

**Carseland Elementary School  
Parent Council Meeting**

**Monday, January, 19, 2009**

Present: T. McKinnon, Mr. Grimsdale, B Lausen, T. Page, Mrs. Gordon, Y. Anderson, C Lausen, J Alce, D. Knause, A. Page, D McPhearson, S. McPherson, C. Anderson, F. Tribe, J. Cook

**1. Welcome** to all by Teri, the meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. Happy New Year to everyone. Introductions were made as we were fortunate to have 2 GHSD trustees attend our meeting; Ron Kenworthy and Joyce Bazant. Thank you for coming.

**2. Reports:**

**Secretary's Report** – The minutes were distributed.

**Motion** – Dahrlyne motioned that we adopt the minutes as they are.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion** – Jenn Cook

**All in Favor**

**Passed**

**Treasurers Report** – Connie stated that we currently had a balance of \$5207.11. We made \$299.50 at the Christmas bake sale and an extra \$140 from recent student union book sales. She also reported that the PB Club has pledged \$40,000 to the CKWC from the casino money but the casino board has said that they would prefer that they give the money to the School Council and then they give it to CKWC. The reps from CKWC were in favor so Connie will pay for the school equipment directly when she receives it from the PB club.

**Fundraising Report** – Sherry was not able to attend this evening but sent her report to Teri. The Mom's Pantry forms will be coming out in this weeks' red folders. There was also a question as to Coco Brooks Pizza, if they would be included. Dahrlyne offered to pick up order forms if needed.

**Students Report** –Claire and Sarah reported that from now until the end of the year, each grade will be doing a fundraiser for the playground. Right now, grade 6 big crayon piggy banks in each class and the kids can put in coins. At Friday's count they had around \$62, their goal is \$200 by the end of January. If they do the students will receive an extra recess.

The grade 2 class wants to thank everyone who has taken their traveling teddy bears around the world; some of their bears have even gone to Rome and Cayman Islands. The girls then did a demonstration on navigating the website using the interactive smart board. There is teacher information about class work as well as staff approved websites for kids. Teri asked if there was any criteria for the sites in case the parents wanted to submit any. Mr. Grimsdale will look into that.

The grade 2 class will also be presenting a play for the Jet Setters Club on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Intramurals just finished dodge ball and now will be basketball. The volleyball tournament was very good. All of the students had a great time.

Grade 5/6 class will be going on a ski trip February 27 to Nakiska. They are going to be starting clusters on Thursday January 22. Some of the available classes are stain glass windows, birdhouse building, games, cooking, rocketry and many others.

**Teachers Report** – Mrs. Gordon reported that everyone really enjoyed the staff lunch on November 20<sup>th</sup>. It is so nice to be able to relax and visit and not have to rush. Thank you to Teri for the great Mexican meal.

Mrs. Gordon also wanted to really promote the hot lunches. The kids look forward to it and enjoy all the food, even the fruit. Grade 1 even manages to eat in the allotted time. As the students mentioned clusters start on Thursday with 14 options, and 5 or 6 of them being run by community members. This is so appreciated. Teri mentioned that perhaps if we invite the Jet Setters to the sharing session that they may be motivated to teach a class next year. Terry Strath and Sharon Alce will be notified of the celebration date for clusters.

**Hot Lunch** – We are now getting the milk from the Carseland food store and the cost has gone up - we will be charging \$0.75 for milk.

Hot lunch menu is available on the website and we will also try to include the volunteer schedule as well.

Some of the comments that were made were that the kids enjoyed the smokies and the fruit. They liked to have the choice of fruits.

**Community Representative** –Mrs. Page reported that the PB club is putting on their Chocolate Fantasy (ladies night) on March 14 - it includes all the chocolate that you can eat, fashion show and silent auctions. The tickets go on sale on February 4 at 6:00PM in the senior's room for \$25 and usually sell out in 20 minutes. The funds raised will go to community betterment.

A reminder that the Library in the hall is open on Tuesday and Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00pm and Saturday morning from 9:30 to noon.

As always any volunteers would be appreciated.

**Carseland Kids Wellness Coalition** – Alison mentioned it was great that the students were raising money for the playground – CKWC had been trying to think of ways to involve the kids.

They have currently raised \$70,000 and are now concentrating on applications for grants and corporate sponsors.

May 15<sup>th</sup> is the set date to pull out the old equipment and the following weekend install new equipment. So far it is the main structure and hopefully later will come a climbing net for the older kids.

