



## Home and School General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 26<sup>th</sup> 2024. Library. Start time: 5:02 pm

**Attendees:** Catherine Fini, Natalie Maurice, Samantha Cinquino, Stephanie Nicolaou, Domenica Viola , Derek Lagimodiere, Olivia Hutchins, Bessie Michael.

**Regrets:** Lisa Taylor, Erica Ranjitsingh

### 1. Opening remarks:

- Quorum: 7 members in attendance. Quorum met.

### 2. Approval of agenda for February 26<sup>th</sup> 2024

- Motion approved by 1. Sam 2. Stephanie

### 3. Approval of minutes from January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024

- Motion approved by 1. Domenica 2. Olivia

### 4. Reports:

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

A lot of QFHSA H&S updates available. This was shared via email to members.

#### 4.2 Treasurer's Report & Budget (Olivia):

- 2<sup>nd</sup> round of pizza lunch generated \$12K
- Teacher's wish list and school banner was expensed.
- Some expenses for fundraisers are included within.
- Staff appreciation generated \$1,770 of donations, and which offset expenses.
- Changes to the budget format made, introducing sub-categories of budget reporting.
- Super recyclers and school supplies inflow, was the most we have achieved.
- Staff appreciation was made possible thanks to all generous parents

### 4.3 Principal's Report (Mrs Maurice)

The office has been very busy preparing for next year. We came back from the holidays with Open House on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to Home and School, as well as the parent volunteers who came in to help make the event a success. We had approximately 30 – 40 families visit.

We were fortunate to have had our school website updated, as well as our promotional video to have been redone. Both look fantastic!

The Kindness Committee has been busy planning events for school spirit. As well, they have busy planning events for PINK shirt day – and Kindness initiatives throughout the month.

We celebrated Lunar New Year with a Lion Dance from Jimmy Chan. We also had a presentation from Grade 6 students with interesting facts surrounding the holiday. All students wore red to recognize the New Year!

We also partnered up with Overture in the Arts for Black History Month. K and Cycle 1 level had a presentation from author Akilah Newton – we also purchased the books for the classrooms. Cycle 2 and Cycle 3 had a ZOOM presentation “Tracking Black Canada – Ladies of Movement.”

Staff Appreciation week February 5<sup>th</sup> – February 9<sup>th</sup>. A huge thank you to Home and School for all the treats! It was truly appreciated to be appreciated!

Thank you to Home and School for the treats for carnival week – gift cards for Just Dance, bingo prizes and movie treats.

### 4.4 Teacher representative report: Teacher wish list

Mme. Marie requires supplies for Art Gala

Mr. Lag – no other requests

## 5. Business arising from January minutes:

### 5.1 Stay safe/Home Alone course (Catherine)

- Training is provided by Centre de Formation en Secourisme du Quebec, whom came highly referred by the City of Kirkland. Kirkland offers the course to the public on March 21-same instructors
- It is a 6-hour course, with 15 student capacity per 1 instructor. 2<sup>nd</sup> instructor sent if we exceed 15 students.
- Cost \$45 tx in per child
- Recommended age 10-11 (grades 4,5,6)

- This is not a fundraiser, but a service offered to the parents, who can pay via H&S website.
- Action is to speak with the daycare team to facilitate logistics during the training. Will be offered to students in grades 4/5/6 only.
- Course to occur on April 26<sup>th</sup> (PED day) beginning at 830-230.
- Motion to Approve: 1. Samantha 2. Olivia

For context: Some of the topics that are covered in the "home alone" course, include:

- Getting home safely and the child's responsibility with the house keys.
- Getting a routine in order.
- What to do if strangers are at the door.
- Using the phone, having emergency numbers close by.
- Fear of being alone at home.
- What to do in case of a fire or violent storm.
- First aid and precautionary advice.
- Internet security

#### 5.2 Grade 4 vaccination

- Vaccinations to occur on March 26th from 8-11am
- H&S to provide snacks (goldfish bags) and juice boxes
- 2 volunteers are required to support. Action is to reach out to Grade 4 parents for support.

