

MINUTES

South Rutland Elementary Parent Advisory Council

11/17/2015 6:30PM Meeting called to order by Josie Jagers

In Attendance

Tanya Harnett Andrea Blanchard Jackie Tower Heather Johnson	Jody Warren Cathie Mutter Sue Miles Tessa Russell-Hopkinson	Vivian Evans Josie Jagers
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Agenda Approval

Tessa made a motion to approve November 17, 2015 agenda. Jackie seconded.

Minutes

Jackie made a motion to approve October 20, 2015 minutes as read. Tessa seconded.

President Report

Next BIG event is the **Christmas dance**. The DJ is booked. 6pm dance, with pizza dinner at 5:30.

-Tessa agreed to shop for concession; suggested options: licorice, frozen yogurt, spritzers, glow sticks, pop, chips (*COSTCO cookies did not do well last year.)

-Heather and the fundraising committee will order and coordinate pizza dinner and raffle baskets. COSTCO pizza will be ordered (pre-cooked). Families will pre-order pizza and extras will be ordered to sell in concession. We will need lamps for the prize tables in gym.

- All agreed that a \$1/person admission is fair and will help pay for the cost of DJ, since last year we came out in the negative.

- We need a decorating committee. Josie will email a sign-up sheet to all school parents. Volunteers may decorate the evening before (Dec 1st) or the afternoon of the dance (Dec 2nd).

- Josie will spend up to \$100 on 15 (or so) small prize/gifts. It was recommended that \$ Tree was the best deal.

Vice-President Ideas

Tanya has suggested two parent night events to bring the parent community together, as well as for extra equipping for parenting support. Parents, as the first teachers of our kids, and the greatest influence on them, need to continue to learn how to engage our kids and know what it is we want to teach them. It would also be great to open the events up to other schools' parents. Tanya will forward the invitation on to other PAC committees.

-**Bounce Back Kid** is a FREE event put on by the Canadian Mental Health Association. We have booked the date January 21st (Thursday) from 6:30-8:30pm to have Amanda come present on building resiliency in our kids through difficulties in life. Tanya is also helping coordinate the Bounce Back Teen version with RMS in February.

-**True To You** is BY DONATION presented by Darlene Unrau. We have booked for April 21st (Thursday). It is an engaging session meant to equip parents with tools to teach our kids about healthy relationships, boundaries and wise choices regarding their bodies. She will present BIG IDEAS that we can encourage our kids to hold on to for life.

-Elya had given Tessa a brochure for an in-school session on Courageous Kids. Cathie reviewed the brochure and recognized that we have had him come present sometime in the past. The program is very costly.

Treasurer Report

-Gaming funding came through, bringing the account to a total of \$10,554.59.

-General account is at \$14,017.11 , less Gr 5 funds invoice which has not yet been received for bussing (\$6,340.14) = \$7,676.97

-Cathie suggested that we have enough funds in the Grade 5 account to fundraise less this year. It was agreed to give the weekly popcorn sales from January-June to the Grade 5 classes and parents.

- Andrea requires the raffle basket values to apply for the gaming licence ASAP. It was agreed that the totals will be given to her by Tuesday, November 24th.

-Tessa suggested drawing the raffle tickets on the concert night to extend the sales one week, as well as give extra time for the gaming licence. The concert also draws a larger crowd of families and grandparents and may boost ticket sales significantly since there will be less time for sales in the community.

-Andrea made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Vivian seconded. All voted in favour.

Principal's Report

-Cathie shared highlights for the upcoming weeks including: Spirit Day: Twin Day, Early Dismissal on November 24th, a Cultural Performance: Mistatim on the 30th (which also includes Reading with the Rockets following the performance).

-The POWER Squad (a kids' leadership team from grade 2-5) will be providing input to the Intermediate awards policy. Currently not all the kids get an award, but the team is looking at ways to find **authentic** ways to recognize each kid in his/her strength area. Awards ceremonies have historically been organized for all Intermediate students. The POWER Squad will develop the criteria with Mrs. Mutter. Until then, the award ceremonies which are scheduled for Report Card Days will be cancelled.

-Sue suggested an incentive trip (ie Silver Lake Summer Camp) perhaps for a top student.

Teacher Requests:

Miles- Museum (changing date to accommodate Reading with Rockets)- \$189

Miles- Potter's Addict- \$8/student= \$224

Flett/Williams- Art Gallery/Rotary Centre for the Arts =\$188

Dionne- Potter's Addict - \$8/student= \$224

Total: \$825

-Heather made a motion to spend \$825 in fieldtrips. Vivian seconded. All voted in favour.

COPAC Report

The event on November 2nd went really well. All the info is on the COPAC website (the link can be found on the school website PAC page)

-Vivian encouraged parents to be proud of our public schools, our District and our teachers. The superintendant says that we are the 4th biggest district in BC, and the 5th BEST district. Our kids prove statistically to do better in post secondary schools than students from private schools.

Hot Lunches

-Tessa thanked Jody for taking over the fruit/veggie program coordinator.

-Because of lack of volunteers and mix-ups with meal hand-outs the HL team has been having to hand out lunches to students in their classrooms. It has been suggested that a grade 5 team of volunteers be trained to be lunch runners for the year. Offer them a free hot lunch incentive on occasion.

-Tessa will revisit the idea of using hotlunches.com

-As a "gift" to some kids who don't generally receive hot lunches, a "raffle" for a FREE hot lunch coupon will be developed.

-Tessa has purchased under \$500 in stock supplies for future hot lunch meals. She has requested permission to purchase more goods in bulk in order to save \$ in the long run.

Fundraising

-Jackie reported that the last movie night went AMAZINGLY well. Hot dogs were a hit. We broke a record in attendance: 123 people. The fundraiser profited \$400.

-Popcorn sales have profited \$500 in 6-7 weeks. Sales and responsibilities will go to grade 5 fundraiser starting in January 2016.

-Secret Santa candy cane sales will be the last week of classes before Christmas break. 25 cent candy canes.

Other/New Business

-Sue and Cathie informed us that the school will be accepting donations for the Women's Shelter this year. Watch for information in our December newsletter.

-Tessa mentioned being concerned about kids watching TV during lunch time in classrooms. Several other parents mentioned they have had similar concerns. Cathie invited concerned parents to take their concerns directly to the teachers who are using this strategy.

Next Meeting

-January 12, 2016. Tessa will bring snacks (No December 2015 meeting.)

-Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.