

As adopted at meeting of November 9 (no change from draft minutes)

Present

Position	Name	Children	Email
Co-Chair	Neil Arnason	Elizabeth McDiarmid	neilarnason@hotmail.com
Co-Chair	Kris Widla	Julian Widla	kwidla@hotmail.com
Secretary	Brandy Pantel	Bryce, Julia Pantel	brandypantel@yahoo.com
Member at large	Barbara Cahoon	Alex, Brendan, Myles McTavish	cahoonbl@hotmail.com
Member at large	Aleksander Stanosevic	Ilija Stanosevic	adobricstanosevic@gmail.com
Member at large	Tanya Weslak	Trinnity, Darrius Weslak	Tanya.Weslak@shaw.ca
Principal	Shannon Tipping		stipping@pembinatrails.ca
Vice-Principal	Chantel Proulx		cproulx@pembinatrails.ca
Regrets:			
Treasurer	Chris Lepa	Jenna Lepa	lepas@mymts.net
Teacher	Vanessa Nowostawski		vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca

1. Introduction
 - a. Motion to adopt agenda: **moved** - Tanya; **seconded** - Barb; **all in favor**
 - b. Approval of minutes – Neil to add in financial information to minutes on the web; Motion to adopt minutes: **moved** – Barb; **seconded** - Tanya; **all in favor**
2. Matters arising (Old business)
 - a. CPF MB chapter
 - decided to send Kris Widla to CPF meeting – wait to see if he went
 - we were too late registering to attend for meals, etc.
 - b. Farm2School fundraiser
 - Vanessa is the signatory for the F2S fundraiser
 - Information went out in October newsletter
 - Orders due in October 27
 - Pick up November 5
 - Neil will unload the truck with help; room 1 not available; will use either multipurpose room or room 17
3. Regular Reports
 - a. Good news sharing
 - Water polo club started – Mme Pepler coaching
 - Boys volleyball team Diggers won a gold medal on Friday
 - b. Chair’s Report
 - No feedback provided by PAC on PTSD/school budget this year.

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- Wednesday October 28 – Council of Presidents – Neil will be attending; will invite Kris Widla to attend as well; others welcome
- c. Principal's Report
 - Mosaic windows complete
 - Please see Principal's Report
- d. Treasurer's Report
 - Reported by Neil on behalf of Chris L.
 - Updated books attached
 - Milk account closing \$12,312
 - PAC account including pizza \$9,203
 - Anticipating budgeted surplus to be about \$6,500 with about \$4,500 to support events
 - Annual budget presented at AGM appended to September minutes
- e. School Ground Transformation
 - Bench was ordered today and should arrive in 1-2 weeks
 - Total cost \$3,080
 - Hope to install this fall but will depend on Viking's availability
 - School receiving set of soccer nets (Geoff Brewster helping to procure nets) – will have for the celebration in the spring
 - Letter from Carol Steele – concerned about the “weediness” of the paths and hopes to have this cleaned up; PAC will look at reviving School Ground Transformation committee to address the weeds. Other schools (Crane, St. Avila) have grounds committees, ground improvement work bees, etc.
 - Discussed honoring those who have had significant impact on the improvements of the school grounds to date with engraving on the bench – too many letters to honor all so have chosen a saying (approved by table members)
 - Eden Memorials does fundraising bricks - \$25 gets you 30 letters on a brick; can use to line a tree surround, etc.; are interlocking which is great if renovations are required; suggesting fundraiser for spring – council will consider purchasing bricks to honor those who have had significant impact on the improvements of the school grounds
- f. Band report - Tanya reported on behalf of Vanessa
 - Please see Band Report
- g. Lunch Program
 - Aleksandra is a lunch supervisor; no personal concerns
 - A few challenges with lunch program and milk program – getting them worked out

