



Home and School General Meeting Minutes

Date: February 20, 2023. Virtual meeting. Start time: 7pm

Attendees: Catherine Fini, Natalie Maurice, Derek Lagimodiere, Olivia Hutchins, Stephanie Nicolaou, Neil Linsdell, Nadia Wendowsky, Georgiana Karamitos, Julie Latendresse

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

2. Approval of agenda for February 20, 2023. Motion by 1-Stephanie 2-Olivia. All in favour.

3. Approval of minutes from January 16, 2023. Motion by 1-Neil 2- Stephanie. All in favour.

4. Reports:

4.1 President's report/members update (Catherine)

Members Update-57 H&S members

QFHSA News

- Awards: The QFHSA Awards program recognizes the important contributions of students, educators and parents to Quebec education. Local H&S are invited every year to submit nominations to the 5 major awards. Deadline to submit is April 30th (information on their website-see the QFHSA newsletter sent to all members). Last year's recipients include Mrs. Lynn and the student supervisors and daycare educators for distribution of pizza lunches.
- Other News
 - Welcome Olivia Hutchins as acting secretary

- Open executive positions next school year-it's not too soon to start thinking about it! (Only 2 H&S meetings left), Treasurer, Secretary, President

4.2 Treasurer's report & Budget (Neil)

- Actual net is inflated due to pizza lunches: round 2 revenue vs payments made to Dominos
- Last year bank fees were \$876 by year end. More transactions this year include V-day baskets, pumpkin patch...
- Other: Luc Bambara performance not noted yet since \$ was taken from \$3k Jungle Sport reserve (with BH school)

4.3 Principal's report (Mrs. Maurice)

- Registration period has ended, we have been getting ready for next year – K4 and K5 numbers not as high.
- A huge thank you to Erica and her committee for the wonderful Staff Appreciation week. The staff enjoyed the tea / coffee trolley, the grab and go snacks, the message jars, the key holders, the raffle and the yummy luncheon. We felt very loved. The decorations in the front foyer were beautiful.
- We are now moving into carnival week – thanks for the Wild Willy gift cards, snacks and bingo prizes. We are super excited for a fun filled week to come.
- Staff will begin working on their treasure chests for the art gala – what a great idea!
- Kindness Committee has been busy working on Kindness – reading Have you Filled your Bucket Today? The Kindness Committee also prepared hearts and stars for each classroom and a huge bucket in the front entrance way. When the students are “caught in an act of kindness” they get a star/heart to fill our school bucket.
- The dress down days have been a great success – great participation. Pink shirt day coming up this week.
- The students enjoyed the presentation from Luc Bambara on February 15th for Black History Month – thank you Home and School!

4.4 Teacher representative report (Mr. Lag)

- Wish list items already approved (before meeting): Mme Alex and Mme Forestell – sensory table, books
- New teacher wish list:
 - Mrs A music-already agreed that Art Gala funds going towards this;
 - 24 repairs: flutes, clarinets, trumpets, snare drum: \$1870.64
 - 18 new instruments: \$1175.16
 - 3 music books: \$78.75 + 42.53

- 1 guitar, 4 trombones: \$340.33
- Total: \$3,507.41
- Motion by 1- Neil 2- Stephanie. All in favour.
- Pinnies- Mr Lag requested that H&S look into pricing for 50 additional pinnies. More info to come.
- Update on Orange Beacon Hill T-Shirts
 - 300 field trip shirts approved 2 meetings ago
 - Waiting on mascot design before moving forward -see new business

5. Business arising from January minutes:

5.1 After school self-defence course (Catherine)

- Staff council voted against the idea for now:
 - Too many activities at the moment
 - Not a huge need for another fundraiser this spring
- Can revisit this idea or similar next school year
- More information on type of course before moving forward – what does it entail and for what age group? Need an outline.

