

## **Home and School Minutes November 20, 2017**

### **Attendance**

Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch, Andrea Altman, Ilana Popliger, Liz Allen, Alia Odubayo, Chantal Latour, Carine Amzallag, Anastasia Wilhelm, Arbel Ben-Or, Melissa Levy, Lana Geller, Nathia Messina

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

A motion was made by Andrea to accept the November agenda, seconded by Lana.  
All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions; approved.

### **Approval of October minutes**

A motion was made by Ilana to accept the January minutes, seconded by Anastasia.  
All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions; approved.

### **Treasure's Report**

Not much change to report at this time.

### **Administration Report**

Dare to Care is booked for Westpark – Feb 6 grades k-4 will have their sessions, and Feb 7 & 8 will be the 'Take the time' days for grades 5 and 6 (one day/grade).  
Parent teacher interview night went well. In the future, an ERMS will be sent out to inform parents when Fusion will be open to book times for interviews online. Some parents prefer the interview format over portfolio, but it is up to the teachers to decide which format they want to use.  
Windows in the gym will be finished this week; the gym will not be usable Thursday and Friday while they finish up, so all phys. ed. classes will take place outdoors or in the classrooms during these 2 days. New curtains will be going up on the windows as well. Request made for curtains for the stage to match – blue front curtain, red back curtain, and the Sharks logo present on the front curtain. Cost for this is approx. \$14,500. Beechwood recently had their curtains done by the same person, and they look great. This supplier was chosen due to best pricing/quality/experience with stage curtains.

### **Teacher's Report**

Thank you to H&S for the allocations. 3 out of 8 new teachers have submitted their receipts for the new teacher allocation, hopefully the rest will submit their as well. Reminder will be sent to all homeroom teachers to get their receipts in for their allocations as well.  
Keva Planks have been coming in and are being labelled so the classes can start using them. Orders had to be made in batches of 3, as Amazon would not ship 14 sets on one account.  
There are no new requests at this time.

**Membership** – One new member, bringing us to 36 members.

### **Updates**

**Pizza** – No major change, 3 new orders added.

**Teacher Appreciation Week** – Went very well, got great feedback regarding the daily events and the gifts that were given to all teachers. The movie that was made by Jackson and his crew was great! Much thanks to all who helped out and to our wonderful teachers! As a thank you to Jackson and his film crew, we suggest hosting a small pizza party for them at school after March break.

**Adult Evening** – we have contacted several hypnotists, prices range from as low as \$550 to \$4500. We read reviews and watched online performances for the ones we are considering. We do not want to simply choose the lowest rate; we want to try to get the best performer for a price we are comfortable with. We are still waiting to hear back from a few people. The average range looks to be about \$2000-2500 for quality performances.

We do not want to pair the evening with a large auction this year. If we do anything, it will be a raffle for highly coveted prizes that will definitely bring in money.

We plan to have a liquor licence as well as we have done in the past.

**Chocolate Bar Sales** – We are still waiting for payment from 13 boxes to be returned. We are looking at a profit of about \$16,000. We are very pleased with this amount. Last year we made \$19,000 but on a 58% profit. This year we are only making 50%, but the chocolate is much better, and we sold more bars than last year. We continue to receive great feedback on the Laura Secord bars.

**Bake Sale** – Our most successful bake sale to date!! Previous record was \$1200, this year we sold for \$1276.50! We decided to use plastic containers instead of plates and saran wrap, and the results were fantastic. The goods looked more appealing, it was easier to package everything, and we were able to stack the containers without squishing any of the contents. We plan to continue with this format in the future.

**French Book Fair** – This book fair was the most successful French book fair in recent years. We made \$2580 in credit, from sales of \$6700 (last year was \$5250). French homeroom teachers received over \$1,000 worth of books (about \$50 each) and we gave the library over \$700 worth of new French books as well. Our credit total with Scholastics is now \$8500.

Comments received that book prices are high, and selection is low, however we still sold more than any previous French book fair.

We discussed the option to host 2 English book fairs during the school year while asking them to send as many French books as possible for the fall one, which would give us a higher percentage of profit. However, Westpark is an early immersion school, and many people feel that we need to have a dedicated French book fair. English books are easier for our community to find, less so for French books, so a French book fair helps fix that.

Some of the new volunteers said they felt bad for the kids who did not bring money to the book fair, or did not have enough money for some of the things they wanted, and were very upset. We explained that sometimes parents come shopping with their kids during the family shopping event the evening before to buy and the kids are still upset that they cannot purchase more the following day, and some families choose not to send money with their kids for whatever reason. We also have a selection of used books to sell at \$1 each, but unfortunately, we are not in the position to be

able to buy books or school supplies for children without money at the book fair. This year our selection of used books was low – we did not receive any donations of used books. We will try to rebuild our collection this year.

### **New Business**

**New Fundraisers/Events ideas** – We are asking everyone to brainstorm for any amazing new ideas for future fundraisers and events. We want to increase our revenue and generate more excitement and a sense of community.

**Teacher Appreciation Week** – We have begun discussing our plan for teacher appreciation week, to take place the week of February 12-16. More details to be included in future minutes so as not to ruin the surprise for the teachers. Our budget will remain the same as in the past, \$500.

**Editions Vaudreuil School Supplies** – We were approached again by the rep for Editions Vaudreuil. We had done school supplies with them 5 years ago, and it was not a positive experience. They assured us it would be different this time around. Kelly met with Claude, but their program and pricing does not compare to the profit percentage we are getting with our current suppliers. We will not be switching at this time

### **Voting**

1 – Kelly motions to allocate up to \$14,500 for new curtains for the gym. Seconded by Liz. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.

2- Andrea motions to allocate up to \$2200 for an entertainer for the April adult evening, specific performer to be confirmed in the new year. Seconded by Lana. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions – approved.

We will not have a December meeting; everyone is busy with the upcoming holidays.

Next Meeting: Monday, Jan 15, 2018 at 7:30pm.

Happy Holidays and thanks for coming to the meeting!