

## École Viscount Alexander –Parent Council Meeting

Monday, September 14, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes –Prepared by Barbara Cahoon

As adopted: ACSL meeting of October 19, 2015

### In Attendance:

Co-Chair -Neil Arnason – Elizabeth McDiarmid -[neilarnason@hotmail.com](mailto:neilarnason@hotmail.com)

Co-Chair -Kris Widla – Julian Widla – [kwidla@hotmail.com](mailto:kwidla@hotmail.com)

Treasurer-Chris Lepa – Jenna Lepa – [lepas@mymts.net](mailto:lepas@mymts.net)

Member at Large -Barbara Cahoon- Alex, Brendan and Myles McTavish – [cahoonbl@hotmail.com](mailto:cahoonbl@hotmail.com)

Member at Large-Tanya Weslak – Trinnity and Darrius – [Tanya.Weslak@shaw.ca](mailto:Tanya.Weslak@shaw.ca)

Principal -Shannon Tipping – All 273- [stipping@pembinatrails.ca](mailto:stipping@pembinatrails.ca)

Vice-Principal-Chantal Proulx – [cproulx@pembinatrails.ca](mailto:cproulx@pembinatrails.ca)

Teacher- Vanessa Nowostawski – [vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca](mailto:vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca)

Michael Erkau – Charlotte Erkau – [merkau@yahoo.com](mailto:merkau@yahoo.com)

Aleksander P. Stanosevic –Ilija – [adobricstanosevic@gmail.com](mailto:adobricstanosevic@gmail.com)

Brandy Pantel- Bryce and Julia - [brandypantel@yahoo.com](mailto:brandypantel@yahoo.com)

### 1. Introductions

- a. Introduction and Welcome- Neil Arnason – Co-Chair
- b. **Motion** to Adopt Agenda – Moved - Kris W., Seconded –Tanya W., All in Favour
- c. Approval of Minutes from June 15, 2015
  - Special Presentation -Engineering Traffic Study Presentation – Ideas Safety in the Neighbourhood
  - All Reports Given
  - No Separate SGTC group -Still a separate budget- Chris L. will report
  - Milk Program – Samantha Conlin will be taking over this program
- d. **Motion** to Adopt Minutes – Moved Tanya W., Second Kris W., All in Favour

### 2. Matters Arising (Old Business)

- a. Barb C. is filling in temporarily for Secretary – Secretary position is open
- b. Members at Large – Barb C. and Tanya W., 2 more Members at Large are needed to act as Table Officers
- c. **Motion** for Brandy P. for Secretary and Aleksander S. for Member at Large- Moved – Neil A., Kris W. seconded, All in Favour

### 3. Regular Reports

#### a. Good News Sharing

- Barb C. thanked Vanessa N. for the welcome postcards she sent out the last week of summer.

#### b. Chair's Report – Neil A.

- Neil attended Award Ceremony at EVA in June on behalf of Parent Council– Citizenship and Academic Excellence Award handed out to Charlotte G.
- Lunch guidelines revised to incorporate the motion made in June regarding 12 year olds not requiring lunch supervision – EVA didn't have a rule that participation in the lunch program is mandatory – rule has been implemented- Guidelines for lunch program have been amended by Shannon T. and Anita C.
- We belong to Canadian Parents for French – National Organization with MB chapter – signed up for 3 years– website, news bulletins national and provincial – Neil has fall brochure – they have a number of programs including music workshop in French, sponsor the Art Oratoire speaker contest, sponsor exchange program for High School students  
-Neil would like to see more support for Milieu French as opposed to Dual Track  
-MB chapter Meeting of CPF is Oct. 3 – Neil A. **moved** we nominate Kris W. to attend as our delegate. Chris L seconded. Passed  
-From what Kris W. understands there have not been studies that show a big difference between Dual Track and Milieu French  
-Canadian Parents for French do presentations to parents if we are interested in having them come to present at one of our meetings
- Question – Aleksandra S.– Is there a French Cultural Institute?– Yes, Alliance Française- are we connected to them? For French films? Shannon T. talked about DREF and French library being able to provide French films for educational purposes. Kris W.– other organization that supports French culture is the Franco-Manitoban Cultural Centre –Neil A. suggested we should check out Alliance Française to see if they have French movies, clubs, etc. for kids. - they have French classes for adults as well
- Normally, in the fall, things come down from PTSD – Budget Consultation to run budget priorities by Parent Council and School- also have a Survey –have not been shared yet.

