

Montessori Meeting, Nov. 14/06

Attendees:

- Susan Teasdale,
- Kathleen Murphy
- Pauline Rae
- Mina Morehouse
- Caroline Guay
- Tracey Mantha
- Al Pullin
- Erin Brillon
- Jeanine Fukui
- Natalie Nickerson
- Lisa Wilcox
- Britta Neumann
- Jo Hellenes

7:05 pm - Call to Order: Britta Neumann

Motion to accept the minutes from last meeting: Lisa Wilcox, Mina Morehouse – 2nd

Q: Sunrype donation? Clarified

Q: COW meeting? Clarified – Committee of the Whole for SD 71

All in Favour: carried

President's Report (Britta):

- The process for hiring a new teacher to for 2007-2008 school year was discussed between Britta and Lisa Marie Hansfield, Director of Human Resources for SD 71, over the phone
- We need to be clear on how things work
- Britta wrote out her understanding of the conversation and emailed back to Lisa Marie Hansfield for corrections
- One Teacher-On-Call (TOC, a.k.a. substitute teacher) on the SD71 list has indicated a little bit of background in Montessori so the call for credentials did not turn up much in the current human resource base.
- Montessori information is now requested on the hiring/data sheet for new applicants to SD 71.
- The process of looking for a new teacher could start as soon as January but **must** be approved by Allan Douglas.
- When we hear back from Lisa Marie Hansfield about our understanding, we will communicate further to try to support the hiring process beginning as soon as possible within the SD 71 system.
- We placed an advertisement with the BC Montessori Association, in their newsletter and on their website for 6 months for \$60. The ad. describes the demand for Montessori teachers in the Comox Valley and notes the possible desire to re-locate to this community.
- We now have an account with the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) for photocopying and services
- They will do the services with a 2 week notice period and invoice us for about half the price that Staples charges.
- The Board needs to make a procedure to prevent unauthorized use of the account
- Insurance for the Montessori materials in the classroom has been paid for so coverage is in place.

Secretary's Report (Gail Herman, presented by Britta):

- 72 members, including 2 new members

Public Relations Director's Report (Mina Morehouse):

- A Channel and Global have been sent press releases for CVMS at Craftopia
- CVMS fundraising - talk to Mina about press releases

Craftopia Update (Tracey Mantha):

- Craftopia introduction and update were given
- Free to public
- Fun for kids
- Interactive
- A craft fair with more!

Financial Report (Jo Hellenes):

- Financial report files attached separately to email
- There are some receipts still not turned in for expenses paid – Lisa Wilcox-purchasing coordinator is still using them to enter assets into the data base for control of capital.
- Lisa will finish data entry and forward outstanding receipts to Jo for financial records.
- There are a few outstanding cheques and invoices
- Deposits for specific purposes needs to be more organized in the future so we can track expenses and revenue for designated purposes.
- We need a deposit book. Do we have one that Jo does not know about yet? Do we need to get one? Jo will look into the deposit book situation.

Big Fundraising Events Coordinator's Report (Natalie Nickerson):

- Starbucks donation for Craftopia has been discussed. She will send a letter to support the request to Starbucks and conclude the request.
- Quarterly newsletter to start in January, 2007
- Prices for advertising set for \$50/business card ad for one quarter, \$200 for a full year of business card ads.
- More input is requested from the membership and brainstorming sessions will be scheduled
- Montessori at home is a popular topic so please forward ideas to Natalie on this subject.
- Printing has is estimated at \$.03/copy at CV Printing

Purchasing Coordinator's Report (Lisa Wilcox):

- All materials are here now except the Trinomial cubes, six puzzle maps, constructive triangles and the ten bead box. They have arrived in port and should be shipped directly to her the week of November 27th.
- Replacement kits have been ordered from Cabdev but have not arrived yet.
- Touch up paint is available by going through Benjamin Moore Paints for small containers of paint that has been matched to the material needing repairs. We hope this will work for maintenance of existing materials.
- The one product we intended to return due to flaws in construction has been rejected by the supplier so we are unable to get a replacement. Therefore, we will make plans to fix it up using talent in the group of parent volunteers.
- A written report was submitted for information purposes

Volunteer Coordinator's Report (Jeanine Fukui):

- Craftopia sign up sheet was circulated in the group attending this meeting
- Many time slots have been filled
- We have a couple of parents from the 2007-2008 class signing up to volunteer for this event.
- I posted a laundry list for classroom linens that get washed every week by parent volunteers. Attendees are encouraged to chat with other parents in the group and ask them to sign up for a time slot.
- Take home reminders were passed out for Craftopia so they can be passed out to friends and acquaintances.

School Administrator's Report (Al Pullin):

- He's very pleased with program so far.
- An open dialogue has been established between the CVMS and Glacier View School
- Students have settled in
- The bumpy start has gotten past the adjustment period
- He's impressed with the quality of kids and involvement of parents in the group.
- He opened the floor for comments from the group
- Lisa asked what Ellie Grant is working on:
 - Provincially funded Strong Starts program for at-risk kids to achieve basic skills prior to kindergarten entry.
 - It's a 2 year program
 - Starting in 2 weeks
 - 3 hours per day
 - Drop-in basis
 - Reading, school preparation, stuff for kids and parents,
 - Now boys and girls club is sharing with low incidence kids
 - 25-30 families are targeted as the level of enrolment to Ellie's program (0-5 years)
 - Glacier View Catchment is the target.
 - A flyer will be prepared to notify the public about the program

- A liaison person has been hired to work with the home schooled program
- Learning Adventures for Parents (LAPS) program is also running now, free to attend but pre-registration is required
- Boys and Girls Club is working to expand their program to cover 5 days per week before and after school. The challenge lies in staffing and licensing.
- The time doors open at the school was discussed. There is no supervision before 8:30am, so not safe to leave children unattended at the school prior to this time.
- Hungry kids in the school were discussed.

Cookbook Initiative Report (Pauline Rae):

- Pauline brought examples
- The supplier company provides the covers, dividers, with photos to make it simple
- She talked to Anne Buchanan and Stacey Greenfield and they both would like to see activities the kids can be involved in as part of the cookbook
- Families can submit more than one recipe
- Families will be encouraged to include a story with the recipe so the children will be included with the process of collecting the stories and sharing them with the class
- Kids' involvement, artwork, and photos will help the cookbook be a great success
- Request letter to go out in January to outline pre-orders, a sign-up sheet, and other particulars.
- Pauline will write a letter to be sent out on email to general membership as a request for interest in recipe book purchases
- We will check into setting up a method via our website for members to donate their recipes

Fundraising Coordinator's Report (Pauline Rae):

- We need to ask Kevin about setting up a PayPal link on our website for web based donations to be made to CVMS
- We need to brainstorm for next year's fundraisers with all encouraged to attend
- We need to tabulate how much \$ was raised by Innisbrook, Norcard, and Entertainment Books in the recent take-home fundraisers

8:45 pm - Motion to end the meeting: Jeanine Fukui, Lisa Wilcox-2nd, all in favour – carried.