

Karen Kain School of the Arts Council **APPROVED: February 08, 2010**
Notes for January 11th, 2009

Present: Shirley Asevicius, Eva Ballentine, Karen Borne, Chris Brown, Tanya Carey, Della Court, Judy Diercks, Heather Graydon, Manjet Kalra, Kamal Kalra, Jan Lavelle, Lisa Lev, Lori McMurray, Helene Pfeiffer, Carolyn Rasiuk, John Reis, Beth Scannell, Kim Shaw, David Meyler, Susan Meyler, Tulin Valeri, Anita Shack, Chris Hoy, Tara Paterson, Sunie McFadden Curtis, Connie Wren, David Parker, Carolyn Madonia, Diana Campton, Cathy McDowell, Nahid Ahmedzadeh, Sudeep Sanyal, Beryl Cohen, Beverly Bonk

Regrets: Susan Cohen, Jennifer Fraser

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Carolyn raised the issue of conflict of interest out of procedure: declare it now if you think you may have.

2. Approval of minutes

-Approval of November 9 notes will be deferred to February meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda

-Changing format to students' report first, then the teachers report, and finally the committee reports.

-Motion to approve Heather, seconded Jan, carried.

4. Students' Report—Kristine (Minister of Fundz)

-Student government has come up with a way to keep kids outside at recess during the cold: hot chocolate days—it is to be served outside the drama room once a week.

-Winter dance in December was a success \$500 was raised.

-Feb. 12 there will be a dance-a-thon. Students voted on masquerade theme.

-The next dance may not have a DJ but will get a local band.

-There will be a skate day sometime soon yet date is still to be set.

-Dance-a-thon money will go towards the school—not decided yet for what use.

5. Teachers' Report—Tara Paterson

-Reports on Book Fair: raised \$908 in cash for school--sold \$3029 worth of books

-Thanks for volunteers' help

-In library the carpets are ripped up and now tiles on floor. Will purchase back jack floor chairs for the library.

-Discussed Forest of Reading program.

-Requesting volunteers to read the books on list. There will be four dates for students to have a munch and chat with the volunteers to discuss the books they have read (and volunteers are to provide treats). Grade 8 students will also interview readers and check

that they have read the book. The Silver Birch and Red Maple participants must read 5 books.

-If parents want to purchase the books they may consider donating the books to the school library when done.

Mr. Sanyal reports on other school activities:

-Eco club starts today.

-Mr. Sanyal started a new initiative: a boys' reading club for boys to read and talk about guy stuff. After reading "The Lightning Thief" to celebrate they will go see the movie. The club will be about 10 boys with a grade 7-8's focus. This club will run until March and if it is successful he will start another club, which will include the grade 6 boys. Club will meet at a lunch hour each week.

-Sports: Boys' basketball team getting ready for tournament as is girls' volleyball.

-There will be a Career Fair on Feb. 1st. (Lakeshore career day). Need Presenters to speak for 45 minutes (including Q&A). Starts at 9:30 am and will be done by 2:15pm.

-Orders for school uniforms for gym going out next week. Following that "spirit gear" to be ordered by staff after which will be available for interested students.

6. Principal's Report—Helen Pfeiffer

-Update on KKSA application process—118 students applied last year and 124 this year. The number of boys jumped from 11 last years to 24 this year.

-Feb. 5th is the workshop day and thus a PD day for KKSA students.

-This past Friday staff had daily physical workshop day. For KKSA DPA—can we use dance as our daily physical activity?

-Ski Club starts this Thursday—we will see how it works this year to accommodate the numbers. Note to parents: please train the children to make sure they bring all their belongings home. On Wednesday there will be an assembly for ski club to go over details.

- At the end of February there will be a ski day for entire school.

-Discussion on school improvement plan—working on what this should look like—school is working with ministry of education officer—to structure and formalize plan.

Teachers' Report con't—Ms. Cohen

-Reports on Eco Club: presentation on club and what they would like to achieve.

-Looking for volunteers for this committee: 6-8 parents that can stay on committee over the next few years—Please notify if you can volunteer for and commit to this.

-KKSA has a bronze accreditation—want to be accredited again this year—it will take years to become a platinum eco school but will strive to achieve this.

Ms. Bonk reports on Safe Schools:

-There is a new legislation on safe schools (sexual harassment, bullying)

-SSAT: safe schools action team—a team of safety and education experts whom review all policies. There is a new mandate that all teachers and administration must be trained according to the safe schools manual which is very exacting about what you need to say and do in specific circumstances.

-Discussed Bill 157: the document and the process what to do in an incident

-This new protocol relates to all employees of the school.

7. Chair and Committee Reports—Carolyn.

- Discussion on formalizing the budget and bylaw—not set but to update— building on what has been started last year.
- Need to define which activities fall under council and school.
- Discussed how to avoid overlapping fundraising and to be clear about what money is being raised for: don't want to overburden council and parents—“fundraising fatigue”
- Discussed how council has to vote on how the money is being spent.
- Jennifer has been writing up some job descriptions, which will be helpful next year for new members.
- Jan and Susan started bylaws last year, and this year we have started to work with parent volunteer Ian McLaren.
- Discussion on school wish list: school needs and attaching \$ amounts to requests.

Eva reports on budget:

- Spoke about a fundraising calendar—how not to overlap—and to be able to budget throughout the year. Council needs to vote on where funds are going with regards to every school event and where the leftover money goes if funds are over expectations. Discussion on priorities of school wish list, and for teachers to provide wish list in early June for the following school year.
- Discussion of having standards in place—i.e. Grade 8 trip money—where these funds will come from. The grade 8 students should raise some of the grade 8 trip money as well—i.e. bake sales etc.—this should go through student parliament.
- Question raised about Ursula Franklin Academy—optional attendance forms. Helen is signing them—the forms are generated through administration. Parents to get forms, fill out and then give to the office—the office takes care of forms from there.

8. Committee Reports

Sunnie reports on dance-a-thon.

- Date is February 12th from 1-3pm.
 - January 29 there will be a pep rally. The top-grossing student will win an i-pod touch. There will be a prize per classroom for the most creative costume (decided by teacher).
 - Will offer a mask-making workshop to students for five dollars—to be offered over lunchtime.
 - Need shoeboxes—to decorate for raffle tickets—please bring in to school.
 - There is a DJ in place (will cost \$325) and will need \$500 to purchase prizes and decorations.
 - Students to receive pledge forms—the money raised are to go toward techno-dream. There will be tax receipts for donations over 25 dollars if cheque is written to TDSB.
 - Motion that school council will provide up to \$825 for the dance-a-thon.
- Motion to approve: Laurie, Chris Brown seconded, carried.
Student council will release \$850 for the event to be paid back by funds made at dance.

Eva presents Treasurers' Report: Reported on activity and council account at this time. Treasurers report to be handed out next meeting.

Fundraising Committee—Kim

- The Norcard fundraiser raised \$502.20.
- Chapters night there were \$3600 in sales— which is \$360 raised for the school.
- Canadian Tire Money Box made to collect Canadian Tire money for a school BBQ. Box will be left in the front lobby.

Ward Update—Jan on behalf of Susan

2010 Fall Reports to be cancelled— will be a progress report instead.

Master Classes Report—Jan

- Coming soon will be an approved plan to give teachers a new list of comments for reports.
- Master Classes series ended on January 6. Notes were taken and will be given out.
- Discussion of Portfolio Workshop.
- Class Rep. report.

Eva—last item for meeting: survey by People For Education on school council—please fill out and submit, will send out via email as well.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Shirley, seconded, Jan. Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:54pm