- Council of Presidents meeting in Fall that Kris and Neil will probably attend

**c. Principal’s Report – Shannon T. -See Principal’s Report (Appended)**

Additional information

- CAA – wants to do an evaluation of traffic around the School – Going to take speeds- Looking for volunteers to take speeds of cars and make other observations – Wednesday, Sept. 16 – 7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.- Neil A. volunteered
- Question from Barb C. re Criminal Record Check for volunteers - Must it be done through PTSD?– No – But they need a copy of Criminal Record Check
- Shannon T. posed question- What do we want to do fundraising for? Student Accounts? Do people feel there is too much fundraising? Consensus seemed to be No. Perhaps ask Band Council or Student Council? Tanya W.– How much money from Show and Save goes to Band? All money goes to pay for rental of instruments for Grade 6 for Exploratory Band Program
- Kris W. – last year we talked about teachers doing proposals for Parent Council funds- Shannon T.– they will look at this in October

**d. Treasurer’s Report – Chris L. – see Treasurer’s Annual Report (Appended)**

Account Balances:

<i>Account</i>	<i>Treasurer Balance</i>
<i>PAC sub-account</i>	<i>\$4,567.71</i>
<i>Milk sub-account</i>	<i>\$4,784.92</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$9,352.63</i></b>

Additional Information

- There is an uncashed milk cheque for \$966.86 so PAC total balance is around \$8500
- Hold Back \$1000.00 for PAC Account, and \$1000.00 for Milk Program, but rest can be allocated to SGTC and other projects.
- Is there an urgency for Mathletics payment? Shannon T. said by November
- \$375.00 PTSD contribution has been cut this year
- Annual report for 2014-15 is appended

**e. School Ground Transformation –Chris L.-**

SGTC Account Balances:

<i>Account</i>	<i>Treasurer Balance</i>
<i>SGTC</i>	<i>\$16.38</i>
<i>PSTD (In Trust)</i>	<i>\$2935.00</i>
<i>Grant(s) (In Trust)</i>	<i>\$10,434.00</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$13,385.38</i></b>

Additional Information

- Present Balance - \$16.38
- Grant Money for Benches, and Trees, and Pathways – is already allocated
- Costs for 2015-2016 – Viking – Chris L. would like to pay them off
- 8 trees planted (\$5026 owing to Green Drop); New Basketball nets put up in summer (\$29.36 owing)
- Will probably propose to plant 5 more trees in spring (\$3141.25)
- Go ahead with purchase of benches (\$3085.29) and installation – (1200-Viking quote) from Grant money.
- With above outstanding payments and commitments, there will be about \$562 left (of \$13,385.38 total above) for contingencies and maintenance.
- Neil A. and Chris L. will discuss what to get engraved on benches- benches can be put in this fall
- Maintenance on schoolyard - long jump pits need to be re-done – request from PTSD that we keep a balance in case something happens - Kris W. -PTSD might be able to contribute toward fixing the pathways
- Bench with hole needs to be fixed- Chris L. will order new board if possible or order new bench
- Would also like to raise the grade of some of the pathways – to avoid flooding when it rains
- Good news about soccer goals- should have a better idea of this by the end of the month
- Chris L. **moved** that we transfer \$2000.0 into SGTC – Second Kris W. Approved

- Chris L. asked -Did Neil cash \$60.00 Milk cheque? Has not been cashed yet. Neil will check on it.

**f. Band Report – Vanessa N. -See September Band Report, Appended.**

Additional Information

- Taking a break from writing the play with the Grade 5 and 6 students -will be playing steel drums at concert instead
- Grade 5 and 6 concert and grade 7 and 8 concert will be combined– December 10
- Band-A -Thon Sleepover – sectionals and lots of food – full band rehearsals and fund raiser
- Peak of the Market –is Vanessa N. going to be the sign up person?  
– Yes –Vanessa N. is looking at November 5 for delivery date

**g. Lunch Program-Shannon T.**

- Looking to hire 2 or 3 more lunch monitors- Anita C. has some names already

Question re Grade 5 - Aleksander – Do they play an instrument or need any previous knowledge? They play recorder and steel drums. No previous experience. Husband is a musician. Will connect her with Vanessa – perhaps he could do a session at the Band-A-Thon