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- Three new lunch supervisors hired since last meeting (word of mouth, parent, Kijiji); still looking for more as we are at the minimum; can put on Kijiji if need be
- h. Pizza Program
 - First pizza day; easier to do this in room 17; orders are up 10% for the 2nd year in a row; about \$4100 over 5 pizza days; Neil has enough help but will need a new person in the New Year to take over the task to ensure overlap
- i. Milk Program
 - Stable compared to last year (~\$15,000 last year; so far ~\$12,000 and doesn't include post-dated cheques)
 - Samantha Conlin is Milk Program Coordinator
- 4. New Business
 - a. Funding Proposal: Festival du Voyageur
 - Mme Marriot (Guidance Counsellor) and Mme Boock
 - February 16, 2016 – one of the French days at Festival
 - Cost per child: \$6 registration; \$4 lunch time concert; \$14 activities and bus; school will contribute; parents will cover some cost; asking PAC to contribute \$1,600 to help with the cost of registration and to keep the cost for families to \$14
 - TOTAL COST for the school: \$6,576; no cancellations; cheque is due middle of November
 - Motion to cover the cost of \$1600 for the kids to attend Festival: **moved** - Kris; **seconded** - Barb; **all in favour**
 - Other activities will still happen; if pancake breakfast is going to happen PAC needs some lead time; RESPECT committee may have a roll in the pancake breakfast/station; staff might help – send out invitation to staff
 - b. Invite RESPECT committee to come to a future meeting (November 9, 2015) to present model and activities; include some of the kids who are participating
- 5. Motion to adjourn meeting – **moved** - Tanya; **seconded** - Chris; **all in favor**

ACTION ITEMS

- Neil to add in financial information to September 14, 2015 minutes on the web
- Neil to coordinate the unloading of Farm2School produce; would like at least one other helper
- Council of Presidents on Wednesday October 28 – Neil will attend and invite Kris Widla to attend as well
- PAC will look at reviving School Ground Transformation committee to address the weeds
- PAC to provide cheque to cover \$1600 towards the cost of Festival
- Invite staff to help with pancake breakfast during Festival week
- Invite RESPECT committee to come to November 9 meeting



ÉCOLE VISCOUNT ALEXANDER

AMBASSADEURS DU FUTUR ...

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PRINCIPAL'S SCHOOL REPORT PARENT ADVISORY MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Meet the Teacher evening: We had a very successful open house on September 17. Thank you to all the parents and community members that attended. We had a lot of positive comments about this event.

Terry Fox Run: Our annual Terry Fox Run was held on Friday, October 25. It was a beautiful day for the run. Mme Quigley put together a video of the event that we shared at our last assembly.

Photo Day: Our photo day was held on September 28. Retakes will take place on November 3. We are continuing with our yearbook initiative that we started last year. If anyone has any suggestions, please let us know as this was something new last year.

Lunch/ Milk Program: Thank you to Ms. Conlin and Mr. Arnason who have been assisting with the milk program this past month. Thank you to Mrs. Caci for all her hard work in organizing the lunch program, as well as informing and organizing the milk distribution.

School Plan Priorities:

- School Culture
- Engagement in Learning – Using French, Academic Engagement, Social Engagement, Institutional Engagement
- Literacy
- Numeracy

School Budget:

Our school budget is determined according to our student enrolment figures as of September 30. We have not yet received our final budget; however our official enrolment was 273 students as of September 30. We will share the budget outline at the November meeting.

Mad Science: Students in Grades 5 and 6 had a presentation from the Mad Science organization in September. Students that were interested in participating in an extra-curricular club in the area of science. This initiative started today and will run on Mondays after school until December.

Grade 8 Camp: Grade 8 band and art students will be participating in the Camp on October 21/22. Mme Nowostawski and Mme Dombek have already sent out information on this day. Band students will be participating in band clinics while the art students will be doing art activities during this time. All group activities will be together.

Grade 5 Viking Days: Both Grade 5 classes will be participating in becoming Vikings on October 22 as part of their Social Studies program.