5.2 Staff Appreciation Week (Catherine for Erica)

- Success!
- Potluck lunch, gift cards and other surprises. ,...
- Donations of \$1015 from families towards the week

Monday

- Breakfast cart served by Kindness committee
- Jars filled with letters from the students for all staff
- Bus drivers received Tim Hortons GC with a card

Tuesday

- Assembly in the gym, 2 students gave a quick thank you speech to the staff

- 25 Raffles: Amazon GCs, Scarolies GCs, Coco&Bean GCs with mugs, Aqua Spa Lynn Giroux GCs, The Keg GCs, Lucilles GCs, Fairview GCs, Massage GC, 6 Baskets with Kitchen supplies (towels, wooden utensils, pan), Cuigini GCs with bottle of wine

Wednesday

- Card holders that say Beacon Hill on them for entire staff
- Snacks in staff room - Fruit, bars, crackers, yogurts, chocolates, popcorn, chips, etc.

Thursday

- Staff lunch provided by all parent volunteers, there were almost 50 volunteers who either cooked or served or did both.

5.3 Library update (Catherine for Bessie)

- Volunteers coming in Mondays and Thursdays
- Friday book coverings
- Smooth running
- Bessie looking into 8x10 carpets – washable?
- Approved purchase of carpet up to \$750 tax in - Motion by 1- Neil 2- Catherine. All in favour

5.4 Mascot design (Catherine)

- Change paws to match
- Both paws down
- Fence too large
- Need professional graphic designer to finalize – with payment
- Call out to parents for referral to a graphic designer has not been successful
- Stephanie N will check if she has a contact

5.5 Jungle Sport replacement activity (Catherine)

- Budget was originally \$3k towards this student activity
- Looking at ideas for the whole school, timing is open
- Idea: Everblast glow in the dark mini putt- 3 days (no animator): \$2200 + taxes
- Suggestion to use this budget for carnival games at the BBQ (picnic) -see BBQ report

5.6 Sponsor Calendar (Catherine)

- Reminder-this is a desk calendar distributed to parents in September
- Fundraiser-solicit parents to purchase slots for x\$
- Are we all fundraised out for this year? We are already soliciting sponsors for our Art Gala
- In agreement not to solicit more this year and put this on the back burner

6.Coordinator Reports:

6.1 Pizza (Catherine for Bitia)

- Round 2 orders are all in
- Bitia and Mrs Maurice discussed offline and decided that H&S will purchase 10-14 laundry baskets for easier transport of boxes to classrooms. Library may be able to use them for book returns
- Effective immediately pizza cost is going up by 0.25\$ per pizza box – approximately 700\$ total increase
- Revisit the \$5 pizza price in September – note also that bank fees high when receiving payments from parents

6.2 Carnival (Catherine for Sue/Stephanie G)

- Welches fruit snacks and juice boxes dropped off
- 34 Wild Willy \$5 gift cards dropped off (14 classes + 2 extra) for Just Dance competition
- Stephanie G will drop off super bingo prizes (contact is Mega Depot)

6.3 Grade 6 Grad (Catherine for Sue)

- Budget submitted and reviewed. Not included in budget is-Student Activity: Isaute (parents paid for this), and certain expenses such as food costs for ceremony day (will update as they come in)
- Question regarding H&S contribution to grad activities. Per Neil: *"The best approach is to frame out the expected expenses (typically \$6-8k). Then we identify some grad fundraising activities that we hope will cover (most of) the costs, and then Home & School backstops to cover any of the funds that fall short. This should take stress out of the fundraising and ensures that the committee can focus on the experience for the grad class. The reason we moved away from allocating a set dollar amount was that grad fundraising either (1) far exceeded the expenses and then the committee would create allocations with the surplus that had nothing to do with grad, or (2) fell far short of expenses and created a lot of stress and finger pointing amongst the grad committee, shifting focus and energy away from the kids".*
- After much delay grad Valentine Raffle Baskets fundraiser success - estimate was \$3000 & we made \$2880. All winners have picked up from school
- Next fundraiser is in May 2023 with Felix and Norton
- Ceremony day outline planned already. *Survival kits* in progress and Erica R helping
- Grad activities will be on-site June 16th at BH until 4pm, thank you to all teachers who are staying to help out
- Save the date to all parents was sent out via email; a more formal invite will be sent in May
- First Grade 6 off site event Feb 09 @ Isaute -27 students participated
- Next team event on April 27th is a movie night in the library
- Yearbook in full swing and on track
- It was agreed that H&S will contribute as needed rather than provide a flat amount every year