**h. Pizza Program – Neil A.**

- Every 2 weeks - on Thursday -starting October 15- more volunteers needed to hand out pizza on the days. Is there a spare Room? Room 17 can be used (except Day 1) – Slices will continue to provide pizza– Prices are going up \$0.25 per pizza - we will make \$10.00 less per pizza day -we will absorb the cost. \$2.00 per slice- even though pepperoni is a little more expensive

**i. Milk Program – Neil A.**

- It is on track - start date – Tuesday, September 22- Samantha C. did a lot of work over the summer to prepare for the Milk Program

**4. New Business**

- Meeting Dates – Normally meet the second Monday of every month- Thanksgiving Monday is problematic- October 19 (new date) – November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8 (Cake for Brandy)

March 14, April 11, May 9, and June 13 – Neil will run dates by Roxanne before he puts them on School website

- Fundraising and Special Events – Most of our fundraising comes from Pizza and Milk Program
- Possibility of Speaker from Parents for French – Shannon sometimes invites speakers as well regarding new curriculum or teaching methods- Can have presentation from PTSD as well if there are divisional concerns. Feel free to make suggestions –Any suggestions for presentations?
- Question – Why do students use calculators in Math? – Shannon T.- Some students use them on regular basis because they have a need- some students use them for higher level calculations-teachers do mental math with students, and for this, they do not use calculators. Neil has several scientific calculators donated from the lost and found in the Dept. of Computer Science at UofM that are available to give to students in need of one.
- Presentation on teaching kids about money – Kris W. -Do we want to bring an expert to present to Parent Council and maybe the students? Neil will look into this.

#### **5. Motion to Adjourn – Tanya W. -All in Favour – Meeting Adjourned**

#### **Appendices:**

- A. Treasurer’s annual report**
- B. Principal PAC Report September 2015**
- C. Band Newsletter September 2015**

**2014-2015 PAC ANNUAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 14, 2015****2013-14 PAC Carryover** \$ **2,978.00****REVENUES****Milk Program (2013-14)** \$ **1,823.31****PTSD Contribution** \$ **375.00****Parent Donation** \$ **150.00****Pizza**

Revenue \$ 11,362.00

Expenses \$ 6,530.18

**\$ 4,831.82****Peak of the Market**

Revenue \$ 2,040.00

Expenses \$ 1,005.00

**\$ 1,035.00****Milk**

2013-14 Carryover \$ 1,000.00

Revenue \$ 15,917.00

Expenses \$ 12,975.79

**\$ 3,941.21****Total** \$ **15,134.34****EXPENSES**

Bank expenses \$ 99.00

Parent orientation - Open house(s) \$ 198.88

Staff Appreciation \$ 539.76

CPF membership / MACP \$ 110.00

**Sub-Total** \$ **947.64****Gifts & Donations**

School Ground Transformation \$ 2,000.00

EVA Hardware and Software \$ 1,818.03

Art Donation \$ 500.00

Fun Mountain Bus \$ 1,359.75

**Sub-Total** \$ **5,677.78****Total** \$ **6,625.42****PAC ACCOUNT BALANCE** \$ **8,508.92**

**SCHOOL GROUND TRANSFORMATION**

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<b>SGT ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 16.38</b>	
<b>PTSD (IN TRUST)</b>	<b>\$ 2,935.00</b>	(Benches)
<b>GRANTS (IN TRUST)</b>	<b>\$ 10,434.00</b>	(Trees, Benches, Pathways)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,385.38</b>	

**2015-16 COSTS**

<b>OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 341.50</b>	Viking (work completed in 2014/15)
	<b>\$ 29.36</b>	Chris Lepa (new basketball nets)
	<b>\$ 5,026.00</b>	Green Drop (8 trees planted spring 2015)
<b>TREE PLANTING (5 TREES)</b>	<b>\$ 3,141.25</b>	(spring 2016)
<b>PURCHASE OF BENCHES</b>	<b>\$ 3,085.29</b>	(tax and shipping included)
<b>INSTALLATION OF BENCHES</b>	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>	(Viking quote)
<b>CONTINGENCY FOR MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>\$ 561.98</b>	
	<b>\$ 13,385.38</b>	





# ÉCOLE VISCOUNT ALEXANDER

AMBASSEDEURS DU FUTUR ...