**Jelly Bean Dance** – Jen said the last one was a success with about 51 kids attending. The next dance will be March 20<sup>th</sup> but requested a format change with a fund raising carnival for the kids from 6:30 to 8:30. They would charge \$5 a child and have different games they could play and then various extras they could purchase such as face painting, animal balloons, juice boxes, and donation buckets etc. Then all funds raised would go to the CKWC. The adults would run the games. They would need to use some

of the schools equipment and permission from Mrs. Rogers to use the school later then her normal hours.

**3. Trustee's Report** – Mr. Kenworthy gave some background information on the Golden Hills Board of Trustees. There are 8 trustees, all are community members. Their function is to report to government, distribute resources, strategically plan the future vision of GH schools. They are an advocacy agent to legislation. He also stated it was nice to come to a meeting to see what was happening and was pleased with the involvement of the community as well as the students.

#### **4. Principal's Report**

##### 1. Class Sizes

- a. Kindergarten – 14
- b. Grade 1 – 14
- c. Grade 2 – 14
- d. Grade 3 – 17
- e. Grade 4 – 23
- f. Grade 5 – 14
- g. Grade 6 – 14
- h. Total – 110

2. School Vision is complete and will be on the website soon.

##### 3. Character Education (Virtues Program)

- Our success on Generosity Operation Christmas Child 38 boxes went out.
- , Food Drive 1000 food items

##### 4. Assessment

- Report Card feedback Most parents liked the idea of the new report cards Allison suggested that maybe more information on the changes would help parents understand the rational behind them. It was noted that they actually gave more information and more positive feed back than the old style.
- Professional Development Day Jan 30<sup>th</sup> - Mr. Grimsdale will do a half day session with the staff about the new assessment initiatives.

##### 5. Technology

- a. Webpage sites: there is an exam bank link, but there will be a cost
- b. Student information available on the webpage for students and parents to see what the classes are working on.

6. School Budget – Was shown to the School council

##### 7. Other items

- Press release for program consolidation in Trochu and East Wheatland schools
- Staff appreciation lunch was great, so nice to have time to visit and not be in a meeting situation.

- Christmas Carol performance & Tyrrell Trip – thank you to the School Council for funding so these trips could happen.
- Christmas concert was great.
- School Volleyball went really well. There was some discussion of having a basketball tournament at our school. School council would like to run a concession if possible. Mr. Grimsdale mentioned he was having an administrators meeting and would discuss if this was feasible or if some other tournament would be better suited for Carseland.
- Enrichment Cluster – thank you to Mrs. Gordon for organizing these again.
- Kindergarten request – The ECS requested a new area rug (to seat 20) for the kids to sit on at circle time as the carpeting is worn out.

**Motion – Dahrlyne motioned we support the request for anew area rug for ECS at a cost of \$359.99.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion – Jenn Alce**

**All in Favor**

**Passed**

**8. Co-curricular Events**

- Swimming in May - past support from School Council has covered bussing costs. The school is requesting funding again for this school year.

**9. Field Trips**

- The grade 5 & 6 are going skiing at Nakiska Friday February 27<sup>th</sup>.

There was a question to Mr. Grimsdale if any funding would be needed to supplement staff and other needs so Parent Council knows how much more fund raising we need to do. He won't really know for sure until March.

**6. Old Business:**

*Criminal / Child welfare checks* –Must be done, please take the 15 minutes to do it.

*Christmas Concert and Food Bank drive* – Excellent concert, really enjoyable to watch and 1000 food items went out to the food bank

**7. New Business:**

*Spell a thon* – It will take place in March. We would like to offer a new bike as a grand prize for the Spell-A-Thon, Teri is working on getting a donation. This year it was requested that the bonus word be more challenging and that chocolate not be given as a prize but rather games or toys. Teri has completed the application request for community support from Agrium (\$1000) – they have been our largest supporter for the previous two years.

*Council of Councils meeting: January 28, 2009 from 6 to 8pm GHSD office* – Rhonda and Mr. Grimsdale will be attending, one other person could join if they liked.

*Reaching and Teaching Conference – Calgary Regional Consortium May 7 to 9<sup>th</sup>.* – If anyone would like to attend Teri has more information.

*Alberta Schools Council Conference April 24 to 26.* – As well anyone could attend, just let Teri know, she also has more information.

**Motion – Yvonne motioned that \$500 would be set aside for the cost of anyone who wanted to attend the conferences.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Motion – Jenn**

**All in Favor**

**Passed**

Dahrlyne asked a question on who is responsible for the playground equipment, the school division or the Ag Society. There seems to be a discrepancy so Mr. Grimsdale will look into the matter.

Yvonne Anderson is looking for public speaking judges for her 4-H club for February 28 from 10:30 to 3:00. If you are interested please let her know.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.**

**Next Meeting – March 16, 2009 @ 7:00 PM.**

**Last Meeting – May 25, 2009 @7:00PM**