



## Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2015

Regrets: *Sonja Bent, Dawn Hare, Mike Oullette, Erika Sheen*

### 1. Welcome-

Meeting was called to order and those present welcomed by president-Kathy Boutilier. Thanks expressed to participants in the February meeting facilitated by e-mail exchanges in lieu of re-scheduling meeting on account of winter weather.

### 2. Committee Reports-

#### a. President –

- i. **PTA/Home and School Association Collaboration** - Kathy stated she, Laura Churchill-Duke and Anthony Sherrard attended the initial meeting of local school groups in early March, with Wolfville, Coldbrook and Port Williams being represented. She indicated that the meeting was an excellent exchange of ideas and understanding of differing processes between organizations. Kathy explained that Coldbrook School is registered as a not-for-profit organization, meaning they can issue tax receipts for donations, however, there are stringent guidelines on management and use of monies. Coldbrook School also has a rigorous application process for disbursement of funds to teachers for requests. Other ideas brought forth included an ice cream social during fall orientation, used book sale, and collection of Campbell's soup UPC codes. The collaboration plans to meet again in September.

#### b. Treasurer –

- i. Danielle DeGraaf provided report (attached), citing outstanding cheque to be cashed by Café Central from Teacher Appreciation. School fiscal year ends March 31<sup>st</sup>-cheques will be requested to settle accounts further to approved purchase of desks and seats for classrooms.

#### c. Town of Kentville –

- i. Active Living Coordinator Andre Bouchard provided a detailed report from the Town of Kentville Recreation Department.

##### 1. Physical Activity Phone Survey results-

Surveyed 270 adults in Kentville last November-December.

*"Improving accessibility of community-based physical activity opportunities by offering flexible, non-competitive, and low-cost activities may engage more community members."* I would love to survey children and youth.



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## 2. Bubble Soccer-

134 different people tried it, with an average age of 12.  
About 40 to 50 kids per day, with 50% female participation.  
Currently evaluating winter program to make plans for spring.

## 3. Trailblazers-

Starts mid-April, and is expanding from 2 to 4 days per week.

## 4. Summer programs-

Trailblazers camps for ages 6 to 9: 100% outdoors, no screens  
Specialty camps for ages 9 to 14: skateboard camp, bike camp, scooter camp, film making camp, natural science camp, etc.. Hiring summer staff soon.

## 5. Yoga in the Park at Oakdene-

Taking place every Wednesday this summer. Free for all ages and sponsored by Kentville Chiropractic.

## 6. Skatepark design-

First draft of design coming April 16 at a public review meeting at 6 pm at the fire hall. Portable ramps arriving soon for arena wheel time this spring.

## 7. School Travel Planning-

Meeting tonight following PTA meeting. Looking at a take-home family survey to be distributed after the snow is all gone.

### d. Principal/Vice-Principal –

- i. Mrs. Laurence reported that middle school students had a very positive trip to Ski Martock today by all accounts.
- ii. Fred Penner-childrens' musical performer will be provider grades P-5 students with a private concert on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. The concert will not be open to parents and families.
- iii. Ms. Casey applied for a gender equity grant for the Kodiaks, and was successful in procuring funding that will be used to fund diverse activities, including yoga, horseback riding, bubble soccer, On Tree and more. Activities will commence in April at no cost to participants in grades 4-7.
- iv. Letter received from the Town of Kentville seeking nominees for volunteer recognition. Discussion of current school volunteers followed, including suggestion of *Breakfast Program* volunteers and Dawn Hare for the *Taste a Rainbow* program. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Mrs. Laurence will respond to the request for nominees with the names suggested.



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## 3. Fundraising-

- a. No new matters to discuss, with focus of spring efforts on Spring Fling, and fall Veseys Seeds campaign.

## 4. Old Business-

- a. Matter of written requests from teachers brought forth by Danielle DeGraaf for further discussion/consideration with group. Danielle proposed that the issue be re-examined in order to consider development of criteria/a process for the PTA to guide through such requests in future. Mrs. Laurence stated that any such process should stipulate that request should clearly indicate that all possible sources for funding support be exhausted prior to submitting a request for funding to the PTA. Anthony Sherrard suggested a set amount be decided upon, with a set deadline for submission of requests each school year. The group discussed working toward a process for implementation for the next school year. Kathy suggested that the focus of the April meeting include drafting this process, as well as Spring Fling. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Kathy and Cheryl Lake to work on points of consideration for PTA members in advance of the April meeting. Those on the PTA e-mail distribution list will receive, in hopes that more will attend the next meeting to partake.

## 5. New Business-

### a. Spring Fling-

- i. Possible dates discussed and set as June 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a rain date of June 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00pm.
- ii. It was suggested that tickets for new primary students starting in the fall be distributed again this year. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Laura will connect with school office to have information and tickets included in the primary orientation package.
- iii. Kathy brought forth the idea of using a punch card versus tickets. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Kathy will get more information on use, and bring to April meeting for decision.
- iv. Anthony has tried to contact Par-T-Perfect, but has yet to receive a response. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Anthony will arrange for bouncy castle and cotton candy machine.

## 6. Other-

- a. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Laura will communicate by e-mail to PTA distribution list the agenda items for the April meeting, and the importance of attendance and participation.
- b. **Teacher Appreciation Lunch-**
  - i. Date was discussed and decided upon as Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. **ACTION ITEM(S):** Kathy to add luncheon to newsletter. Julia will connect with Andrea Watt regarding food amounts and volunteer requirements. Cheryl offered to help obtain food from her neighbourhood school families.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.



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**Next Meeting: *Tuesday, April 21, 2015 @ 6:00pm (KCA Art Room)***

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Lake  
PTA Secretary – 2014/2015