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## SCHOOL REPORT PARENT ADVISORY MEETING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

### School Information

**Thank you for a great start to the school year:** After only a few days, École Viscount Alexander students have started to settle into routines for the new school year. We look forward to a very productive school year. In order to facilitate the first days of school, all families received a welcome letter with information regarding office hours, upcoming dates, etc. Also, all of our new students received a postcard from school “Bienvenue à Viscount”. Our Student Service Support team and administrative team offered new families and students to visit the school prior to the start of school. We had a drop-in Open House held on September 2<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon. This is always an anxious time for students and we tried to minimize the anxiety during the transition to a new school.

### Staff Information:

- Mme Joffrin will be teaching HipHop, as well as some health classes at the same level. She will also be working at Arthur A. Leach in the Basic French program.
- Mme Dupont has arrived from France and working with Mme Jarvie in grade 6. M. Slashinsky is now in France and Mme Dupont will be with us until the end of the year as part of the teacher exchange program.
- Mme McMahon, in addition to her grade 8 teaching, will also be teaching grade 5 Physical Education.
- Mme Salomons is a new member of our staff as an educational assistant. She has worked at Ecole Dieppe in Charleswood and will be working with us part-time, as Mme Thrift has decided to work part-time this year.
- M. Wehrle is the newest addition to our staff. He has recently completed his student teaching at Vincent Massey Collegiate and will be joining our staff as the new performing arts educational assistant working with Mme Dombek and Mme Nowostawski.

**Enrolment:** We currently have 273 students registered for this school year.

**Lunch Program:** Mrs. Anita Caci will continue as Lunch Coordinator for this school year. She did a great job last year and we look forward to working with her again this year. Some of the lunch supervisors have returned from last year and these staff members will receive a \$1.00/hr increase in their salary. We are still looking for new staff. We have received some applications for lunch supervisors through advertising on the school board. Additional advertising will continue.

**Lunch Clubs:** We are looking for volunteers that would like to assist with clubs over the lunch hours. Please let us know if you are interested. Mme Goltz will be continuing with her Craft Club over the lunch hours once lunch supervisors are in place. As we had enough supervisors at the start of the year, she was able to open the craft club from the first day of school. We are hoping to have enough staff to open a Maker Space and the Bike Shop on a regular basis.

**Renovations/New Purchase over the summer:** Over the summer, Mme Sim and M. Friday worked at cleaning and polishing all the floors in the school. We also continued to do some painting over the summer and concentrated on painting the halls. We also upgraded our wifi and new projectors were placed in all the classrooms with interactive projectors in each of the classrooms.

**Staff Professional Development Day on September 8<sup>th</sup>:** Staff reviewed policies and procedures during the morning.

**School Plan Priorities:** Literacy, Numeracy, Student Engagement, School Culture (respect). We are also considering reviewing our mission/vision for the school.

**Assemblies:** The first day of school, we had a Back to School Assembly. At the assembly, school staff and lunch monitor staff was introduced, along with reviewing lunch hour expectations.

**Fire Drill/Lockdown drills:** There will be fire drills and lockdown drills in the next few weeks in order to ensure the safety of students and for them to be aware of the process and protocols during emergency situations. Our first fire drill took place this past Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> during the first period. Class teachers explained the protocol to students prior to the drill with them at least for the first time. A lockdown will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Yearbooks have arrived:** Our school yearbooks from 2014-2015 arrived and were distributed to the classes. Grade 8 students from last year are starting to come and pick them up. They turned out really well and hopefully this will be a continued initiative this year to highlight our students and their accomplishments.

**Teacher in Charge:** Mme Proulx and I will share the responsibility of divisional meetings so that one of us will always be at school. However, there are times when both of us are required to attend divisional meetings or courses. During this time, Mr. Monin will be Teacher in Charge. If he is assigned to a class during this time, he will have a substitute in his place so that he can address any issues that may arise at the office.

