**Parent Council Meeting**

**October 17th 2018**

Call to Order by Rebecca Misko

Welcome – Rebecca Misko

Thank you all for coming tonight. Because of your attendance we have met quorum and are therefore able to vote for in our executive tonight.

Please let us know if are interested in joining the Parent Council Executive.

This is Rebecca’s last year as president as well as Cam’s last year as Treasurer. Attending Parent Council meetings does not mean you have to sign up for everything and anything. This is a place to learn what is happening at our school through the Principal and Vice-Principal’s Admin Reports, a place to bring ideas and a chance to connect with other parents. You are welcome to any or all meetings! There is always free child care available.

At this time we will open the floor up to nominations for Treasurer.

Cam is nominating Felicia Lundgren.

Seconded by Liane P.

Motion to vote by Rebecca.

All in favour.

Motion passed.

Nominations for Vice President.

Liane is nominating Rebecca Misko.

Seconded by Lisa T.

Motion to vote by Liane

All in favour.

Motion passed.

Nominations for Co-Chair.

Rebecca is nominating Liane Patterson and Sandy Marsh Hamm.

Motion to vote by Rebecca.

Seconded by Lisa T.

All in favour.

Motion passed.

**Admin Report – Heather Palmer**

**Internet Safety Presentation**

As discussed at the last meeting, we will be bringing in speakers from time to time to present on various topics, such as Kids in the Know, Math, etc.

At our next meeting on November 21st we will have Constable Buduhan presenting on internet safety for our kids. The Parent Council Meeting will run from 7:00 – 7:15. The presentation will begin at 7:15.

**Safe Schools Update**:

The feedback on using our new SafeArrival online attendance program is that it is running smoothly both from the parent side as well as the office. Mornings at the office are functioning much better with this new program.

Attached is a letter on how to call in your absences to the school.  We are no longer taking calls at the office for anyone who is late, absent or leaving early.  This can all be done on School Messenger.  There are 3 ways to submit an absence.

1.  Using your mobile device

2.  Use the SafeArrival Website

3.  Call toll-free number 1-844-434-8116

**Patrols**

Our School Safety Patrols are volunteering to ensure ALL students and community members are able to safely cross our busy streets on the way to and from school each day. Please assist us in ensuring the safety of ALL by picking up and dropping off students in designated parking areas. There is NO STOPPING near the crosswalk on Strathmillan Road or in our school bus loop.

Heather Palmer and Jody O’Brien are running the patrol program this year.

There is still lots of congestion on the streets as well as the parking lot. Parents are also parking in front of drive ways.

**Discovery Time**

Please note that Discovery Time is back for another year:

Location: Library

Time: 12:00 - 12:35

Start Date: Wednesday October 17th

Parents/ guardians are required to complete a permission form prior to the student attending.

As it is a religious education group, the Division has a by-law that requires parents to give permission.

**School Photo Day**

School Photo day is **Wednesday October 24th** in the mini gym.

Retake day is **Nov 16 -- PM only.**

It is also election day in the big gym.

**Halloween**

The Halloween Parade is **October 31 @ 1:30 PM** in the Main Gym. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please ensure costumes are not offensive and parents are encouraged not to send loose pieces with costumes that can get lost. Also please don’t send Halloween treats in lunches.

**The Integrated Arts (TIA)**

TIA - Kindergarten to Grade 1 runs from **Nov 5th to Nov 16th.**  The focus is on the Visual Arts.

TIA – Grade 2- 5 runs from **Nov 26th to Dec 6th.** These sessions will focus on empathy and making positive choices.

**Remembrance Day Service - Thursday, November 8, 11:00 AM**

Please join us for our annual Remembrance Day Service which will be held in our gymnasium on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 11:00 AM. If you are a member of our school community and have a family member who is or has served, please take part in our service by sharing a photo of him or her with us. All photo submissions will be included in a slideshow to honour our community. Photos should be shared with Ms. O'Brien via email at jobrien@sjsd.net by **Thursday, November 1st.**

Students who are in Scouts and Girl Guides are welcome to join the colour guard.

