

APE MEETING April 12th , 2016

Attendance: Genevieve Tremblay, Toni Bond, Silvana Hernandez, Katia Villeneuve, Rachelle Carriere, Dee Taylor, Tawnie Gaudreau, Lindsay Carlos, Maggie Ellwyn, Andrea, Austen, Wendy Cocksedge, Laura, Tina Bevans, Simona Taronna, Gen Lambert, Carolyn Roberts

1. Adoption of Agenda

2. Adoption of Minutes from March meeting. – Gen motioned, Austen seconded.

3. President's report (Simona) :

- No one has accepted the role of treasurer yet. We are still in need of one for the next 3 months. Until we have one, Simona will collect receipts and pass them on to Aaron. Katia's husband may be interested, and she will tell him to contact Gen to find out more info.
- Simona met with Hugh Prichard about the bikes in the basement. He really wants them and she is now waiting to hear back from him.
- Simona asked Jeanne if she asked the staff about inviting Jack Vlug to come to the school to teach the students Scottish Dancing. She said that they were interested, but that because the gym will be undergoing renovations soon, she will contact him to see about coming next year.

4. Treasurer's report

5. Principal's report :

- Renovations are set to start in May, but still unsure of the exact date. Jeanne will send out an email to parents when she has a final date. The five classes that will be worked on first are : Annie's, Simo's, Art room, lunch room, and the English room. Simo and Annie will move their classes to the Science room and to the Special Ed room during construction. Jeanne has asked if we can use the Clan classroom and kitchen during reno's and she is still waiting for an answer. The new Kindergarten classroom will be where the woodwork room in now. Construction is expected to last until September. The Gym will be worked on in June, so at this time the staff is unsure about doing a year end show. With regards to safety and health, she has been assured that all the construction workers in the school will have a criminal record check and that there will be no contact between workers and students. If any asbestos is found in the school, she

will make sure that everyone is safe and a notice will be put on the door of the room in which it was found.

- Field Trips: A field trip for every class is being organized and information about dates and locations will be sent home soon.

6. Questionnaire : Maggie and Simona have written out a questionnaire that will be sent out to all parents. She brought it to the meeting to get feedback from others. Tawnie suggested that we have a draw for the parents as a motivator to fill out the survey (such as a Starbucks gift certificate). Wendy made several suggestions. She stated that the purpose of the survey needs to be made very clear – we need to know what will be done with all the information collected, and that we should not ask for names, but should rather keep it anonymous. It was also brought up that all parents are APE members, not just those who attend the meetings. Some of the language and some of the questions were discussed. It was decided that the survey will be emailed out to those at the meeting, and they will have one week to provide feedback. Genevieve will translate it into French, and the survey will hopefully be ready to send to all parents by the end of April.

7. Carnaval: Set for June 4th, 12-3 pm. We need people to sign up for Games, Food, Advertising, Prizes, and Silent Auction. Simona will send out an email to parents asking them to volunteer for an activity.

8. Brooks :

- Changes next year to the curriculum for Grade's K-9, and in Sept. 2017 for Grade's 10-12. The timetable at Brooks will be different next year. Rather than having four 1 ½ hour blocks in a day, there will be 6 one hour blocks in a day. Each course will be 6 hours per week, with 3 or 4 of those hours being direct instructional hours, and 2 or 3 being self-directional. Students will decide how they will use this time (work on projects, contact teachers for help, etc). Teachers at Brooks will be able to offer more courses next year as a result of these changes. Mr. Legault (the French teacher at Brooks) will also be following this new timetable.
- It was discussed that the curriculum for French Immersion and for CFS is different and that the diplomas received at graduation are also different, though it is unclear how they differ.
- The number of students in the higher grades (8 and 9) are smaller due to some switching over to Brooks before Grade 10. Why is this? It can be difficult to enter Brooks in Grade 10 when Grade 8 is when strong friendships are often formed. Sometimes students feel like it is hard to fit in with the larger population outside of the French group. Students also miss out on all the electives offered in Grade 8 at Brooks. It can also be challenging to have one teacher for Grade's 10-12.

- Jeanne pointed out that it is normal for numbers to dwindle in all programs and that it happens in the French Immersion program as well.
- Is it possible to have students going to Brooks in Grade 9? Jeanne mentioned that a few years ago when Oceanview closed, she was asked if the French School wanted to move to Brooks in Grade 8, and that parents were involved in the discussion and if it was decided to keep them until Grade 10. If parents are interested in the idea of students moving to Brooks earlier than Grade 10, this can be discussed in the future.
- It may be possible to share the French system with the French Immersion program when they get to Brooks in 2 years.
- The room at Brooks used for the French students is viewed by some as being too small.
- When it was brought up that students miss out on Sports by staying at the school until Grade 10, Jeanne mentioned that it is possible for students to join sports teams at Brooks in Grade 8 and 9. Getting students there and back may be an issue.
- More discussions about Brooks will be held in the future. Simona will come up with a date for the next discussion.

After the meeting Maggie provided the following information.

February hot lunch profit was \$664.50. April hot lunch sales was \$1105.00, profit still to be determined. Grocery card sales : January profit was \$320.00, February profit was \$442.00, March profit was \$212.00.

Next meeting: May 10th , 2016