### **New School Initiatives:**

- **Grade 7/8 classes** have one class set aside for “Habiletés de vie” which will be focusing on study skills and organizational skills for all students. This will be facilitated by our support team – Mme Wieringa, Mme Marriott.
- **Respect Leadership Group** – This group will be involved in many aspects in our school leadership.
- **Practical Arts** –
  - **Bike Shop** – We were able to start the bike shop workshop this year from funding provided through the Pembina Trail School Division. M. Spiers and Mme Boock will be starting to introduce this brand new workshop at the Grade 7 and 8 level. We are hoping that this will expand to hopefully a lunch workshop where all students, at all grades may participate.
  - **Coding**- We were able to purchase more mini iPads for classroom use so we can offer coding as a workshop.
  - **Robotics**- We also purchased several robotics kits for Grade 6 classes but also for our Grade 7/8 workshops.
- **Japan Exchange** – Some of our grade 8 students will be participating in the Setagaya-Winnipeg exchange with our school and General Byng. Our visitors arrive on September 19<sup>th</sup>, a welcome dinner for participants will take place at the school on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be having a welcome assembly on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and students will be involved with various activities, visits to the Mayor, Premier, Superintendent, etc. during their visit. A farewell assembly will be held on September 30<sup>th</sup> where the Japan students will share their talents with our school.

**Meet the Teacher evening:** Our Meet the Teacher Evening will be held on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. We tried to coordinate the evenings with our feeder schools and Vincent Massey, however, due to the late start this year, there were some conflicts with other schools. The staff has been busy preparing and organizing for this event. There will be corn, salads, and hot dogs, etc. for families starting at 5:00 pm in the gymnasium. If possible, we would like to have some parents assist with preparing the food and also with the cost of the evening.

**Communication:** If you have any concerns about your child's learning, please contact the child's teacher. In the event you still have questions or require clarifications, please contact either Mme Proulx or me. Should you have any concerns, questions, suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [stipping@peminatrails.ca](mailto:stipping@peminatrails.ca) or call 204-452-8945. We will continue to send emails to parents regarding various upcoming activities and our calendar will outline all school activities on our website. Our twitter account is @ecoleVA.

**Volunteer Sign-in:** Volunteers that are working in the school during the day will be asked to sign-in at the office. This will assist us in the event of a fire drill, lockdown etc. knowing who is in the building. We also ask that volunteers wear a lanyard as a visual sign for all staff and students the reason you are in the building. If **parents** are thinking of **assisting with field trips at any time during the year**, please complete a child abuse registry check right away and provide this information to the office so we have it on file. For the safety of our students, parents working with children must have this check.

**Office Hours:** School office hours are from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. If your child is going to be absent, please call the school and leave a message. The office staff will call if your child is absent and we are not aware of the reason.

**School Contact Information:** Please contact the office if your contact information has changed. We are currently updating our Emergency Procedures and information and in case of emergency it's important that we have your appropriate contact information.

**School Budget:** Our school budget will be finalized in October. The budget is based on the student enrolment numbers as of September 30<sup>th</sup>. Last year our budget went to support the following:

- Support Bus Transportation for Class Field Trip
- Life Days – transportation, etc.
- Provide a classroom budget
- Festival du Voyageur lunch/activities
- Music Festival Registrations
- Artist Workshops
- Math Resources
- Athletics - program
- Drama presentations – French/English
- Workshop materials
- New science equipment
- Wifi 2.0 (ongoing expense)
- Interactive projectors

Thank you to the Parent Advisory Council for their support last year with the band program, creation of the art benches as well as the School Transformation Committee that continues to beautify our outdoor area. Any assistance during the year so that we can work together to support these areas would be greatly appreciated.

Possible financial sharing opportunities for this year between the Advisory Council to School Leadership (ACSL) and École Viscount Alexander School:

- **Mathletics - \$3,615.84.** This is a math on-line program that we used last year. Mme Jarvie also shared this website at a parent meeting last year. We have positive feedback from students, parents and staff as this is a website that allows teachers to differentiate work for students according to their math ability.
- **Open House - \$350.00.** The open house is a wonderful community activity that brings our school community together. I would like to propose that we share the cost of this activity with ACSL
- **Bussing – Fun Mountain/Life Days – \$1400.00?** As in previous years, we would like to request assistance with paying for buses for Fun Mountain and/or Life Days. This helps reduce the costs for students in their various activities.

**Terry Fox Run:** Our annual Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, September 25. Students and staff will be participating during the run to Crescent Park. Parents and community members are always welcome to join this event and walk with your child's class. Our goal is to collect a loonie or a toonie from each student to donate to the Terry Fox Organization for the fight against cancer. Donations should be submitted by September 25<sup>th</sup>. Grade 5 students will lead the way for the run leaving around 1:00 pm after the lunch recess. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the event.

