

Parents' Advisory Group Inc.
École Robert H. Smith School
Reports for Meeting on January 25, 2012

Environment Report – Nadine Karpinski and Simone Smith

The Playground Enhancement Project has been phased into 5 phases. We are aiming to get Phase 1 built this summer, at a cost of approximately \$250,000. This phase includes the Hill, berms, the Aspen Forest, the amphitheatre, the basketball pole/hoop, new playground equipment (SuperNova and spinners) and the Rope Park or obstacle course system. We are in the midst of applying for grants as well as setting up campaigns to find donors and sponsors (government, corporate, individual and family). Part of the campaign process will be to make use of various social media tools to connect with alumni and other potential donors. For example, we are looking for PAG permission to set up a Facebook page.

We have an email address for the project: RHSPlayground@gmail.com

The date for the Plant Sale is May 25th.

Fun Lunch – Michelle Gaber and Trina Minor

Fun Lunch Nibbles:

We have had two successful fun lunches this school year and a great cast of volunteers. Meals with Subway, TCBY Yogurt, Gunn's Bakery, Booster Juice and Panago Pizza were well received by the students. Booster Juice donated smoothie coupons and Panago Pizza donated the pizzas for the volunteers, which helped keep our budget on track.

We have made a slight change to the volunteer guidelines. Prior to the lunch day, we will contact a few volunteers directly to assist with lunch set up. All other volunteers will be contacted by the PAG Volunteer Committee and classroom reps. We are now asking volunteers to arrive between 11:50-11:55 a.m., sign the volunteer sheet and wait in the hallway just outside the gym doors until we call them in to pick up the classroom meal baskets. We will include a copy of the updated classroom guidelines with each volunteer clipboard. Due to various student allergies, guidelines were outlined that gave directions on distribution of meals to the students. Meals are to be distributed only to those students who ordered them. If there is an incorrect or missing meal, advise the fun lunch coordinators so they can confirm order and provide correct meal. Return left over or unused meals to the fun lunch coordinators in the kitchen. These meals cannot be handed out to other students. This will also allow us to work with vendors to ensure correct meals are delivered for future orders.

If anyone has suggestions for menu ideas please contact us so we can investigate the possibilities. The next fun lunch is with Salisbury House and Safeway Bakery on February 24th.

Volunteer – Daryla Christie and Christine McGregor

Everything is going well in 2012. On January 17th, the Hep B shots went smoothly - thanks to the immensely capable volunteers Tracey Roberts, Jackie Gawne and Bonita Reimer. Next volunteer opportunity is fun lunch in February.

Administrators' Report - Mr. Rossi & Mme Labossière

- Enrolment presently at 493, last year at this time we were at 471.
- Parents are visiting the school for enrolment for the 2012-2013 school year.
- Open House February 1st, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. and 1:15pm in MPR room for all grades.
- Nursery Registration - February 8th at 8:00am. Kindergarten Registration - February 15th at 8:00am.
- Parents have begun asking the school for reference letters for their grade 6 child. Remember that all requests go through administration and not the classroom teacher. We will complete the paper work together. (divisional policy)
- January and February we are covering *Engagement*, one of the five *Principles of Learning*.
- Hepatitis B Grade 4 and HPV Grade 6 Girls Inoculation took place last week and once again thanks to all the fabulous parent volunteers for calming all our students.

- On Tuesday February 7th we will be holding an information evening for parents related to our grade 5 & 6 camp in June. The meeting will take place in our gym at 6:30 and will last approximately 30 - 45 minutes. We will share a short video of the camp experience, provide information and answer questions at this time. Baby sitting services will be provided.
- Science Fair is open to all students in grades 4-6. Projects to be completed at home and are due Tuesday March 5th. Names are submitted to the division Friday March 18th. Winnipeg School Division Science Fair takes place Thursday April 18th to Saturday April 21st.
- Mad Science Enrichment for grades 3-6 on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3:40pm-5:00pm starting Monday January 23rd for groups A, B, C and D or Wednesday February 1st for groups E, F, G and H. Mlle Greco and M Abdel supervising.
- Robotics Enrichment for grades 5 and 6 starts Thursday February 9th at 5:30pm. M Abdel supervising. Students must be accompanied by an adult.
- Artist in the School Project with Mr. Mark has been moved to February 27 to March 21st due to scheduling changes. Grades 1-6 will participate this year.
- Track practices every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Schedule sent home via synrevoice indicating track and speed skating practices.
- Speed skating date confirmed for February 28th. Last year we had the 4:30pm shift. Likely this year we will have the 6:30pm. Speed skating open for grades 5 and 6 and practices held at River Heights Arena.
- Canspell competition for grades 4, 5 and 6 students ended last week. Congratulations to all the grade 4-6 students that participated in this enrichment activity, particularly grade 5 student Shae N., she will be representing our school if she can get through the last phase.
- Community Breakfast is Friday March 2nd. A committee has been struck in the school and planning is underway.
- Concours d'art Oratoire at the school level will be on Wednesday February 22nd and divisional level sometime in March at 6:30pm at École Robert H. Smith School.
- Festival du Voyageur Day on Friday February 17th during Manitoba's French Week.
- Many classrooms helped at Christmas time with hampers, Winnipeg Harvest, Third World Counties, Agape House, and more.
- Staff PD Day on Friday February 3rd. School closed.
- Thumbody Grade 3 Self Esteem Program. Thank you to the 3 parents that have offered their services to facilitate the program this year.
- RHS Idol information sent home through our synrevoice system. Open for grades 1-6. Auditions will take place in February. A number of students will be selected to perform at the breakfast and all the students that were selected will perform during the afternoon.
- Service for Maria Donahue's late husband Bert, tomorrow at 7:00pm at the Qualico building located in Assiniboine Park next to the duck pond. Maria is an educational assistant at our school.

Important Dates:

- January 12, 2012 École River Heights Grade 7 School Presented at our school.
- February 3, 2012 Non-Instructional Day - School Closure-Healthy Habits and Lifestyle.
- February 17, 2012 Festival Activity Day
- February 20, 2012 Louis Riel Day Statutory Holiday
- February 22, 2012 Concours d'Art Oratoire Fr. Immersion 3/4, 5/6 Basic French 4, 5/6
- February 28, 2012 Speed Skating at MTS Centre at 4:30pm.