**Sam’s Christmas – AKA Rock Paper Scissors**

Classroom Rock, Paper Scissors Challenge Nov 26- Nov 29.

(One nonperishable food item = one life for RPS)

School Wide RPS Assembly – Monday Dec. 3rd @ 11:30 AM

Sturgeon RPS – Dec 7th from 12- 1:00 PM

Sturgeon Heights Collegiate puts together hampers for the community every year. Last year they distributed 38 hampers. Together with other schools they raise food items as well as Christmas presents for the families.

**Surveillance Camera**

8 interior cameras have been installed at 8 exit doors in order to monitor who comes and goes. If there is ever an incident this footage is to help deal with the incident.

All doors are locked except during recess. Parents are required to sign in at the office and meet their children at the office.

**For Sale**

Strathmillan has 8 rectangular tables for sale. Please contact Mrs. Palmer if you are interested in purchasing tables.

**Fire Prevention**

As we missed fire prevention week, we will have a presentation at a later time for grade 4 – 5 students.

**Safe Schools**

Jody O’Brien will be taking four students to the Board Office Education Centre on October 30th for a presentation by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection. It will be a chance to learn and take that learning back to Strathmillan.

**Important Dates:**

October 17th – Discovery Time (first session) 12- 12:35 PM in the library

October 17th – Bus Ridership

October 19 – No School / Inservice Day

October 24 – School Photo Day – Mini Gym

October 24 – Civic Election (Main Gym)

October 24 - Discovery Time 12- 12:35 PM in the library

October 31 - Discovery Time 12- 12:35 PM in the library

October 31 – Halloween Parade @ 1:30 (Main Gym)

November 6 – Early Dismissal @ 3:07 PM

November 7th – Lockdown Practice

November 7th - Discovery Time 12- 12:35 PM in the library

November 8th – Remembrance Day Assembly @ 11:00 AM (Main Gym)

November 9th – No School / Inservice Day

November 14th - Discovery Time 12- 12:35 PM in the library

November 16 – Photo Retakes – PM only (Mini Gym)

November 17 – Parent Trustee Forum

November 21 – Parent Council @ 7:00/ 7:15 Internet Safety Presentation

Nov 26- Nov 29 - Classroom Rock, Paper Scissors Challenge

Dec. 3rd @ 11:30 School Wide RPS Assembly

**Outgoing Treasurer Report – Cam Lundgren**

Preliminary Budget

Income

$1938 carry over from last year (little bit over half of last year’s funds)

$2000 spring Plant Sale

$1000 Christmas Poinsettia sale

Expenses

$2000 Field Trip bus transportation ($175 per class)

$1200 WSO bus transportation

$500 Grade 5 Farewell party

Division mandates that carry over from year to year is around $500. The reason for surplus is that some of the funds are ear marked for projects in this school year, specifically the Maker Space in the Library – LEGO wall.

The Divisional Auditors have commended Cam for keeping excellent records.

**Outgoing Chair – Rebecca Misko**

Rebecca attended her first Parent Council when her daughter was in Kindergarten and became Co-Chair when she went to Grade 1.

Rebecca wanted to be part of the community, know the teachers and the teachers know her. Also get to know her daughter’s friends.

As chair it was Rebecca’s vision to bring people together. Tonight is a show case of this community as well as the coffee mixer on the first day of school.

There usually are not a lot of parents who attend meetings, but it is great to see that so many people will come out when we need them, such as this time when we have to make quorum.

Some special thanks:

Sandy and Heidi have been our biggest fund raisers with the Spring Plant Sale and the Poinsettia sale.

Irene for standing as Secretary and getting the minutes out to our community.

Cam for keeping the books and his stellar Audits.

Liane for being a sounding board, editor, someone to bounce ideas off. She will be a great co-chair.

Heather and Jody for being an Admin Team who cares about our kids, our community, and are always there to support our Parent Council.

Parents in our community who are always willing to step up with volunteering, bringing food to our coffee mixer, Staff appreciation week, etc.

