

Parents' Advisory Group Inc.
École Robert H. Smith School
Reports for Meeting on April 13, 2011

Chair Report – Michael Gies

Can it be Spring already? The year is flying by, but we have once again earned the right to be proud of our PAG. Since our last meeting we have had a tremendously successful Family Dance that could not have happened without our new Dance chair Mark and his committee – Anji, Tia, Brad, and Candace. And let's not forget the parent volunteers who helped in all areas. As we move into longer days and the last quarter of the school year, we look forward to the Walk-a-thon, the Family Picnic, and our Grade 6 sendoff. We have had a wonderful year so far – let's keep the momentum going.

We also had our annual planning meeting in late February on a bitterly cold evening. Our theme this year was Constitution Revision and while the turnout was small, the response and discussion was positive and encouraging. I am preparing the amendments now and will have Brad look them over before posting them on the website to be reviewed before the AGM in late May.

Speaking of the AGM, it is coming up fast! We need as many parents as possible to attend so they can see what we have achieved this year and to set our agenda and goals for next year. Candace will be speaking at the meeting about possible vacancies within the PAG and I hope to see some volunteers step forward. Also, Nadine and Simone will be discussing an exciting new project that has been a long time coming and promises to be focal point for the next few years.

Thank you all for your support and see you all at the meeting.

Treasurer Report – Stuart Roche

Family Dance	Revenue	Expenses	Net Funds Raised
	\$8277.60	\$3456.59	\$4281.01

Donations	\$909.99
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My Fair Share	\$1900.00
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Magazine Fund Raiser	\$5657.73
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Expenses	Budget	Spent	Variance
Staff Appreciation	\$600	\$54.04	\$545.96
Misc (includes bank s/c, meetings, volunteer, supplies)	\$1400	\$516.65	\$883.35

Fun Lunch – Michelle Gaber and Trina Minor

Fun Lunch Nibbles

Our latest fun lunch with Salisbury House's hot and tasty meals was a huge success. We will definitely be adding Salisbury House to next year's line up.

Clean up was so much easier after lunch was over with all the volunteers and students making such a dedicated effort to follow the compost, garbage and recycling guidelines.

Special green thanks go out to Simone Smith for all her efforts and to Mr. Rossi for purchasing the three garbage and recycling stations.

The next fun lunch is with Booster Juice on April 15th and we will once again require volunteers. If any parents would like to join us for this, or any upcoming fun lunch, email us or the Volunteer Recruitment & Activities Committee through the PAG website at roberthsmithpag.weebly.com. Volunteers please meet near the kitchen area at 11:45 p.m.

Volunteers – Daryla Christie and Tara McCallum

Following up on the January report; the leaders of the 2011 babysitting course are Heather Thompson and Patti Chiappetta-Sharpe. The course took place on Saturday the 9th and from what I understand, had an overabundance of willing parent volunteers. There will most likely be a follow-up report provided by the team to assist the next group of parents who take the lead on running this next year.

The fourth fun lunch is Friday the 15th. We are in the process of ensuring that each class has a minimum of two volunteers. The primary grades often have a large compliment of helpers but we often struggle to find volunteers to fill the rooms upstairs. The system we implemented this year of having the class reps assist in contacting and collecting the volunteers has been working really well. We encourage everyone to keep this practice up in the coming years.

The third and final HepB, HPV vaccination morning for the 2010/11 school year will be held next month. The last group of volunteers will be contacted in a few weeks and the arrangements will be made to ensure that everyone who signed up to volunteer has had a chance to assist while their child is being vaccinated.

Finally, since the plant sale got the go ahead this year after the volunteer sign-up sheet had been printed we do not have a list of potential volunteers. We will have to send out a flyer to request volunteers to help with sorting and picking up. We will consult with Nadine and Simone to come up with the best course of action.

Happy Spring everyone!

Staff Appreciation – Denise Gout-Smith

Our Staff Appreciation Italian themed lunch was a wonderful event! Staff were treated to several delicious salads, lasagnas and desserts! Thank you so much to my right hand woman Sharon Morton. Susan Broadhurst and Patti Ciabetta-Sharpe were also a great help! Thank you to all of the other volunteers who provided the food! I am in the process of putting together a booklet with some of the recipes from the lunch. We are going to have another Staff Appreciation event in May.

