

Parents in Partnership (PIP) Minutes for January 30, 2017 General Meeting 6:30 – 7:30

Location: BSLS Common Area

Attendees: Deanna Tkach, Sarah Wakelin, Jackie Culley, Cheryl Van Dale, Jenn McCrea, Anjanette Zielinski, Darla Gauthier, Roger Lapointe, Leanne Jones

Agenda:

1. **Welcome & Introductions** – Darla Gauthier (Vice-President) opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.
2. **Devotional** – Mrs. McCrea
3. **Approval of December 5, 2016 Parents in Partnership General Meeting minutes** – Sarah Wakelin
 - 3A. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the December 5, 2016 PIP General Meeting with the following change:
 - 3A.1. Proper spelling of “FundScrip” will be included.
 - 3A.1.1. The motion carried.
4. **Parents in Partnership Executive Reports**
 - 4A. Financial Update (Deanna Tkach – Treasurer)
 - 4A.1. Raised \$4500 approximately at the Fall Supper in November.
 - 4A.2. Mable’s label- \$58 dollars.
 - 4A.3. FundScrip – have raised \$580 since the last fall.
 - 4A.3.1. Another campaign is planned for after spring break.
 - 4B. Fundraising/Event Update 2016-17
 - 4B.1. Raised \$58 through “Mabel’s Labels” fundraiser; this fundraiser will carry on throughout the year.
 - 4B.1.1. School will send a reminder in time for spring break and summer camp season.
 - Leanne Jones to contact Deanna Tkach about the possibility of creating a coupon code for the school. A percentage of sales are given to the school when people use coupons.
 - Important to note that when any other coupon is used, the school does not automatically get a percentage of the profits – need to advertise this to people at the school so they are aware.
 - 4B.2. Movie Night - Thursday March 2nd – PIP will be looking for a few volunteers
 - 4B.2.1. More details on Movie Night will come out in mid-February, closer to the event date.
 - 4B.3. PIP BBQ is the last event of the 2016/2017 school year
 - 4B.3.1. There will be a charge for the food this year in order to cover some of the costs.
 - 4B.3.2. Looking for leads on bouncers for the event
 - Mrs. McCrea may have a lead and will share with the organizing committee (lead: Darla Gauthier).

4B.3.3. More details will come out on specifics closer to the event.

4B.4. Fall Supper – 2017/2018 School Year

4B.4.1. Based on positive feedback from the Fall Supper, the executive will pursue holding the event again at the Caboto Centre in November 2017 (November 4 or 25) as the major fundraising event.

- There was a question about the price of tickets affecting the turnout
 - The ticket prices will be a little lower this year to try and address turnout.
 - The cost for the food charged by Caboto remains the same and PIP will lose money selling the tickets at a lower price, but the costs will be recovered through the Silent Auction.
 - The price of the tickets will be in-line with other venues used for Fall Suppers in the past (CanadInns)
 - The preference by the Executive is to go with the Caboto Centre as there was positive feedback, the food quality is very good, parking is plentiful and the staff at the Caboto Centre were very accommodating, which eases the work and stress on the organizing committee/volunteers.
- The Executive suggested putting down a deposit to reserve the Caboto Centre in a timely manner, so that PIP is more likely to get the event scheduled on the weekend of PIP's choice and planning can begin prior to the fall, when many donations are being solicited from suppliers for other school fundraisers.
- A motion was made to use PIP funds to put down a maximum deposit of \$1500 to reserve the venue for the 2017/2018 BSLs Fall Supper.
 - The motion was carried.

4C. Vacant Executive Positions

4C.1. The Executive are looking for up to two St. Mary's Representatives and a support person to help the Fundraising Representative. If people are interested in putting their names forward to fill these positions, please speak with any member of the Executive or Jenn McCrea.

4C.1.1. Leanne Jones put her name forward at the meeting to be a support person for the Fundraising Representative (Colleen MacIver).

- This position is not an Executive position and does not require a vote by PIP members.

5. Childcare Report – Cheryl Van Dale, BSLs Childcare Program Director

5A. General update

5A.1. Mrs. Van Dale indicated the babysitting course will be offered at the school this year

5A.1.1. March 17 (In-service Day)

5A.1.2. Cost of \$40 for the student to take the course and receive childcare on that day

5A.1.3. Children who go through the course are welcome to post their names and contact information on the PIP bulletin board if they are interested in babysitting for families at the school.

5A.2. There will be In-service care offered during Spring Break (March 27-31).