World Space Week: A new initiative for this year was our school partnering with the Canadian Space Society to organize an event for space week. Two presenters, Dr Witold Kinsner and Mr Khal Shariff, presented various activities for students. Afterwards a space themed film was shown. Parent and students that attended were asked for their feedback and this was shared with the Canadian Space Society.

Robotic Workshops: Mr. Herb Reynolds will be facilitating robot workshops in the month of January for students in grades 5/6 on Monday evenings starting on January 8. More information will be sent home in December. Grades 7/8 students will have the same opportunity in February. For any students that build robots and want to have some extra-curricular involvement, there will be the Manitoba Robot Games in March. The cost for the facilitator will be covered by the school (\$85/workshop – 7 in total) but students will need to buy the robot kit that they will be able to keep. The workshops will be for the first 20 students that are interested.

Art Smarts: We received a grant from the Manitoba Arts Council this year for our Grades 5/6 students to create murals integrating art and science outcomes. Ms. Karen Cornelius and Mr. Gordon Campbell will be working with our four classes during the weeks of October 26 – November 6. The murals will be installed outside the art room.

Water Polo: We now have an Ecole Viscount Alexander water polo team. Mme Pepler has had approximately 20 students that have participated in practices and games. We very proud to offer this sport in addition to other sports for our students.

Cross Country: Grades 5-8 students have been attending divisional cross country meets in September/October. During the Run at the Ridge, our grade 6 students won both for girls and boys. Trophies are displayed in office window.

Permission Click: There was information sent home regarding an electronic permission form program that we will be starting to use as a school. This allows parents to provide permission on-line as well as give them the option of on-line payments. Parent and/or student information is not shared in anyway; however, a link will be sent to parents in order to provide permission, information, etc. regarding field trips and fundraising information. This is something parents may want to consider for lunch fees, milk fees, and pizza orders in the future.

Conferences: Thank you to all parents that attended the tri-conferences. As October is important to provide some feedback to parents regarding transition, work habits, etc. we ensured that there was at least one spot per family during the conferences. Grade 7 families had the option of starting prior to the end of class in order to have enough spaces for each family.

Visit from Mr. Carvey: Grade 8 students will have a visit from Mr. Tony Carvey, Principal of Vincent Massey Collegiate, during their “Habiletés de Vie” class time on October 26, 27 and 29 to talk about the importance of work completion, being organized, developing responsibility in preparation for high school.

Tutoring: Mme Wieringa has been working with several of our students who have shown an interest in being tutors for other students in our school. They attended a tutoring preparation session at Vincent Massey as we will be working alongside the Vincent Massey tutorial program.

School Spirit Week: We will be having a school spirit week, organized by our student leadership team, the week of October 26-30. Information is included on our school website calendar outlining the various thematic dress up days.

DIVISIONAL INFORMATION

Budget Consultation: All staff (Teachers, EAs, Secretaries, Custodial staff) have been asked to provide feedback on the divisional budget consultation process for the 2016/2017 school year.

Strong Beginnings: Thank you to parents for assisting with their children attending their scheduled appointments during our Strong Beginnings days in September. This year we had staff working in groups of two with reading assessments, as well as developing student goals, mathematical abilities and working with specialists at each grade level. All teachers, resource and specialists were involved in this process. We have been investigating the possibility of using an on-line appointment scheduler both last year and this year to create the appointments to allow parents to choose a time that is convenient for families. We have discussed this with Mr. Riffel, Assistant Superintendent – Program, who will assist us with this initiative. Any thoughts from parents?

