

SIR WILLIAM MULOCK SECONDARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 3, 2009 / 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. – Library

Mission Statement: "To enable every student to strive for personal excellence, to make a contribution to his/her community and to acquire the skills and attitudes that will prepare him/her for life-long learning in a global society."

Attendees: P. Ingram (Chair), J. Ravesi (Principal), B. MacIsaac (Vice-Principal), A. White (Student Representative), R. Sharma (Teacher Representative), M. Madden (Support Staff Representative), C. Price (Secretary), S. Michaud (Community Representative), N. Pfenning, M. Bahlheda, J. Armstrong, M. Ahrens, H. Moffatt, T. Olesovsky, B. Smith, L. Nijse, D. Morrison, I. Fejtek.

Meeting got started with a couple of teacher requests for funding. Monica Ahrens advised us about the "Joseph" production that Mulock is putting on (April 16, 17 & 18th). It will include choirs from the various feeder schools also taking part in different productions. This is an expensive undertaking and they are looking for any financial contribution that Council could make. Voting took place during the Treasurer's report and \$200 was APPROVED which could help with microphone rentals.

Norm Pfenning is heading up a Professional Reading Group and is looking for aid to purchase about 15 books, "Boys Adrift" on gender learning differences and how boys learn best. First semester they concentrated on the female brain. Books are \$15.90. Again voting took place later and \$200 was APPROVED.

Marianne Bahlheda and Julia Armstrong gave an informative presentation on a 10 day (April 22 – May 1, 2010) "Battlefields of Europe" (Belgium and France) that our students could have the opportunity to experience. If there are 30 students the cost is approximately \$3,200 (including some meals, attractions, airfare). Prices would go down to about \$2,800 should 40 sign up. A Parent Information Night will be held on February 10, 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria or you can contact the school for further information. Council APPROVED to give \$200 which might help out with tips, etc.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 15, 2008

Under Fundraising Report council received \$1,662.00 Administrative support from agenda sales for the balance of \$1,681.89.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

Peggy again thanked the Smirlies for their great effort with the Poinsettia fundraising – paperwork and spreadsheets were amazing. As they were unable to attend the meeting, final figures were not available but Peggy expected around \$1,000 profit. Orders were received from Magna and Mercedes and we will definitely continue to try and tap into the corporate market.

We have received a \$500 grant from the government.

Peggy reiterated that we try to cap any request at \$200 as we give \$1,000 to graduation every year and this allows us to be able to share among more, and also, it is strictly on a first come basis.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

B. MacIsaac -

- We are presently getting quotes for a LCD Video Monitor to be positioned in the front foyer which can be updated daily with an on-going running LCD Screen displaying events going on in the school (drama, sports, advertising, announcements, etc.) – incorporating as many departments as

possible. Student Council/Prefects are contributing \$3,500 towards the purchase. Council has APPROVED \$200.

- Staffing – All teacher vacancies for semester two have been filled.
- Still working on cleaning up the website. It is strictly voluntary for a teacher to take on and they are working on it. Each of the 17 departments will look at their page.
- Have early entrance Grade 8 students here this term. It's a much smaller group and they can work on literacy, social, etc. so students fit in much better in the fall.
- School's Plan for Continuous Improvement is being worked on and will be put on the agenda for next meeting for our input.
- Exams ran smoothly.

J. Ravesi –

- Discussed alternating period C and D to avoid students missing so many classes with having to leave early for sports. It was mentioned that this is also good for the students that do not participate in sports but have a teacher who is coaching as they are also absent that period and missing teaching time. Discussed alternating daily or weekly and felt it was less confusing to be weekly. This may affect those with spares and coop but with enough notice they will be able to adjust their schedules. Administration has the council's support to pursue this and they will measure the success.
- First expulsion of the school year (selling marijuana).
- A real problem with textbook not being returned (157 students - \$4,000).
- Two trips taking place – Netherlands – students are there now; Costa Rica Rainforest – February 19th.
- Looking into all entering grade 9 students in Sept. 2010 and each year after purchasing and/or leasing laptop computers. This has been done in one other school and they will look into that school to see how it is working and what has to be done to the classrooms to support this. Administration has the Council's support on this issue.
- Teachers' union has reached a contract agreement through to 2012.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – Augusta White

- Semi-formal a success – 350 attended. (Coat check issues were resolved and went well).
- Valentine's Day activities planned (matchmaker, bachelor/bachelorette, candy-grams, red/white/pink day).
- Volleyball and badminton games being organized for staff/students
- First week of March there is plans for a Battle of the Bands.

CHAIR REPORT – Peggy Ingram

- Website is looking better but still lots to do.
- Constitution will be finalized after next meeting so everyone is encouraged to look through it and bring suggestions/changes to the April meeting.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

1) Is it "illegal" to take child away for vacation during school year?

Not ideal, but not ILLEGAL. There is a form that students should take to their classes for teachers to sign that they are aware. Students are responsible for missed work. Cannot miss exams for vacation.

2) Is there a need or interest in the Council to raise funds for broader school support?

No, council leaves the fundraising up to the student council (student leadership) and we do not get too involved. We hold one fundraiser a year.

3)Did the Council apply for a PRO (Parents Reaching Out) grant this year?
No, not this year.

We ended the meeting with parents participating in the on-line Learning Styles Assessment which was answering about 80 questions on the computer and then receiving a print-out showing the type of learner we are. It appeared that most parents were varied.

UPCOMING DATES

February 6 – Semester 1 Reports

February 16 – Family Day Holiday

February 19 – Course Destination Information Night

February 24 – Course Selections Due

March 4 – Interim Reports

March 10 – Parent/Teacher Interviews

March 16 – March Break

April 2 – Grade 10 Literacy Testing

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 7 – 7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY.
PLEASE COME OUT AND JOIN US.**

:cap (Feb.15/09)