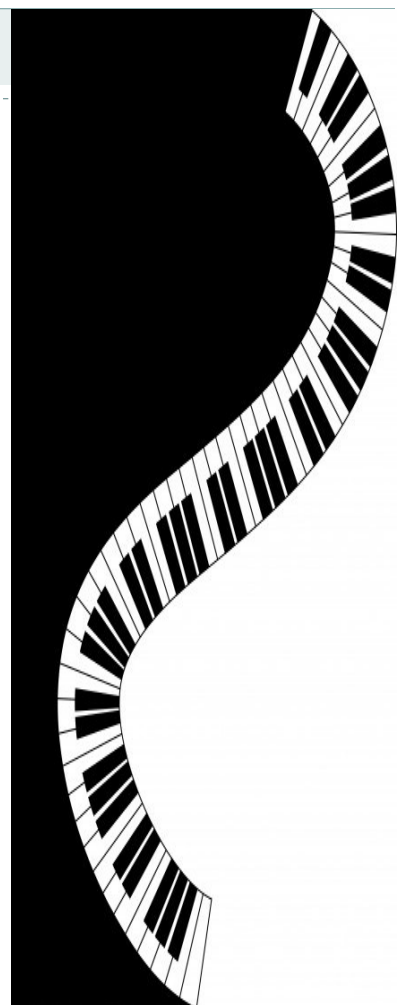
All the best the grade 7 students who will be performing in small ensembles at the Solo and Ensemble Festival which will take place at the North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church (Springfield and Gateway). Parents are welcome to attend the performances. For the schedule, please visit [www.mbband.org](http://www.mbband.org) and click on "Solo and Ensemble Festival".

### Friday, January 22-Saturday, January 23

All band students are invited to participate in the Band-a-Thon Sleepover January 22-23. Students will work with professionals on their instruments as well as with two guest conductors. An information package as well as the pledge sheets were handed out today. All pledge sheets must be returned regardless of whether students raise money or not. Funds collected will go toward supplying students with scholarships for summer band camp, buses for field trips, and clinicians. We are also looking for parent volunteers to help out with different parts of the weekend. A sign-up sheet will be available later this week.

### 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.



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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](http://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](http://www.mbband.org) and talk to Mme. Nowostawski for more information.

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### *Did You Know...*

*The oldest brass instruments are found preserved in bogs all over Scandinavia and date back to c 500 BCE.*

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## FUNDRAISING

Thank you to all students, parents, family members and friends who continue to generously support the band program. The following is a break-down of the profits made at the Winter Concert:

- **Silent Auction:** \$946.00
- **Bake Sale:** \$441.75
- **Silver Collection:** \$232.35

Thank you to all parents, family members, and friends who supported through volunteering, donating, and/or purchasing!



# BAND PARENT COMMITTEE MEETING

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, January 12 at 7 pm**. The focus of the meeting will be to plan the details of the Band-a-Thon. Baked goods will be served!



Low Brass Christmas!



Holiday Horns!



Double Reed Day!

“One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture, and, if it were possible, to speak a few reasonable words.”

-Goethe, poet

## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 8	Live at Massey Hall
January 15	Solo and Ensemble Festival (Grade 7 Band)
January 22-23	Band-a-Thon Sleepover
February 19	Live at Massey Hall
February 23	Optimist Band Festival - Grade 8 Band 9:50 am - Symphonic Band 11:20 am
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

Phone:  
204-452-8945 ext. 5743

E-mail: [vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca](mailto:vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca)

# SIMILARITIES BETWEEN JEDI AND MUSIC CONDUCTORS

	JEDI	MUSIC CONDUCTORS
THEY CAN MAKE THINGS HAPPEN BY WAVING THEIR HANDS.	✓	✓
THEY WAVE AROUND SOME SORT OF STICK.	✓	✓
THEY NEED YEARS OF TRAINING TO BE GOOD AT WHAT THEY DO.	✓	✓
THEY HAVE MENTORS.	✓	✓
RESPECTED SENIOR MEMBERS IN THEIR PROFESSION ARE REFERRED TO AS MASTER (MAESTRO).	✓	✓
THEIR WORK IS DONE FOR THE GOOD OF THE WHOLE.	✓	✓
THEY HANG OUT WITH STRANGE PEOPLE.	✓	✓



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