6.4 Art Gala (Catherine for Katherine E)

- Date change requested because of tight timeline for projects: Date chosen is Wed, April 26th (Grad movie and GB meeting are on April 27th)
- Save the date, community sponsor letter, volunteer request for decorating committee and classroom parents will go out once the new date is agreed on.
- Purchase of classroom/project art supplies to be made by the teachers themselves – must send receipts

6.5 Scholastic book fair (Catherine for Melissa S)

- 2nd book fair with Scholastic coming soon
- Date change is also required to coincide with Art Gala
- Week of April 18-21 (and PM on April 26th during the Art Gala)

6.6 After school student activities (Catherine for Malvina)

- Enfant et compagnie
- Participation was higher than expected, new classes opened up
- Plan to offer new set of courses starting after March break
- Positive feedback - students getting the hang of where to go etc.
- Cooperation from daycare
- Gym and music room being used
- Suggestion to break the classes by grade – K-2, 3-6
- March 20th – new 8-week program

6.7 New school clothing (Catherine)

- Current supplier is Janna Promotions. They have supplied our Spirit Wear for many years
- With Janna we place 2x bulk orders that take up to 6 weeks to receive
- Appetite is now to offer a service where parents may order on the fly
- Royal Blush handles Spirit Wear for multiple elementary schools in the WI
- PRO-this change would alleviate work on volunteers and pickup will be 2-4 days or home delivery in 3-6 days for a \$10 fee
- Sleeve print name option: 3.50/ back print 5.00. Multicolor logo 6.50
- All items offered in Youth XS to Adult XXL
- Royal Blush price comparison reviewed at meeting-slightly higher (average \$2-3 per item)
- Do not need to vote for change of supplier

6.8 BBQ (Catherine)

- Date change? May 31st now too close to new Art Gala date
- New proposed date Tues, June 6, rain date Wed 7th (not 8th due to GB meet, not week later due to Grad party)
- Time: 430-730pm?
- Need event insurance and to reserve the soccer field
- New scaled down plan due to limited volunteer resources: picnic, Everblast games, ice cream truck
- Picnic style -bring your own chair/blanket and picnic dinner/beverage
- No need for much supervision, so less volunteers needed
- Mrs Maurice suggests sending invite to new K4 & K5 students and families
- Everblast:
 - Carnival style games: 12 carnival games-plastic archery, human hamster bubble, etc.
 - 2 animators included (plus 2 H&S volunteers since most of the games do not need supervision)
 - \$2100 + taxes for 12 games, additional fees for archery, human hamster bubble.
 - Use Jungle Sport budget for this
- Wild Willy's truck:
 - 7 flavors to choose from
 - Kid portion: \$4.00 (txs included)
 - Adult portion: \$5.35 (txs included)
 - Flat fee of \$75.00 for preparation, move and set up,
 - Payments by cash, credit or debit card at the window
 - WW provides cups, regular cones, napkins, spoons, hand sanitizer and a garbage can at window

6.9 School Supplies (Catherine)

- Editions Vaudreuil for last few years – issue with slow pick-up last year (supplier insisted on handling this)
- Stephanie N taking over as coordinator
- Will sign the agreement soon
- H&S volunteers will take over pick-up process to speed things up this year

- We usually vote on continuing to use this supplier, but we already approved this fundraiser with GB last June so do we need to? Was agreed that it is not necessary.
- Revisit pick up in the back of the truck. Neil suggested it was quicker this way. Catherine feels that it is more social to meet the parents in the lobby, and if we can manage a quicker pick-up process this may be ideal. We will think this over.

7. No new business

8. Call to action:

8.1 Call out to volunteers for the art gala decorating sub-committee (email to come)

8.2 Call out to fill executive positions next year

- Treasurer, secretary and president 2-year terms are all ending by September. Nominations are open. Neil spoke to the treasurer role last meeting. Catherine provided a high-level snapshot of responsibilities as president. They include communications (with Mrs. Maurice and to parents), H&S emails, monthly newsletters, chairing H&S meetings, H&S related social media posts, overseeing all committees and recruiting volunteers etc. What happens if we do not have a president? Officially the Association would dissolve, but it should not come to that. Co-presidents are welcome, or a different division of tasks. Catherine reminded members that she will be around to continue managing the H&S website and running all related reports. She will support anyone new to the role.

9.Meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM

Motion 1- Nadia, 2 – Neil. All in favour.

Next meeting: April 3rd, 2023

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