We have a very diverse community where not all students come dressed for the weather or have enough food to eat. It is great to be part of a school community where we care for each other.

**Poinsettia Fundraiser**

Sandy will run the sale earlier this year to allow for longer enjoyment of plants. December 5th will be the delivery date and letters will come out shortly after Halloween.

**New Business**

***Fundraising:***

First of all we need projects to raise funds for so we don’t carry too many funds. Then we need people to run fundraisers with support of Parent Council. Someone needs to spearhead an idea and Parent Council will help gather people around that leader. There will also be permits and licenses required for various activities. Also need to take into consideration fundraisers done by classrooms and student clubs. Rebecca read a CBC article that said parents don’t want to fundraise. It is therefore important that we let our community know why we fundraise. Our school budget has been cut by 2% this year, making it even more important for Parent Councils to support their schools.

***Our main fundraisers:***

* Spring Plant Sale
* Poinsettias
* Mabel’s Labels.

This year Rebecca will be running the Mom’s Pantry fundraiser in the new year.

Also an idea is to accept cash donations from parents who don’t wish to purchase anything but want to support the community in their way.

***Other ideas:***

50/50 Draw – requires lotteries license

Popcorn – Lisa will look into Kernel’s pop corn

Popcorn – renting popcorn maker and selling at Winter Concert; requires food handling certificate. Child Care Centre could help with that.

Dance – sell candy cups, popcorn; will need permit and food handling

Coffee – roasting company in Brandon

***Projects to fundraise for:***

Field trip transportation

WSO transportation

Maker Space in Library – LEGO wall

Grade 5 Farewell

Breakfast Program – grab bags with cereal, fruit bowl. (The office has food available for students who don’t have a lunch or enough in their lunch. Donations can be dropped off at the office – canned soup, oatmeal, granola bars, apple sauce.)

Lunch supplies – plastic cutlery, napkins

Teacher wish list – supplies they need for the class room & craft supplies

***Donating Items to school:***

Ask teachers what they need. Bring these lists to Parent Council to be submitted as part of the minutes and also on the Strathmillan Facebook Page to bring awareness to the community.

Courtyard is used by Kindergarten and Day Care for outdoor week. Rock area is used by music teacher. Day Care play area is used by classrooms.

***Capital D Projects:***

Divisional funds are used for school improvements such as the roof, sidewalk, grassed area between buildings wings two and three.

Another project might be improvements to the baseball diamond.

***Erin*** pointed out that the outdoor recess toys are a big hit, as well as having Track & Field available to the Grade 4 and 5’s is a great way to prepare them for Middle School sports.

***Bookfair:***

Will be held in the library during Student Led Conferences on November 22 & 23. Volunteers will be needed for set up and selling on November 20 &21.

***Storytime:***

There are no plans for story time this year. TIA will take place of that.

***Peacekeepers:***

Students are training to be helpers at recess time.

***Communication:***

Email list gets contacted if volunteers are required

School also sends emails with our information

Remind App

Poster at the middle wing exit door and Strathmillan Child Care Centre

Send out request in agendas for parents’ email addresses to be added to email list.

**Present:**

Irene Beaulieu

Kevin Beaulieu

Cam Lundgren

Rebecca Misko

Liane Patterson

Dawn McGill

Kevin Van de Graaf

Liz Bilyk

Holly Cote

Corrie Friesen

Peter Hamm

Sandy Marsh Hamm

Barbara King

Rob Isaac

Barb Peters SCC Director

Kim McCallum

Melanie Rogowsky

Neil Penner

Melissa Penner

Lisa Taylor

Andrea Philipsen

Jennifer McKenzie

Lynsey Lachance

Kirsten Petz Fraser

Fayka Zeid

Vlora Miskigi

Lynette Young

Courtney Vandermeer

Darryl Beckett

Kristjama Thorarinson

Chelsea Verity

Wendy Marche

Serena Yong

Heather Palmer Principal

Thomas Marche

Erin Murray

Jody O’Brien Vice Principal