5A.2.1. A number of fun activities are planned including:

- Plastic jug vehicle construction/racing;
- Making hacky sacks and practicing;
- Sketching and nature photography;
- May have a wildlife group come in and speak to the students about ecology and conservation.

5A.2.2. Sign up for In-service Care downstairs at BASC or by contacting Mrs. Van Dale in advance.

5A.3. In-service Day on February 3 (Friday) – “Snow Day” Theme.

5A.4. Mrs. Van Dale shared a short passage on “Encouraging Polite Behaviour”

5A.4.1. Adults should be aware of their language and remember to say “please” and “thank-you”

5A.4.2. Watch the tone of your message – aim to reduce negativity.

5A.4.3. Forgive forgetfulness (kids forget) – be kind when you remind them.

5A.4.4. Demonstrate respect – avoid yelling at children – get down on their level and be calm but firm when you address your concerns.

6. School Board Report - Roger Lapointe (Chairman)

6A. The open position on the School Board has been filled by Vanessa West, who is a parent with children at BSLS.

6B. There is a sewer issue at the school, which requires repair.

6B.1. The board will obtain 2-3 quotes before proceeding with hiring a contractor to carry out the repairs.

6B.2. The work will require ripping up a section of the drop-off loop, which will be out of commission for a few days – Mrs. McCrea will notify parents and the school will do their best to accommodate student drop-off during this time.

6B.3. The plan is for all of the work to be complete by the end of March to take advantage of the frozen soils.

6B.4. This is a capital project and is estimated to cost the school/board approximately \$15,000 to repair.

7. Principal’s Report – Jenn McCrea

7A. General Update

7A.1. Registration for existing students is automatic this year; the school went ahead with this based on feedback received from parents

7A.1.1. All children who attended school at BSLS last year will be re-registered.

7A.1.2. If personal information or banking information has changed, please notify the school secretary.

7A.2. Country week - Chile

7A.2.1. A parent from Chile will come in and share ideas about how to celebrate the Chilean culture the week before

7A.3. February is “I Love to Read Month”

7A.3.1. Munsch Busters play in the school gym on January 30

- There was a story on “breaking wind” in the play.
 - Mrs. McCrea stated the importance of making reference to private parts using their real names so that children can communicate if they are hurt.
- 7A.3.2. February 1 is “Wear Words”
- 7A.3.3. February 8 is “Dress up like your favourite storybook character”
- Must be from a book and the child should bring the book with them.
- 7A.3.4. February 14 - Valentine’s Day
- 7A.3.5. February 22 is “Voyageur Week” – children will sample Pea Soup.
- Mrs. McCrea may need some help filling the crate of snow used to make a snow sculpture in front of the school.
- 7A.3.6. The school is looking for parents/grandparents to read to the children. A number of local personalities will read throughout the month, but if people are interested in reading to a class, please see Mrs. McCrea.
- 7A.4. Mrs. McCrea will be away from February 6 to the 16th
- 7A.4.1. Ms. Meilleur is the acting Principal during the absence and is available to discuss any concerns.
- 7A.5. There have been various Open Houses at the Birchdale and St. Mary’s campuses.
- 7A.5.1. Based on the turnout, it appears as though registration/numbers will be similar to previous years
- 7A.5.2. Kindergarten will be almost full.
- 7A.5.3. The Board will make decisions related to the school, etc, in April, once the applications are in.
- 7A.6. There was general discussion about class sizes, how they are determined and whether class size factors in the specific needs of children in a given class (i.e. some classes have more “spirited” children than others, which could affect learning by others if the class is at capacity (24 students)).
- 7A.6.1. When determining the class size, the school and board need to factor in budget constraints etc.
- 7A.6.2. 24 students in a class meets the Louis Riel School Divisions class size requirements.
- 7A.7. Mrs. McCrea encourages people who have questions about class sizes and the operation of the school to speak to her
- 7A.7.1. All other concerns about homework/class activities, relationships should be addressed directly with the child’s teacher.
- 7A.7.2. Questions related to BASC should be directed to Mrs. Van Dale.
- Noted that Mrs. McCrea is also the Executive Director of Childcare as well as being Principal of the school.
- 7A.8. There was general discussion about whether there will be any community events planned this winter as per last year (public skate/skate on the river, etc.)
- 7A.8.1. Mrs. McCrea to discuss this with Mr. Wozny, who planned last year’s events.

8. Adjournment

8A. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.