

Parents in Partnership (PIP) Meeting Notes from the September 19, 2017 General Meeting 6:30 – 7:30

Location: BSLS Common Area

Attendees: Darla Gauthier, Roger Lapointe, Mary Natividad, Mary Kraigsley, Brandi Meilleur, Michelle Woo, Sarah Wakelin, Jackie Culley, Cheryl Van Dale, Jenn McCrea, Nichole Elvebo, Marla Lesko, Heather English, Lorianne Butterfield, Anne Scott-Herridge, Rikki Landry, Sabrina Patrick, Jen Hughes, Barb Wierckx, Marianne Lozinski-Tavares.

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome & Introductions** – Darla Gauthier (President) opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.
- 2. Devotional – Brandi Meilleur** (Grade 3/4 Teacher)
- 3. Approval of May 15, 2017 Parents in Partnership Annual General Meeting minutes –**
 - 3A. A motion was made to approve the May 15, 2017 Annual General Meeting minutes with the following change:
 - 3A.1. Item 4.B.4.1 “Rebecca will have sole signing authority as the Treasurer” will be moved down to the 4.B.4.2 position, underneath “A motion was made to elect Heather English and Rebecca Wiens as Treasurer for the 2017/2018 & 2018/2019 school year....”
 - 3A.2. The motion was seconded. Carried.
- 4. Parents in Partnership Executive Reports**
 - 4A. Financial Update (Heather English – Co-Treasurer)
 - 4A.1. There is \$4200 in the PIP account.
 - 4A.1.1. This money is in place to account for PIP operating expenses, deposits and paying for supplies for fundraisers/community events throughout the school year.
 - 4A.1.2. Recently received a check for Mabel’s Labels for \$58 and the “Farm to School” monies are beginning to come in.
 - 4B. Fundraising/Event Update 2017-18
 - 4B.1. Mabel’s Labels (Nichole Elvebo – Vice President)
 - 4B.1.1. This fundraiser is in place and ongoing throughout the school year.
 - 4B.1.2. Labels for kids school supplies and clothing.
 - 4B.1.3. There is a link to Mabel’s Labels is on the PIP website for information and access for ordering.
 - 4B.2. FundScrip (Jackie Culley – General Member and regular volunteer)
 - 4B.2.1. Jackie has agreed to coordinate this fundraiser for PIP.
 - 4B.2.2. Funds are raised through the purchase of a wide range of gift cards (Sobeys’s, etc.) and a percentage of the purchase price (it varies depending on the card) is returned to the school.
 - 4B.2.3. This fundraiser will be in place soon and in time for the Christmas gift giving season.
 - 4B.3. Farm to School Fundraiser – Michelle Woo (Past-President)
 - 4B.3.1. Orders are due on the September 25th

4B.3.2. The school receives 50% of the purchase price of a bag of vegetables.

4B.3.3. If families don't want the vegetables, there is an option to donate bags to Winnipeg Harvest (and the school will receive the money).

4B.3.4. Bags will be delivered on October 5 for pick up by parents at the end of the day.

- Looking for volunteers to help fill the bags between 9 and 12 a.m. on the 5th.
- Some heavy lifting involved – strong arms and backs are welcome.

4B.4. Christmas Supper – (Darla Gauthier and Nichole Elvebo)

4B.4.1. The supper will be held on November 25 at the Caboto Centre.

4B.4.2. This is the major, annual fundraising event for the school.

4B.4.3. Caboto charges \$38.95 for an adult meal and \$18.95 for children, plus tax and gratuity.

4B.4.4. Last year tickets were \$40 for adults, \$20 for children 4 to 13, and free for children 3 and under.

- 4.B.4.4.1. There were some who felt the price was too high last year; however, the prices charged covered the cost of the meals with a negligible profit.

4B.4.5. There was general discussion about pricing and most were in favour of recovering costs for the meals (\$40 for adults and \$20 for children)

- o Mrs. McCrea encouraged the organizers to advertise that the food is high quality and that is why the ticket price is what it is.

4B.4.6. The menu will be the same as last year.

4B.4.7. There will be a cash bar this year.

4B.4.8. Juice and pop will cost extra.

4B.4.9. There will be a seating chart made this year.

4B.4.10. Desserts will be plated this year.

4B.4.11. A motion was made to charge \$40 per adult, \$20 per child (4 to 13 years) and nothing for children 3 and under for tickets to the Christmas supper fundraising event. The motion was seconded. Carried.

4B.4.12. A motion was made to increase the ticket price for adults who reserve tickets on or after November 1. At this time, the adult ticket price will increase to \$45 per ticket. The charge for children's tickets will not increase. The motion was seconded. Carried.

4B.4.13. A motion was made to provide complementary tickets to families at the school at the Principal's discretion. The motion was seconded. Carried.

4B.4.14. Silent Auction Prizes

- As per last year, the plan is to have a theme for each classroom to prepare a basket for the silent auction. Ideas include:
 - o Star Wars
 - o Hockey

- Christmas
- Snow Day
- Kitchen
- Board games
- Baking
- Parents are welcome to speak with Darla and Nichole about how they may help/contribute.
- There will be an auction for the drop-off parking spot in the teachers lot (very close to the school)
- Auction to eat first.
- The Principal indicated there is a list of businesses who have contributed in the past that she will pass on to Darla and Nichole.
 - The organizers will be looking for people to get into touch with these businesses and request prizes.
- The plan is also to have a lot of smaller prizes for the children to bid on – this is very fun and exciting for the children.
- Greg Zielinski will be acting as the Master of Ceremonies again this year – he made the event a lot of fun last year.