**Photo Day:** Our photo day will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be using the Life Touch photographers for this event. Retakes will take place on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Divisional Information**

**Strong Beginnings:** Schools across Pembina Trails School Division will be participating in Strong Beginnings on Friday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> and Monday, Sept. 21<sup>nd</sup>. These assessments provide information about each student's strengths, learning styles, areas needing support will be incorporated into instruction over the upcoming months. A much better understanding of each student is gained. Appreciation is expressed to the community for their support as it is difficult to complete these assessments during class time. Assessments may vary at different grade levels.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

Meet the Teacher Evening	September 17 (5 to 7pm)
Strong Beginnings	September 18 and 21 (Students attend as per schedule/no regular classes)
Japan Exchange	September 19 – October 1
Terry Fox	September 25 in the afternoon
Photo Day	September 28
Tri-conferences	October 13 and 15
PD Day	October 16
Grade 8 camp	October 21-22
SAGE/Provincial PD	October 23
Remembrance Day assembly	November 10 at 10:30 am
Divisional PD	November 23

# September Band Newsletter

## WELCOME TO THE 2015-2016 BAND PROGRAM!

Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year and the École Viscount Alexander band program! I would like to extend a special welcome to the students and families who are new to the school and program. I look forward to a rewarding year of music making and learning opportunities. Some students are beginning on their musical instruments and journeys, while others are continuing their musical adventures by taking their current skills and experience to the next level. I am thrilled to be the music and band teacher at École Viscount Alexander and I am truly looking forward to working with your child this year as well as meeting you soon, too!

There will be a monthly band newsletter sent home near the beginning of each month and I will try my best to include ALL information for that month or on upcoming events. The newsletter will include information on events, permission slips to be signed, and itineraries for activities, etc. My goal is to keep letters and emails to a minimum but regular at the same time. Please excuse the lengthiness of this newsletter; there is a lot of information for you this month! They will be shorter in the coming months.

Should you have any questions at any time, please feel free to contact me via email [vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca](mailto:vnowostawski@pembinatrails.ca) or phone 204-452-8945 ext. 5743.



### INSIDE...

- Instrument Rentals .....2
- Ensembles .....3
- Course Evaluation.....4
- Practicing.....4
- Mentorship Program.....4
- Band Parent Committee.....5
- Student Leadership.....5
- Fundraising.....5
- Calendar of Events.....6

### **Did You Know...**

*Flutes are considered one of the earliest instruments and date back to Germany over 35 000 years ago.*

# INSTRUMENT RENTALS

## **For those who are playing tuba, euphonium, bari sax, French horn, tenor sax, and bass clarinet:**

These instruments are available for rental through the school.

- \$120.00 for primary instrument/\$60.00 for secondary instrument (ie jazz band)
- Payable to ÉVA by September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Covers rental for one year and all repair/maintenance through Accord Music (6-1373 Pembina ph# 452-1235)
- Please refer to rental contract for terms of agreement
- Based upon availability of the larger instruments, rental students may be given a second instrument to keep at home
- Students will receive one mouthpiece that will travel between home and school with them each day



“The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the messengers.”

-Roy Ayers

## **For those who are playing smaller instruments (flute, clarinet, oboe, alto sax, trumpet, and trombone):**

- All other instruments will be rented (or purchased) from a music store by **Monday, September 14.**
- Most music stores will provide basic repairs for instruments rented through them
- Students will carry this instrument between home and school each day

### **Grade 8 Percussionists:**

Percussionists will need to rent a percussion kit from a music store like Long and McQuade or St. John's Music. The kit should include a set of bells and a practice drum pad.

Percussionists are asked to bring their sticks and mallets that they used last year. They will receive an additional set of sticks and mallets this year. Please send a cheque of \$40.00 made payable to EVA.

### **Additional Needs:**

- Wire music stand for home practice
- Instrument specific care supplies (reeds, slide cream, valve oil, cleaning cloths, etc.)

# ENSEMBLES

There are many opportunities for students to make music. Each ensemble will participate in a variety of activities and events throughout the year including concerts, festivals, assemblies, and workshops. It is up to each student to decide how involved they would like to be in the band program. The ensembles that are available are:



## **Concert Band:**

All band students participate in either the grade 7 or 8 concert band. They will play the instrument that they selected at the end of grade 6. Both concert bands rehearse on days 1, 3, 5, and 6.

## **Sectionals:**

All band students will participate in sectionals about once every six weeks. This is a time for students who play the same instrument to meet with Mme. Nowostawski for one period to review and be introduced to skills and concepts that are specific to their instrument. Sectionals for grade 7s are on days 3 and 5 and those for grade 8 are on day 4.

