



Home and School General Meeting Minutes

Date: January 16, 2023. Virtual meeting. Start time: 7pm

Attendees: Catherine Fini, Sue Rack, Natalie Maurice, Derek Lagimodiere, Olivia Hutchins, Stephanie Nicolaou, Preeti Purba Singh, Monique Chalifour, Erica Ranjitsingh, Neil Linsdell, Nadia Wendowsky

1. Opening remarks: welcome members and non-members/ regrets/Quorum/Attendance/Voting procedures.

2. Approval of agenda for January 16, 2022. Motion by Olivia, 2-Neil. All in favour.

3. Approval of minutes from November 21, 2022. Motion by Neil, 2-Olivia. All in favour.

4. Reports:

4.1 President's report/members update (Catherine Fini)

Members Update-57 members

QFHSA News

- Workshop update: As a reminder, the November in-person all day conference was canceled due to low registration. There should be a series of virtual evening workshops coming, similar to last year.
- Book donation to holiday baskets-approx. 30 books donated

Other News

- Thank you to the volunteers who delivered the holiday baskets on Dec 16th
- The Library is now open to volunteers! Thank you to Bessie Michael for coordinating
- Luc Bambara, African dancer, will perform 2 sessions on Feb. 15th (total cost \$1250). A grant was received for the Hoola performers for Indigenous day, so in lieu, H&S is happy to subsidize this performer in recognition of Black History month
- Open executive positions next school year-it's not too soon to start thinking about it!

4.2 Treasurer's report & Budget (Neil Linsdell)

- Big Box of Cards fundraiser was a huge success
- Treasurer role is open for next year and Neil will be around to support whomever takes over

4.3 Principal's report (Natalie Maurice)

- Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and I wish you all the best for 2023! We are busy at school getting ready for next year!
- Tuesday, January 17th will be our Open House. Thank you to Home and School for your support with refreshments, volunteers and a take away gift for the visitors.
- Valentine Day raffle for the Grade 6's – winners to be announced on February 13th.
- Registration period for students from January 16th – February 3rd.
- Planning Spirit days with the Kindness Committee for January and February – look out for many great activities to come.
- Meeting and planning for Carnival week activities.
- Preparing for PINK SHIRT Day Feb 22nd.
- Wacky Wednesdays in the works with dress down days planned, this does not involve any fundraising

- Thank you to all for the wonderful treat boxes for staff the last week before the holidays! The staff was overwhelmed with the number of treats and adored the personalized ornament.
- There was great feedback on the Holiday Shop – thank you for putting that on for students and staff!

4.4 Teacher representative report (Derek Lagimodiere):

- No new wish list requests at this moment
- 300 field trip shirts approved last meeting but on hold for mascot design-see new business

5. Business arising from November minutes:

5.1 “Big Box of Cards” Fundraiser (Catherine Fini)

- Sold 214 all occasion, 64 birthday, 27 holiday boxes
- Approx \$3000 in profit
- Next year likely no samples, just online option
- Gabrielle Forestell’s Gr 6 classroom won the pizza party-Thurs-Jan 19th
- 4x winners of the child movie passes to cineplex

5.2: 12 days of Xmas contribution (Catherine Fini)

- Bad Monkey popcorn distributed on movie day: 360 bags -15g bags salt and butter flavour
- Juice boxes for the pancake breakfast
- Bingo prizes for the holiday bingo (stock from holiday market-4 per class)

5.3 Holiday Market Update (Erica Ranjitsingh)

- Success! Well received by families and staff. We will make this an annual event
- Thank you to the kindness committee for helping to promote the event
- Mega Depot contact-product much better than our original plan
- Take away for next year: solicit wrapping and reusable bags, lots of volunteers needed
- Some of the extra stock used for: holiday bingo prizes (4 per class), open house gifts (50 snow molds), holiday baskets (6 x \$30 worth)
- Extra stock in the H&S closet will be used for future prizes or next year’s holiday market

5.4-Staff holiday treats (Erica Ranjitsingh)

- All staff received homemade treats & tree ornaments
- Awesome response from parent bakers-so many items were sent in!

5.5 Mascot (Catherine Fini)

- Field trip tees and new clothing shop will wait on mascot design
- Bear should be wearing the BH varsity tee
- Only a few ideas submitted so far
- Hoping for more designs and will see if we can find a graphic designer to edit

6. Coordinator Reports:

6.1 Pizza Round 2 (Catherine Fini)

- Email sent out -shop open until January 22nd
- New: H&S volunteers taking over distribution from lunch monitors: Thank you Bitu Guzman and Christina Ciambella
- Question was raised on the use of baskets and which ones to use (laundry vs bins). We would need to find a place to store them and they can be bulky. Supervisors would rather pick them up on the way to the class so laundry baskets are ideal. Catherine and Bitu to discuss offline.

