

Parents' Advisory Group Inc.
École Robert H. Smith School
Reports for Meeting on November 3, 2010

Chair's Report – Michael Gies

I would like to thank everyone for a great start for our PAG. All of our parent volunteers have been working very hard and achieving great results for our children and the school.

My main project for this school year has been following up on the PAG's constitutional amendments put forth at the last AGM. I have had a productive meeting with Sharon Machinski last month and we are currently discussing two different approaches to giving all parents a voice and vote in the PAG. We have had to take into consideration several factors, especially the fact that we are also an incorporation and a registered charity, both of which have rules that must be followed. We are going to continue operating as before with the expressed intent to have a new system set up to run for the next school year. I look forward to presenting to the parents our plans over the rest of our PAG meetings this year, giving us the ability to adapt to any new ideas brought forward before we commit to a new voting system.

Vice Chair's Report – Candace Partyka

I would like to announce that Lisa Emre has resigned her position as treasurer. Thank you Lisa for your contribution to the PAG these last two years. Your efforts are much appreciated. In particular, Michael and I have benefited from your guidance and experience. I'd like to welcome Stuart Roche to the position of treasurer. Thank you Stuart for assuming this responsibility. We look forward to working with you!

Treasurer's Report – Lisa Emre (for year end 2009/10)

October 18, 2010

To the board of directors of RHS PAG, administration and teacher reps,

Without going into long detail some of you may be aware I have chosen to step down as treasurer for the 2010/2011 school year. I feel that the position would be better handled by someone starting the year fresh rather than halfway through. In saying this I have left the books in simple and clean order, I have completed the Revenue Canada tax return for the 2009/2010 school year, I was able to apply for a GST return, I have completed and cleaned up the details at the companies office so our company is now in good standing, the MSCS grant requirements have also been completed.

A copy of last year's financials have been left with Trish Wainikka as to not have them floating around, but are available to review by any parent at any time.

I would hate to leave the books in a mess for someone else to clean up, so they are in order for the new treasurer to add their own personality to. The ERHS PAG does need to go through an audit this year other than that it should be day to day operation.

I am happy to help with a transition and am available to answer any questions.

I wish you all a successful PAG year.

Sincerely,
Lisa Emre

RHS PAG Income Statement

Year ended August 31, 2010

Revenue

Promotions		
Magazine Fundraiser	5,332.14	
Show & Save	7,765.00	
Family Dance	7,062.01	
Parents Night Out	<u>985.00</u>	21,144.15
Fun Lunch		7,744.65
Picnic		2,350.82
Field of Dreams		8,000.00
Donations		295.00
GST Rebate		<u>498.40</u>
		40,033.02

Expenses

Promotions		
Magazine Fundraiser	264.17	
Show & Save	4,635.00	
Family Dance	2,277.61	
Parents Night Out	<u>821.12</u>	7,997.90
Fun Lunch		6,347.54
Picnic		3,370.35
Field of Dreams		3,633.65
Environment		162.16
Staff Appreciation		528.97
Volunteer committee		459.05
Miscellaneous Expenses		515.00
GST - ITC - paid		419.70
NSF Chq + Service Charges		75.39
Operating Expenses		
Babysitting	185.00	
Meeting expenses	<u>25.52</u>	<u>210.52</u>
		23,720.23

Net income (before gifts to school)	16,312.79
Gifts to School	21,117.90
Net income / loss	-4,805.11

Opening balance, at August 31, 2009	13,358.73
Net loss for 2009/10	-4,805.11
Closing balance, at August 31, 2010	8,553.62

Environment – Nadine Karpinski and Simone Smith

On October 1st, 2010, Simone & I met with the landscape architect firm of Scatliff +Miller + Murray Inc. and on October 4th, 2010, we met with David Wagner of David Wagner Associates Inc. Both firms have submitted initial proposals to work towards a master plan for the school grounds. This past spring, Candace Partyka and I met with the firm of Hilderman Thomas Frank and Cram. They have also submitted a proposal.

On October 28, 2010, Mr. Rossi, interested staff members of the sustainable development committee, Candace Partyka & I will be visiting St. Avila school to discuss their project. They are currently working with Scatliff +Miller +Murray to redo their school grounds.

Our intention is to review the three proposals and present them to the sustainable development committee meeting. We have also discussed inviting the firms to come to the school to present their proposals to the PAG.