## **Morning Jazz:**

Morning Jazz is a jazz band that is primarily for grade 8 students. It rehearses Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:30 am. All instrumentation is accepted. Grade 7 students who are wanting a challenge and/or showing a great aptitude on their instrument may be invited to participate in this ensemble. The first rehearsal will be on Tuesday, September 15.

## **Atelier Jazz:**

Atelier Jazz is an auditioned ensemble that is for grade 8 students only. It rehearses twice a cycle during the grade 8 atelier period on days 2 and 4.

## **Junior Jazz:**

If there is enough interest, a jazz band for the grade 7 students will be formed in the spring. It will rehearse twice a week at lunch time.

## **Percussion Ensemble:**

The Percussion Ensemble meets Wednesday mornings at 7:30 am. All students in grade 7 and 8 are invited to participate. The first rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 23.

## **Chamber Ensembles:**

Throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to play in small ensembles. This further helps them develop their skills and become more independent. Experiences will include playing O Canada at assemblies and performances at festivals and within the community.

## **NEW!-Symphonic Band:**

New this year is the Symphonic Band. This ensemble will rehearse Tuesday and Thursday after school from 3:30 pm-4:30 pm. This ensemble will play music that is slightly more advanced than what they play in concert band. Auditions will be held at lunch hour the week of September 22-25 and the first rehearsal will take place on Tuesday, September 29. Audition music will be handed out in the first band class. Although this ensemble will be primarily for grade 8 students, grade 7 students who develop a certain proficiency on their instrument may be invited to take part in this ensemble.



## COURSE EVALUATION

The student band mark is distributed into the following categories:

### Grade 7 and 8 Concert Band

- 50% Monthly Performance Objectives
- 25% Quizzes/Tests
- 25% Assignments

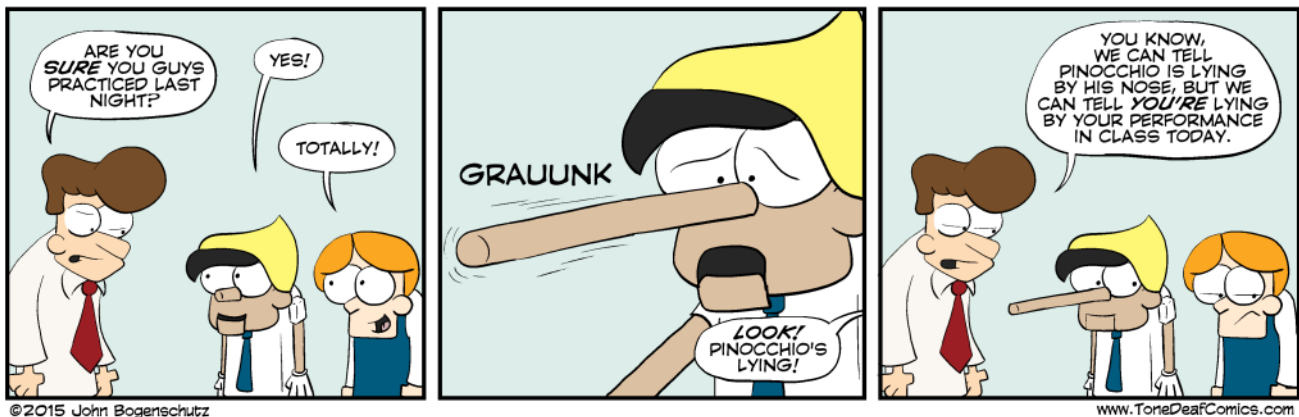
### Jazz Band

- 50% Monthly Performance Objectives
- 25% Listening Log
- 25% Assignments

### Symphonic Band

- 50% Monthly Performance Objectives
- 25% Daily Performance and Reflective Objectives
- 25% Written Assignments

## PRACTICING



In order for students to improve at a steady rate, it is an expectation that students will practice regularly (20 minutes per day). This will be discussed in further detail in their course syllabus as well as verbally in class. During each class, it will be discussed what will need to be practiced and strategies on how to practice. The students will be given regular practice assignments to complete to help them develop their abilities. Students are encouraged to set up a regular scheduled time and place for them to practice to help establish a consistent routine. This will not only help your child be successful in band, but also help the ensemble as a whole as well.