#### 5.3 Field Trip Banner

The new banner has been received, and ready for usage.

### **6. Coordinator Reports:**

#### 6.1 Staff Appreciation Post Mortem (Erica)

The festivities went off well, and the teachers really appreciated all of the treats!

Recap of events by day:

- Monday – Breakfast from Allo Mon Coco (set up in the staff room) & chair massages
- Tuesday – Chair massages and homemade Chocolate Covered Oreos
- Wednesday – Swag Bags filled with Cetaphil Samples, Personalized notes from the students and or families and Beacon Hill, and Embroidered Tuques. Full time Staff also received a leather note pad with their Initial on it and a pen
- Thursday – All Staff were treated to Lunch made and served by Beacon Hill Families

The remaining budget will go towards the end of year staff catered lunch and end of year gifts for the full-time staff.

#### 6.2 Carnival (Catherine for Lisa)

- Lisa purchased items for the Carnival from our usual contact Maurice from Mega Surplus in St-Laurent. H&S also has a small surplus of items that can be used-leftover from the holiday shop. Lisa also purchased snacks (goldfish crackers), juice boxes, and gift cards from Wild Willy's for the winners of the Just Dance competition.

#### 6.3 Art Gala (Catherine)

- There are 7 people on the committee, to which the team is trying to find more sponsorships.
- The decorations are being worked on, and as a reminder, the theme this year is *"Under the Sea"*
- Reminder to be sent to teachers on the raffle items; options include: time with teachers, or decorate a tote, which both items can be raffled off.
- Marie-Pierre will ask for more alumni to help at the event, and possibly to provide background music + face painting, as a fun activity.
- Date of the Art Gala: April 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### 6.4: Book Fair (Stephanie)

- Requesting higher level of French books, and less accessories, albeit accessories are best sellers.
- Unfortunately, the control on book choice selection to be sold at the Book Fair is limited, the choices are preselected and shipped to the school.
- Working on how to organize supporting contributions to the teacher book wish list.
- Date of Book Fair: April 15 to 18th

#### 6.5. Grade 6 Grad (Natalie Maurice)

- Thus far we are within Budget.
- The production of the yearbook is in WIP (Katia)
- Activity brainstorming sessions are also in WIP on how to raise additional funds.
- All is going according to plan, no challenges to report

## 6.6 Picnic (Catherine)

- Planning on hosting a family picnic on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Rain date June 5<sup>th</sup>
- Similar activities/agenda to last year's event, to which Everblast will return, Wild Willy's Ice Cream truck and other games.
- There will be no 'Dunk Tank'
- The event is a 'bring your own food' however payment is required for the ice cream.

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

### 7.1 Big Box of Cards Fundraiser (Catherine)

- Contrary to last time, there will be no samples to be sent home, except for 1 card sample to each student.
- The fundraiser will commence the week of March 11<sup>th</sup>, which will run for 2 weeks, and purchasing will be available exclusively online.
- Unfortunately, no French language, or blank card options, will be available.
- Prizes to be won based on sales

### 7.2: Volunteers to play games with International Students (Mrs. Maurice)

- Working on a grant on integrating international students better within the school, to practice their speaking uplift.
- This is currently being executed via leveraging game play, within school hours.
- A request for volunteers will be sent out, along with required time and hours within the day (yet to be determined, Mrs Maurice to advise before we move forward with request to volunteers).

### 7.3: Stencils in the library (Catherine)

- There is a project underway in which stencils will be painted all along the top of the library, and other areas as deemed appropriate.
- The cost of such artistry is ~\$4000. This was approved last year.
- Status is pending with the artist on the final design.

## 8. **Call to action (recap from actions above)**

- Nominations for the 2024-2025 H&S Executive Committee is now open
- Recruiting for 1 VP, which tenure is for 2 years, all nominations welcome

## 9. **Meeting Adjourned** at 6:04pm

- Motion approved by: 1. Stephanie 2; Sam 3; All in favor

**Next meeting April 15th 2024 5-6pm library**