4B.4.15. Volunteers will be required for various activities

4B.5. Executive Vacancies

- 4B.5.1. There are two St. Mary's Representative positions that are open on the executive as well as a Fundraising Representative
- Anyone who is interested in learning more about the positions and/or putting their name forward to fulfill these roles are urged to get into touch with anyone on the Executive and/or the Principal.

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

5A. General Update

- 5A.1. "Show and Save" coupon books are being sold to raise funds for the Childcare Program this year at a cost of \$20 per book. The Childcare program will receive \$8.50 for each book sold.
- 5A.1.1. Please let Mrs. Van Dale or the school secretary know if you are interested in purchasing a book.
- 5A.2. Due to a pipe leak in the basement during the summer, various improvements have been made.
- 5A.3. Various group activities are being planned this year including sewing, perler beads, a clay club and a new cooking club.
- 5A.4. October 20 is an In-service day; the theme for the day will be "Science concoctions"
- 5A.4.1. Parents must sign up on a list downstairs for care in advance of the in-service day.
- 5A.5. Anxiety in children coming to school and being away from parents is normal, but it can be hard for parents to leave when a child is particularly upset.
- 5A.5.1. The quicker that parents leave makes it easier for the children.

5A.5.2. Once a parent leaves, they should not come back to check a few minutes later, otherwise the child may become anxious that their parents are uncomfortable leaving them.

5A.5.3. The Childcare Director welcomes parents to leave something for your child, to remind them of you (a photo or other article for them to look at or touch).

5A.5.4. The school will get into touch with parents if they think a child is having particular difficulties.

6. School Board Report - Roger Lapointe (Chairman)

6A. General Update

6A.1. The board recovered insurance monies and provided some additional funds for the school to make some improvements after the pipe burst.

6A.2. Finished governance

6A.3. Working with the church regularly to discuss what the church expects students to achieve while at BSLs.

7. Principal's Report – Jenn McCrea

7A. General Update

7A.1. Language and speech screening will begin in September

7A.1.1. This is done mostly for Kindergarten students, but also some children in higher grades.

7A.2. Introducing vision screening this year. This is a new program the province is testing in 45 schools in the Province.

7A.2.1. This will be offered for the next three years.

7A.2.2. A permission form will be sent home to parents for vision screening for kids from K to 8. Those who are interested in having their child's eyesight checked should sign up.

7A.2.3. Parents will receive a report with or without a prescription, depending on the child's eyesight.

- Superstore provides free glasses for children.

7A.3. The school has access to a social worker, occupational therapist and psychologist, who are shared with the Louis Riel School Division.

7A.3.1. The school will arrange directly with parents if they note any concerns they feel should be addressed.

7A.4. The school is starting the year with practice fire drills, evacuations and lock downs.

7A.4.1. The first fire drill was today and all of the children were out of the school in 3 minutes and 28 seconds.

7A.4.2. A school lock down includes a step called "Hold and Secure", where children are kept in their classrooms until the issue is resolved.

7A.4.3. School evacuations are to Nordale School (primary) and Norwood Community Club (back-up).

7A.4.4. Children are made well aware of the importance of each of these activities while at school and act calm and cool in the process.

7A.4.5. Parents are welcome to talk to their child's teacher directly if they have any concerns about any of the above and/or if there may be particular needs in relation to their child.

7A.5. Volunteers are always welcome at the school to help in the class, cook hot lunches or help with various activities (photocopying, reading, speech, etc.) If parents have some time to give, the school would welcome it.

7A.6. The school is aiming to host hot lunches every Friday this year. A new one that will be introduced is a spaghetti lunch along with the regular ones (Booster Juice, Subway, Boston Pizza).

7A.7. Lunch helpers are from Grades 5-8 this year. These children help the younger grades open containers and use the microwaves, etc.

7A.7.1. Two school staff roam around and monitor the lunch rooms throughout the lunch hour.

7A.8. There is a canteen again this year.

7A.8.1. Grade 7/8 students are in charge and are helping to train the grade 5/6 students.

7A.8.2. Barb Wierckx purchases all of the supplies and welcomes ideas from everyone about what to stock.

7A.9. Patrols will be added to the front drop-off loop this year to help people navigate during drop-off.

7A.10. Improvements have been made to the school

- Updates in the basement include a new couch, flooring and improvements to the bathrooms.
- Some reorganization has opened up the kitchen (which is why the school can now offer a cooking club).
- A new water fountain (with a bottle filling station) has been added in the hallway. A new fountain has also been installed in the basement.
- Staffroom has new furniture and appliances.

7A.11. Mrs. McCrea introduced Mrs. Patrick, who the morning Kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Van Dale is teaching in the afternoon.

8. Other Business

8A. General discussion

8A.1. All fundraisers should be advertised at both the school and daycare (Birchdale and St. Mary's campuses).

8A.2. A "No Dogs" sign is needed on the south playground fence

- Dog waste has been found.
- Mrs. McCrea indicated the school will lock the gate if there continue to be problems with neighbours abusing the grounds.

9. Adjournment

9A. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:50.

10. Speaker (7:30 to 8:30)

Nobby Woo was invited to presented on the "Love and Logic" approach to parenting.