Picnic – Shannon Bowden

Planning is well underway for the 2011 Picnic. Please note that the date has been changed in order to accomodate the Winnipeg School Division Retirement Celebration. The date is now Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

We have tentatively planned the following:

- * food (hotdogs, smokies, pizza, chips, drinks, cotton candy)
- * face painting
- * bouncers (2 bouncers, 1 maze, 1 slide, 1 pitch machine)
- * train
- * dj with small prizes

If anyone would like to assist in the planning, we could always use one other person on our committee!

Administrator's Report - Mr. Rossi & Mme Warnke

1. Enrollment presently at approximately 467 students. Presently we have 490 students registered for 2011-2012 with a number of students on a wait list.
2. As of today we have 53 (36) children pre-registered for Nursery and 17 (11) children for Kindergarten English Program and approximately 41 (59) children registered in our Kindergarten French Immersion Programs. There will be 1 morning and afternoon Kindergarten French Immersion class and 1 morning Kindergarten English class next year. () denotes 2010-2011.
3. Staffing for 2011-2012: We currently received our staffing complement from our superintendent and must have our staffing finalized to him by April 25th, 2011. We have one staff member retiring this year.
4. Life Touch Spring Pictures on Monday April 25th. A synvoice message will be sent to all families reminding them to let the teacher know if they do not want their child to participate.
5. Life Touch Roof Top Picture date to be determined still.
6. Walk-a-Thon Update: Scheduled for Friday June 3rd. In the past our Walk-a-thon started at 1:40pm for grades 4-6 and 2:15pm for grades N-3. There were 3 different organized routes for the children to follow. We also had a nutritional treat and music at the completion of the walk-a-thon. Morning Nursery and Kindergarten classes had their own walk-a-thon with assistance from our student leaders. We will schedule a meeting in the near future to organize the walk-a-thon with parent representation also.
7. Staff Appreciation: Second best to none. We all thank you and we all feel much appreciated by our parents and community. Thank you to all the parent volunteers for their commitment.

8. Babysitting Course: Thank you to our parents that spearheaded this very important after school program. We also thank all the other parents that volunteered on Saturday April 9th. We understand that there were many parents that volunteered.
9. Thumbody Appreciation: Thank you to all the parent volunteers that supported our grade 3 self esteem program. Our staff really appreciate your concentrated effort and our kids are better today for all your efforts.
10. Student Led Conferences scheduled this month for Wednesday April 20th evening and Thursday April 21st all day.
11. Friday April 22nd is Good Friday. School closed.
12. Staff Professional Day scheduled this month for Friday April 29th all day. There will be no classes for students.
13. Patrol Parade city wide on Thursday May 5th. Our grade 6 troops will be participating between 9am and 1pm. Troops will be taking a city transit bus.
14. Musical Update: Our grade 5 and 6 students are preparing for our Aladdin Jr. Musical scheduled for May 18th and 19th. A committee has been struck with many staff from grades K-6. Morning rehearsals are occurring on a daily basis and all grade 5 and 6 students are involved in one shape or another.
15. Friday May 20th is a school planning day. There are no classes.
16. Victoria Day on Monday May 23rd. School is closed.
17. Volunteer Reception: Thursday May 26th in our library from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.
18. Para Drop Demonstration on Friday June 10th at 10:00am. Mr. Leochko will elaborate.
19. Friday June 24th there are no classes. This is our final professional development day.
20. Reports go home Monday June 27th, 2011.
21. On the last day of school, we will be having a farewell assembly in our gym at 11:00am with all the staff and students. This will be a time for us to say our last farewells to students and staff for the 2010-2011 school year. At 11:30am, teachers will escort their class outside for their final time when the bell rings.
22. Grade 6 Farewell scheduled for Thursday June 23rd. Doors will open at 1pm and a power point will be running until 1:30pm. We will then start the formal part of the assembly. The students once again will be piped into the gym and it is our intention to have the program completed by 2:30pm in time for the grade 5 parents to host refreshments. Our grade 5 students will also have the honour of singing our school song to the grade 6 students at their farewell.
23. Last but not least, Mme Warnke, Mr. Rossi and staff would like to thank all the PAG Representatives and members at large for volunteering endless hours for our school and children. Your efforts are appreciated. For many of you that are not returning as PAG members we salute you and thank you for your valuable commitment over the last 3 years or more. As one door closes another one opens for some of our other parents to step through and experience the partnership PAG and our school offers. We certainly look forward to working with whoever walks through the door. **Together Everyone Achieves More!**