## NEW!-STUDENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

In partnership with Vincent Massey's band program, there will be an ongoing student mentorship program for all band students to participate in. Grade 11 and 12 students will serve as peer mentors to our students to support them further in their musical learning. These mentors will visit our school either during class time or after school to meet with students free of charge.

This program will begin in October. Please stay tuned for more information.



## FUNDRAISING

As mentioned earlier, all students will have many opportunities to participate in various events and workshops throughout the year. To help make this possible, there are a few fundraisers that have been organized. They are listed and explained below:



- **Show and Save Coupon Books:** On the first day of band, all students will receive a Show and Save Coupon Book to sell. The profits of the first book sold will go into the band account to help with paying for registration costs of festivals and bussing. The profits from any other books sold will go directly into the students' personal accounts that can be used to pay for activities such as Camp Assiniboia, Brandon Jazz Festival, Grade 8 Farewell, etc. Depending on the number of books we sell, we could receive up to \$10.00 of profits for each book sold! The fundraiser will run from September 9-October 3. Please refer to the letter attached to the envelope for more information.
- **Peak of the Market:** We will be selling vegetable bundles to raise money for clinicians, workshops, festivals, and busses. We receive half of the profits of each bundle sold. This fundraiser will run in November.
- **Bake Sale:** At the Winter concert, we will have a bake sale. For each dozen dainties donated, students will receive \$1.00 for their personal accounts.
- **Silent Auction:** At the Winter concert, we will have a silent auction. Families are invited to donate prizes.

## BAND PARENT COMMITTEE

Looking for a way to help us out in the band program? Please consider joining the Band Parent Committee. We meet about once a month to help with the planning and organization of fundraisers, concerts, and the Band-a-Thon. The first meeting will take place on **Tuesday, September 22 at 7 pm** in the EVA band room. Homemade baked goods will be served!

## NEW!-STUDENT BAND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

There are so many benefits to being a part of a band program, one of which is developing student leadership skills. This year, I hope to provide more opportunities for leadership for our students. One way I hope to do this is through the creation of the new Student Band Leadership Committee. Students who are members of this committee will have administrative, social, and musical tasks including: taking attendance, tuning sections, decorating the band room, celebrating special events, writing articles for the band and school newsletters, taking pictures, leading sectionals, etc. The committee will meet once or twice a month at lunch. More information will be given during the first few band classes.

**“If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music.”**

**-Albert Einstein**

## MBA SUMMER BAND CAMP

Congratulations to the 20 grade 7 and 8 EVA band students who attended the Fort Garry Summer Band Camp in August! Students worked had the opportunity to work in full band rehearsals with a guest conductor, sectionals with a specialist on their instrument, chamber ensembles with a coach, perform a concert, and much more over the course of one week. Below are pictures that were taken throughout the week of some of our students. Students who attended received a partial scholarship to assist with covering the cost of the camp.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## STRONG BEGINNINGS

**Strong Beginnings:** All grade 7 band students will visit Mme. Nowostawski to receive a private lesson with her. Students will need to bring their instruments and music binder.

## GRADE 8 BAND CAMP-CAMP ASSINIBOIA

All Grade 8 band students will participate in an overnight retreat at Camp Assiniboia on October 21–October 22. Students will work in sectional with a specialist on their instrument as well as in full band rehearsal with guest conductors. There will also be other activities such as teambuilding, ropes course, archery, and more! More information will be sent out the week of September 14.

## WJO FALL BIG BAND WORKSHOP

**WJO Fall Big Band Workshop:** Morning and Atelier Jazz will participate in the Fall Big Band Workshop organized by the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra. Participants will rehearse with professional jazz musicians in full band, sectional, and on their improvisation skills. Atelier Jazz will participate in the morning and Morning Jazz in the afternoon. More details to follow.

## ATELIER JAZZ PERFORMS WITH THE WINNIPEG JAZZ ORCHESTRA!

Atelier Jazz has been invited to perform with the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra on Sunday, November 15 at 2 pm. Atelier Jazz will open the concert and play at the beginning of the WJO's second set. More details to follow.



## 2015-2016 YEAR AT A GLANCE

September 15	First rehearsal for Morning Jazz
September 19 and 21	Strong Beginnings (Grade 7 Only)
September 22-25	Symphonic Band Auditions
September 29	First rehearsal for Symphonic Band
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)