Fun Lunch – Michelle Gaber and Trina Minor

Fun Lunch Nibbles:

Our sincere appreciation to all who helped us with the program and to those who volunteered for our first Fun Lunch of the year. You did a great job with the challenges that developed that day!

The program collected \$8,099.21 in orders. To date, there has been \$138.00 in misc. expenses and \$1,238.00 for pizza and other menu items for the Panago lunch on Oct. 15.

If anyone would like to offer any feedback, please let us know so we can make the program easier for volunteers and even better for students.

Our next Fun Lunch is December 3 with Subway. We will again need volunteers for the classroom as well as volunteers for set up and clean up for that day.

Volunteer Coordinators Report –Tara McCallum & Daryla Christie

We have compiled the information returned to us from the 2010-2011 Volunteer sign-up sheets. The information has been forwarded to the appropriate directors or staff members. Any new names that come to us from late forms will be added to our existing lists and then forwarded on to the correct people.

Due to space limitations we changed the format of the sign-up sheets this year, limiting it to longer term or recurring volunteer opportunities. As a result there will be times this year when we will be sending out other requests for volunteers for specific events. We will be happy to help gather and compile those names throughout the year.

The original Volunteer Orientation session had to be postponed. However, we were able to reschedule a week later and had a great turn out of new parents. All of their questions and concerns were answered by the WSD Volunteer Coordinator – Erin Bailey.

The results of our annual parent survey indicate that there is significant interest in an information session on Study Skills. This information was forwarded to the administration, and we will hopefully host an evening study skills session to be delivered by a WSD reading clinician in the future (ie: next school year).

The first Fun Lunch was a huge success thanks to Michelle and Trina! Last year we initiated a program to make better use of the Class Reps in helping to get as much information to as many people as quickly and easily as possible. We asked the Class Reps to be the first line of communication with all the parents in their classrooms. This system continues to work really well for contacting volunteers. Although there were a few hitches on Fun Lunch day, each class ended up having plenty of volunteers.

Finally, we want to mention the overwhelming number of vaccination helpers we have to draw on this year. There have never been this many people to choose from - an interesting problem to have. There is really only space for three to four helpers per grade (4&6). We sent out an information email to the parents who had checked off HepB/HPV outlining this issue. In the end we took the first four names in each grade and started a list for the next time. Basically, each helper will only be required for one session.

Administrator's Report - Mr. Rossi & Mme Warnke

The end of October, can you believe it? With many school based activities, our Comprehensive Assessment Program well under way and the first phase completed, field trips, preparation for our Tri-Conferences, numerous school related meetings pertaining to children, before and after school programs for our students, and intramurals, the 2010-2011 school year is certainly going by quickly.

Culture and spirit of the school is fabulous. Students are behaving exceptionally well and quality learning is taking place throughout the school. There still is room for growth and we will continue to do so.

November 4th will be an early dismissal at 2:30pm and on November 5th our school will be closed because we are having a school wide professional development day.

During the month of November once again we will have the opportunity to remember those that fought for our wonderful country, by showing respect at our *Remembrance Day Service*. *Remembrance Day Service* this year is Wednesday November 10th at 10:15am. We encourage all students that are part of any service group to wear their uniform that day (scouts, girl guides, etc..).

Report Cards will be going home Friday November 19th.

On November 24th we will be having our first Fundraising Read a thon. Since literacy continues to be very important for our students, we will have a book fair during our tri-conferences and we will have a day filled with a celebration of reading opportunities for our students on that day. Information and Fundraising Envelopes will be sent home in the near future. All students will be receiving a paritatory gift for participating the day of the read a thon.

Our new Tri-Conferences this year will be on Tuesday November 23rd and Thursday November 25th evenings . Friday November 26th is a school wide planning day and the school will be closed. There will be an additional evening for nursery (128) on Monday November 22nd and French Immersion kindergarten (123) on Wednesday November 24th due to large numbers. Our next conference will be designed as a Student Led Conference where students will attend and show you samples of work and growth to date.

December 17th there will be a no school for students due to a professional development day.

Winter Concert is scheduled for Thursday, December 16th. N-4 students are performing once again with classroom teachers and Ms Mitchell assisting them for the concert. N-4 perform at 1:30pm and Grades 1-4 perform at 6:30pm. First come first serve for seating.

Musical this year has been selected by the committee and we will share the information with the grade 5 and 6 students on Thursday November 4th just before early dismissal.