

CSAC Meeting Tuesday October 6, 2009

Attendees Present: Paula Pedro, April Wilson, Lina Cassano, Maria Codinha, Maria Bernardi, Dorothy Minichiello, Santo Visconti, Mildred Yarcia, Clara Mathie, Dina Mendes, Dynie and Raffy Alvarado, Martina Reid, Maria Guiao, Estela Agra, Lucita Macuto, Greg and Cheryll Mangila, and Denny Estrela.

Everyone introduced him or herself. Principal Maria Bernardi explained that interested members could be nominated for formal positions. A few parents had mentioned that they are interested in helping with CSAC but were unable to make tonight's meeting. The chair Paula Pedro intends to step down. A chair /co-chairs, treasurer, and a secretary are needed. Parents can also take on chairing particular responsibilities such as heading the Spring Fling or the Chocolate Fundraiser.

The minutes for the last meeting were approved by Dorothy Minichiello & Paula Pedro. The treasurer's budget report was distributed and explained. The current CSAC balance is \$19,711.90. QSP is a magazine fundraiser that almost runs itself but raises minimal funds. Chocolate is the fundraiser that seems to generate funds for our school. Breakfast With Santa was a great community event and a good fundraiser. April is interested in chairing a committee and several parents signed up to organize a possible Breakfast With Santa. Popcorn is a small fundraiser that needs volunteers. It starts to get sold on the evening of parent teacher interviews and the rest gets sold in the next few months.

The expenses as in the budget report were reviewed and explained. The newly grown field needs funds allocated for maintenance. Custodians Remo and Dominic have been given care instructions and Lawn Care (School Board) representative Sam has been asked to come and check the patches around the field.

Maria Bernardi discussed that events outside of school hours should be covered by insurance and attendants agreed this should be done. Treasurer April Wilson will give a check to Maria Bernardi toward the insurance.

Agendas are useful but expensive and CSAC has always asked for a donation of \$5.00. It has been CSAC's concern that agendas have been withheld from students until they donate the requested amount. CSAC wishes not to have students singled out nor refused agendas. Paula expressed her concerns / views of students who would be embarrassed to come forth stipulating that they couldn't afford the \$5.00. A few parents voiced their views suggesting that in future \$5.00 (or whichever agreed amount in the future) be mandated from each student, with the understanding that according to the teachers' discretion particular students' fees would be waived. It was agreed by all that this issue be addressed again when it came time to order agendas for the following years.

Terry Fox happened the same day as the Chocolate distribution and so the gym wasn't available for Chocolate distribution. This caused difficulty in the distribution

and so Ms. Bernardi suggested that these events happen on different days in the future.

Maria Guiao organized adult supervision for babysitting for children through Culture Link. She will be able to continue organizing free babysitting for meetings that she will be attending.

PIC funds is \$500 offered to each school towards involving parents. Dorothy Minichiello suggested the money to be used for purchasing games for students during CSAC meetings. Parents Reaching Out is a grant program CSAC could additionally apply for.

Maria Bernardi was asked about the school's policy on bullying and physical aggression between students. Maria Bernardi answered that progressive discipline is our school's policy, that a relationship between students, teachers, and administrators needs to be built. Santo Visconti confirmed that conflicts that have arisen have been taken seriously and in fact many suspensions have been given.

Maria spoke of the severity of allergies of some students and that our school is nut-free. HPV vaccinations have been given to grade 7 students. Our enrollment has increased to 732 students and so we have been assigned another teacher which in turn affects eight class lists. TTC photos were taken. Some students attended the WE Conference about leadership and it will be televised on October 10th on CTV. Lockdowns and fire drills have been scheduled for the year and police officers will be present for them.

Denny suggested school uniforms be used at our school. Dorothy related that a past attempt to establish a uniform at the school had failed.

Dorothy offered to be secretary and April agreed to continue as treasurer. The next meeting was set for November 10th, December 1st, January 19th, February 23rd, March 30th, April 27th, and May 18th. Paula and Dorothy suggested that reminders about CSAC meetings be sent to parents. The meeting was adjourned.