6.2 Open House (Erica Ranjitsingh)

- 2 sessions will take place on Tues, Jan 17th
- H&S providing small refreshments and take away gifts (snow molds-“we hope you had snow much fun at Beacon Hill”)
- 6 parents to welcome and greet families-thank you to the volunteers

6.3 Staff Appreciation Week (Erica Ranjitsingh)

- Week of Feb 6th (Mon to Thurs only. Fri is a ped day)
- Planning for a pot luck lunch, gift cards and other surprises
- We will solicit donations to fund this week, as we did last year
- Samantha Cinquino, Melissa Samuel and Erica Ranjitsingh have established a (surprise) theme

6.4 Carnival/Ice Wall (Sue Rack)

- Week of Feb 27th
- Activities organized by the BH staff
- Last year H&S provided bingo prizes, gifts cards for Just Dance competition (\$5 DQ, 2 winners per class)
- No ice wall last year due to lack of volunteers (police checks) and no snack requested due to student breakfast in class
- H&S contribution this year-Mr Lag has requested the following;
 - Wednesday, March 1: Looking to find 300 bingo prizes. Super Bingo in the gym
 - Friday, March 3: looking for snacks & juice boxes for Jr and Sr movie event
 - Just Dance competition: 2 gift cards to Wild Willy's per class plus 2 extra in case: \$5 each
 - Ice Wall: H&S has supported in the past. Requires heavy volunteer commitment and weather can be problematic. The appetite is not strong enough to continue this initiative
 - Motion to approve 300 bingo prizes, snacks and 36 gift cards: Motion 1st: Stephanie, 2nd: Nadia. All in favour

6.5 Grade 6 Grad (Sue Rack)

- Expected or incurred expenses: grad year books (650), lunch on ceremony day (800), hoodies (1617)
- Expected or actual revenues: V-day raffle baskets 2000, F&N fundraiser? jelly bean fundraiser?
- Plans for Valentine's raffle baskets- Online shop to open beginning Feb. Catherine can support how to run the virtual raffle.
- Felix and Norton, Jellybean fundraiser: confirmed but more detail to come.
- H&S Contribution to grad: varies year to year (average \$2000). Require budget/plan to determine the additional funds required from H&S (Neil). Budget requested for next meeting to then vote on the H&S contribution.

6.6 Art Gala (Catherine Fini)

- Tues, April 4th, including 2nd in person book fair
- Theme: Jungle
- Communication to teachers coming soon regarding classroom and raffle projects
- Sponsor and donation letter to be sent out soon

6.7 After school student activities (Malvina Spaleny)

- Activities run by Enfant et compagnie
- The plan is that 3 different classes are offered. This could change due to interest
- 5-week sessions starting Jan 23rd
- Pamphlets going home today (no online booking option)
- This is not a fundraiser. H&S is facilitating this.
- Will review the success of this pilot after the March break to consider future application and scalability.
- Future idea-after school activity as fundraiser-see new business

6.8 Pre-loved clothing bundles (Catherine Fini)

- New pricing 5 items/\$5 for 5 days
- Catherine has 60 bundles of pre-loved clothing and is looking to deplete the stock. Currently this is a labor-intensive process. Considering holding remaining items with Beacon Hill logo for future use/to sell in person for donation of choice
- Kristin (parent of Ellie): interested in bundles but unsure of sizing. She suggests a different format: clothing sale 1x year. Catherine confirms we are heading in that direction.
- Neil suggests to feature clothing at events such as Open House. Catherine indicates that New Parent night might be more appropriate (Mrs Maurice seconds this idea). Catherine to sort by size and provide inventory for the June event.
- Beacon Hill Aid Fund: reminder that parents can reach out to school when requiring support. Clothing has been provided in these instances.

7. New Business/Open Floor/Question period (H & S related items):

7.1 Spring Activity (Nadia Wendowsky)

- Replacing Jungle Sport with a new activity TBD
- Budget \$3k (school has \$500 in reserve already from refunded deposit)
- Jungle Sport was planned for days. We can look at separate activities based on age; activities can be held indoors or outside. Timing: spring
- Catherine suggests: timing of this event can be changed as a welcome event in the fall
- Decision made to table this discussion for February meeting to pursue the subject further
- Ideas welcome by all

7.2 Sponsored Child (Catherine Fini)

- Kindness Committee will take over educating the students on our sponsored Child, and the related campaign to raise the funds
- Last year was a St-Patty's day pot of gold themed fundraising campaign
- Fee is \$540 per year in support of Plan International Canada

7.3 Anti-Bullying Day (Catherine Fini)

- Falls on Feb 22nd this year
- Last year H&S provided pink t-shirts (with message) for the entire school & staff, and had "Lazylegz" Patuelli come in to speak to the kids about inclusion and overcoming challenges
- Mrs Maurice and Julia Di Staulo have secured a motivational speaker, Amen Iseghohi, to address older students. Subject focused on diversity.

7.4 Sponsor Calendar (Catherine Fini)

- Need a volunteer to take this on, or are we all fundraised out?
- Decision made to table to February meeting

7.5 After-school activity as fundraiser -agenda item added (Kirsten Nielsen)

- Future idea suggested and offered by Kirsten
- Self-defense/personal safety for girls & boy
- Kirsten taught self-defense and the company worked for several LBPSB – training primarily for older children. Kirsten is offering to provide the training as a fundraiser; she has three hours of teachable content (safety, self-defense focused) which can be offered as a one-time or series
- Usual charge is 100\$ + for the course. H&S can decide what to charge and 100% goes back to H&S. 30 kids max
- Other parents with talents to lend? Example-soccer clinic/basic budgeting for kids etc
- Mrs. Maurice likes the idea and will discuss at the Staff Council meeting

8. Call to Action

8.1 Looking for mascot ideas

8.2 Looking for parents with talents to lend for an after-school fundraiser

8.3 Executive terms ending this year

- 3 vacancies expected for the end of the school year. Please share this news with parents who may have interest

9. Meeting Adjourned at 7:58pm

Motion 1st: Preeti; 2nd: Nadia. All in favour.

Next Meeting on Feb 20th, 2023