



## Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2015

Regrets: Mike Oullette

### 1. Welcome-

The meeting was called to order by president-Kathy Boutilier. Additions to the agenda were noted from those in attendance.

### 2. Committee Reports-

#### a. President –

- i. Kathy expressed thanks to those who assisted in the most successful movie night to date, with a profit of \$652.00.
- ii. She also stated that she has arranged to have Tracy Bartie and Melissa White in attendance at the January meeting to present on the topic of managing lice.
- iii. Kathy further discussed a matter related to a Facebook post to the KCA page commenting on the timing of a school marking day on the day following Halloween. She explained that this post resulted in negativity and was demeaning to teachers. Kathy asked that those in attendance to make every effort to curtail such comments. Victoria stated that individuals with concerns/comments should be directed to the school administration. Cheryl clarified that Facebook administrative rights are held by Laura, Kathy, Anthony and Sonya, and that the page is regularly monitored for appropriateness of comments/posts.

#### b. Treasurer –

- i. Danielle DeGraaf provided written statement of account (attached) citing a closing balance of \$12, 464.87. Expenses included the movie licensing fee and canteen supplies.

#### c. Principal/Vice-Principal

- i. Victoria Laurence reported that the storage container has arrived, and is positioned outside the art room, and is already at or near capacity.
- ii. She indicated that the card fundraiser with students in individual classes appears to have been quite successful, particularly with the lower elementary grades, with 135 cards coming in.

#### d. Town of Kentville –

- i. Eric Bolland was in attendance and introduced to the group present. He reported that the Hub building will have a wood pellet stove installed, and will be a source of heat, perhaps encouraging use by the public for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.
- ii. Andre Bouchard provided a written report (attached), indicating that the Town Torch Light Parade will be held on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> downtown, with a Christmas light exchange for updated LED lights and hot chocolate at the Rec



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Centre, followed by a free skate at the arena from 7-8pm. Spaces remain for the December session of the Make Your Own Skateboard Deck workshop. SHAFT

## d. Town of Kentville – continued

ii. (Super Happy Active Family Time) at the soccer stadium has started on most Saturday mornings from 10am-12pm. The after school free skate times on Thursdays from 2:50-3:50pm continue. He also explained that improvements have been made at the Memorial Park playground, with natural elements added and shrubs trimmed/removed to increase open play space. Further, he noted that there is planning underway for supervised, unstructured play time at the soccer stadium. Andre indicated that he will be presenting to Glooscap, NKEC, Aldershot and KCA school in-services about physical health/importance of daily physical activity to behavior, wellness and academics, in an effort to become a resource for teachers to increase daily physical activity at school. Finally, Andre requested to attend the Parent-Teacher night at the school to set-up information and to garner feedback with respect to the School Travel Committee.

## 3. Fundraising-

- a. **Rocky Mountain Christmas Tree Farm** – Kathy reported that the flyer has been prepared and will be sent to the office for distribution to students. Sales open on November 28<sup>th</sup>, with \$5 per tree being donated back to the school. **ACTION ITEMS:** Laura will forward flyer to the office to be sent home with students.

## 4. Old Business-

- a. **Winter Wear Recycle** – Kathy reported that Crystal is not able to assist with preparations for the recycling event. Cheryl has arranged for a truck to pick up coats at Vail's in New Minas and will deliver back to the school following dismissal on November 25<sup>th</sup>. Learning Centre volunteers will be organizing/sorting clothing the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup>. Erica is working on volunteers for the afternoon and evening of November 26<sup>th</sup>. Anthony cited that he has been in contact with Open Arms regarding the donation of any extra clothing items. **ACTION ITEMS:** Anthony will coordinate delivery following the recycling event.
- b. **Holiday Wishes Vendor Shopping Party** – Laura reported that she has over 40 vendors confirmed to attend the event, including those recruited from the Farmers' Market vendors. Laura reported that she has assisted Port Williams Elementary School in setting up their own vendor party, taking place November 25<sup>th</sup>. Several vendors are attending both events. The event will run from 6:00-8:30pm, with an additional notice to be sent home. The school has purchased 15 tables, which will be used, with additional tables being required. Tables will be set up in the afternoon.