First Term Events:

Mad Science

Grade 8 Camp/Art Days

PD Day -SAGE

Visit of T. Carvey for Gr.8

Picture Retakes

Artist in School

Truth and Reconciliation

Remembrance Day Assembly

Remembrance Day

We Day

Admin/PD Day

Winter Concert

Reports Cards Home

Last Day Classes

Winter Break

First Day Back

Mondays starting October 19

October 21/22

October 23 – no classes

October 26, 27, 29

November 3

October 26-November 6– working with Grades 5/6

November 4

November 10 at 10:30 am

November 11 – no classes

November 16

November 23

December 10

December 16

December 20

December 21 – January 2

January 4

Proposal suggestions:

Suggestions	Cost	How will be used and for what grades
Mathletics	\$3615.84	Presentation by Mme Jarvie last year For all students Grades 5-8
Bussing – Fun Mountain/Life Days	\$1400 (approximately waiting for total cost)	For all students grades 5-8 that attend
Ipad cart		Ipads are used for all students. The cart is an easy way to update them, store them and transport them to classes
Festival du Voyageur	Cost will be shared Parent Council approx.. \$1600	All students Grades 5-8 that attend Mme Boock will be doing a formal proposal presentation later this evening
Additional benches for the playground		Suggested by Mme Pepler – possibly doing a mosaic bench



October Band Newsletter

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- Lisa Préfontaine, a professional flute player, came to EVA to provide a free clinic for our grade 8 flute players.
- Oboe specialist, Bronwen Garand, came out to work with our oboe players in grade 7 and 8.
- A few of our students have already worked with students from Vincent Massey in sectionals including the grade 8 trumpets, the grade 8 alto saxophones, and our jazz drummers.
- Thank you to those who sold Show and Save books. The fundraiser was once again a huge success. We sold a total of 800 books between the grades 6-8 students. \$2100.00 was made by the grade 6 students to support their Exploratory Band program in the spring and \$5900.00 was raised by the grade 7 and 8 band students for the band program and their own personal accounts.
- We are so grateful to have M. Ryan Wehrle as our Creative Arts EA this year. He will be working in the music and band classes to support our students.

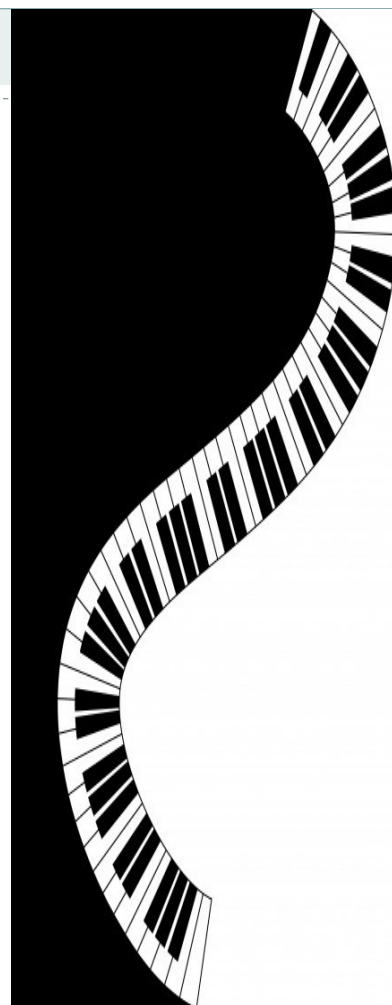
UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER

October 21-October 22-Grade 8 Band Camp

All the best to the grade 8 band students who will attend a two-day retreat at Camp Assiniboia. They will work in sectional with professionals on their instrument as well as Mr. Matt Abraham, one of the band teachers from Vincent Massey.

October 24-Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra Fall Big Band Workshop

Morning and Atelier Jazz will attend the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra's Fall Big Band Workshop where they will attend sessions with professional jazz musicians to improve their current skills. They will work in sectional, full band, and improvisation sessions, as well as attend a clinic./recital led by New York trombonist, Vincent Gardiner. Students will also receive a free ticket to attend that evening's WJO concert at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.



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PTSD MIDDLE YEARS HONOUR BAND

Congratulations to Cassidy McNeil, Claire Olfert, Joseph Nardella, Owen Brandt, Darrius Weslak, Aidan Holm, Sarah Bell, and Quinn Lucas who were selected to participate in the PTSD Middle Years Honour Band. Together with approximately 70 other grade 8 students from across the division, they will rehearse in sectional and with guest conductor for two intensive days. Following these two days, they will perform a concert. This year's conductor is Greg McLean from Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Congratulations to these students and all the best through the rehearsals and concert!