\*\*\*Discussion ensued regarding the matter of the PTA purchasing tables for its various events. Anthony moved that the PTA purchase 15 eight-foot folding tables (i.e., Canadian Tire) at best possible cost. Debbie Lloyd seconded the motion. Question was called, and motion carried. **ACTION ITEMS:** Danielle and Anthony will arrange for purchase and



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transport of tables to the school. Victoria will discuss/determine storage of tables at the school with Mike.

## **b. Holiday Wishes Vendor Shopping Party – continued**

**ACTION ITEMS:** Anthony is making a layout map of vendors, as well as ballots. Victoria will ask Mike Oullette to arrange for transport of tables from the Town, with Eric Bolland offering possible assistance from the Town Parks & Recreation trucks. Mike Nelson offered to check with Evangeline Middle School regarding their multi-power outlet used for their events.

**c. Student Christmas Shopping Party** – Sylvia and Laura stated that they require additional volunteers to help with set-up for the shopping party on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, as well as the morning of the event-December 4<sup>th</sup> with the students, and cleaning up thereafter. Volunteers sought from those in attendance at the meeting.

## **5. New Business-**

**a. KCA Band Program** – KCA Band Director-Mike Nelson was in attendance and presented to the group a plan with respect to overseeing a middle school musical production – Aladdin in the spring of 2016. He cited that approximately \$3000 is required to do the show, with the majority of the expenses being recouped by ticket sales and 50/50 ticket sales. He noted that this production would be inclusive of all students in grades 6 through 8 (230+ students), not only those in the band program. He requested \$1000 from the PTA to start the preliminary work, including purchase of the production rights from Disney, sets and props. He further explained that there is a show planned for this coming year, and the year following; thereafter, there would be a production every alternate year, with a goal of becoming a self-sufficient entity with funding. Discussion followed, including possible venues and start-up funds required. Eric Bolland moved that the PTA fund the school band program \$2000 to support the start-up costs of a school musical production, with the understanding that if the productions do not continue in future, the original funds provided (\$2000 will come back to the PTA). Motion was seconded by Danielle. Question was called, with an open vote-motion carried. Eric further suggested that he would take forward a suggested support to the Town for this production in the amount of \$500.

**b. Refugee Family** – Jennifer Vardy-Little put forth that she learned there is a refugee family with six children (4 school-aged) from Somalia coming to the KCA school community next month. She had information suggesting that they may be starting at the school in January. Jennifer wondered about supports, resources and supplies being in place to welcome the family to the school. Victoria stated that the school has backpacks filled with supplies ready to go as needed. Victoria further stated that she can apply for ESL funding once the students have registered with the school. Discussion amongst group followed, with various concerns expressed relating to the existing needs in our school community. It was suggested that we need to learn more about the family and their needs. **ACTION ITEMS:** Jennifer and Andre volunteered to form a “Welcoming Committee” and will bring ideas back to the group at the January meeting.



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- c. **Raffle Draw** – Laura received a suggestion to share from a school parent regarding a possible fundraiser – selling tickets on front-row seats for the school Christmas concerts. Discussion followed – it was agreed amongst the group that there have been a number of fundraising efforts of late, time is running short as we head into the holiday season, and that the PTA does not have a great need for money at present, so all agreed to defer to next year as a possibility.

## 6. Other-

- a. **Teacher Funding Award** – Victoria reported that there were no Teacher Funding applications submitted the school admin. by the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. She suggested that the fall season has been a very hectic one for teachers. She further recommended that the application deadline be altered to January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to encourage applications. **ACTION ITEMS:** Victoria will take award information forward to next staff meeting.
- b. **Yoga for Teachers** – Danielle suggested that the PTA consider funding yoga classes at the school for teachers and all other school staff. This item will be deferred for further discussion at the January meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 @ 6:00pm (KCA Art Room)**

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Lake  
PTA Secretary – 2015/2016