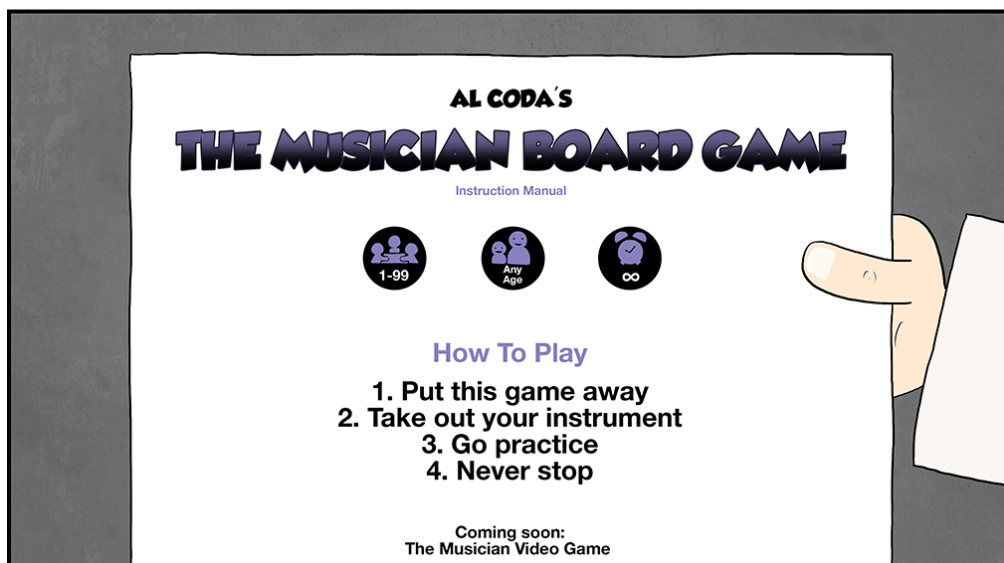
Did You Know...

Gustave Besson built a subcontrabass tuba that was 3 metres (over 9 feet) tall. It is the largest tuba in the world. Three people are required to play it: two to hold and one to hold.

HOME PRACTICE

I have recently been asked a lot from parents about the expectation of students' practicing. In order for students to progress at a steady rate, it is important that they practice on a regular basis. In band, students will not receive a lot of written homework as their main homework is to practice their instrument. The expectation is that students practice three times a week for a minimum of 20 minutes. What is important when practicing is not how long that they are necessarily practicing, but how they are doing so. Each student has been given a set of goal sheets that they are to use to fill out to assist them with ensuring they are making best use of their practice time.

Should you have any questions about your child's practicing, please feel free to contact me.





“The music is not in the notes, but in the silence between.”

- Mozart



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 21-22	Camp Assiniboia (Grade 8 Band)
October 24	Fall Big Band Workshop (Atelier and Morning Jazz)
November 15	Atelier Jazz performs with the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra
November 18-19	PTSD Divisional Middle Years Honour Band (Select Grade 8 Students only)
December 10	Winter Band Concert
December 13	Holiday Tuba Festival (Tuba and Euphonium Players)
January 16	Solo and Ensemble Festival (Grade 7 Band)
January 22-23	Band-a-Thon Sleepover
February 23-26	Optimist Band Festival (Grade 8 Band Only-Date TBA)
March 3-4	Optimist Jazz Festival (Morning and Atelier Jazz Only-Date TBA)
March 7	Provincial Junior Honour Band Audition Deadline
March 17-18	Brandon Jazz Festival
April 12-15	Level One Festival (Grade 7 Band Only-Date TBA)
May 5-7	Provincial Junior Honour Band
May 18	Spring Band Concert
May 30-June 3	2016-2017 Jazz Band Auditions
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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