

Genesis Home & School Meeting Held on November 8th, 2016 MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

ABBRACCIO, Maria	CATALANI, Anita (Treasurer)	GRECO, Gina	MORI, Gina
ALBANESE, Maria	CIARLA, Sonya	GUERRERA, Maria	NEVEU, Lynn (Principal)
ALICANDRO, Lucia	CRISTOFARO, Nadia	IACONETTI, Sandra	PISEGNA, Sandra (Secretary)
ASQUINO, Carolina	D'AGOSTINO, Carmie	LIVORNETTI, Sabrina	PIVETTA, Sonia
BADOLATO, Virginia	DI FRUSCIA, Sandy	MARAK, Tracy	ROSATO, Tina (President)
BRESCIA, Josie	DI LUCA, Pina	MARIANI, Etta	SANCHEZ, Macarena
BRUNET, Anick	FILLIPIN, Robert	MARINELLI, Patty (Vice-President)	SANTAMARIA, Anna

Adoption of the Agenda:

Motion to adopt the agenda for November 8th, 2016 with the following additions and changes:

- Change September 20th to October 11th under Additions, corrections, and adoption of Minutes
- Add Halloween and Community Outreach Program under Business Arising
- Add Holiday Festivities under New Business
- Add Home and School Storage to Varia

Motioned By: Sonia Pivetta
Adopted

Seconded by: Sandy Di Fruscia

Adoption of the Minutes:

Motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on October 11th, 2016 with the following corrections:

- Correct the spelling of Sonia Pivetta's last name under Varia.

Motioned by: Maria Abbraccio Seconded by: Anick Brunet
Adopted

Business Arising from Previous meeting:

- **Halloween Report** – The Halloween Committee organized a very successful event on Monday, October 31st. Students and staff were very pleased. The Committee stayed under budget and spent \$491.65. The Committee would like to thank Anick Brunet for donating the key chains the children received, as well as all the volunteers who were able to help in both the preparation and execution of the fantastic afternoon had by all. There was a discussion of the positive and negative experiences of the day, with the intention to always improve for the upcoming year. Some suggestions for next year were:
 1. To spend more funds on decorations/props that will have a longer life expectancy than buying poorer quality items and replacing them every year
 2. To ensure that there is enough candy for all students in every room
 3. To have 1 volunteer act as a runner to ensure that all stations are running smoothly
 4. To double up on more popular rooms so that the wait times are shorter – for example, the Slime Room, Bingo Room and the Scavenger Hunt – and have more volunteers running those stations
 5. To eliminate less popular rooms such as the Dance Room
 6. To phase out the idea of the Passport
 7. To have the Kindergarten children visit the Haunted House at a separate time, as a group
 8. To rearrange the schedule of the day, so that activities would start earlier in the day and perhaps, end with a movie for all the children, always keeping the teachers' preferences in mind
- **Community Outreach Program** – An email was sent out to all members interested in participating in the committee. Some suggestions have been made but no decisions taken yet. The Committee will meet/revisit the idea in the New Year.

Question Period - none

Reports

a) Chairperson:

- Tina Rosato informed members that Jules Verne Elementary School will be holding a Fundraiser Comedy Show on November 18th. Members could visit the school's website or Facebook page for more information.

b) Treasurer:

- Chocolates made approximately \$13 000 in profit, which is more than last year
- Funds available are \$21 011.84
- There are 20 laptops to purchase at 750\$ each, for a total cost of \$15,000.00 however, \$2,500 was already allocated in June. Therefore, there is a remaining balance of \$12,500.00 that needs to be allocated to complete our goal.

c) Principal:

- Ms. Neveu thanks the Halloween Committee for a very successful day. She reported that the teachers were happy. She would also like to thank the Decorating Committee for their work in the entrance, as well as Patty Marinelli and Lydia Tawil for their help with the vaccinations, and Tina Rosato for her help with the Sibling Pictures.
- Mr. Angelo Iacono, Liberal MP in the riding of Alfred-Pellan, will be at school to talk about Politics with the Cycle 3 students on November 10th
- The younger children had a Bus Safety workshop on November 8th
- Parent/Teacher interview appointment papers have been sent home to parents. Please return the bottom portion as soon as possible
- Ms. Neveu asked that members help dispel the rumour that children are only given 10 minutes to eat their lunch. That information is false. The children are asked to eat silently for 10 minutes, where after, they still have an additional 20 minutes to finish their lunch before they go outside to play. She also asked parents to contact Piccola Gioia directly if they have any complaints about plastic utensils not being provided. They are an outside service.
- Ms. Neveu also noted that children are now allowed to eat their snack during class time so that they have more time to enjoy their recess and play. Teachers have been very cooperative with this initiative.

d) Governing Board Liaison – please refer to the Genesis website

e) Committees

- **Fundraising Committee (Anick Brunet and Tina Rosato)** – there will be a meeting following this one to discuss future fundraisers
 - **Zumba (Lucia Alicandro)**– Members are asked to contact HandS or Lucia with any fitness instructor that would be willing to set up a program at the school. Any potential program would have to start in January.
 - **TCBY (Sandy Di Fruscia & Pina Di Luca)** – going well
- **Chocolate Fundraiser (Tina Rosato)** –Tina gave out a report with all the chocolate fundraiser details to all members. It was discussed. Three families have yet to pay for their chocolates. The top seller this year was Rico Feola who sold 22 boxes. George Pangallo was the runner up who sold 18 boxes. The Pizza Lunch will go to their Grade 4 class on December 21st. This will be on the December calendar so parents will know not to buy a Hot Lunch. The Top Seller will win an Android Tablet. After all the money is collected, one child will be picked from the names of all sellers for the chance to win an iTunes gift card worth \$150.00. A Chocolate Fundraiser wrap-up memo will be sent out to the community next week. We will discuss our options for next year at the May meeting, keeping in mind that whatever we vote for has to generate the most profit for the school.

Tina Rosato motions to allocate \$12 500.00 to purchase the remaining 20 laptops for the Kindergarten through Grade 4 classes. Anick Brunet seconds. Vote is held. 24 were members in attendance.

22 Yes 2 No

Adopted.

- **Buck-A-Book (Patty Marinelli)** – There will be a sale on November 17th, on the evening of Parent/Teacher Interviews. Some Volunteers are needed that night, as well as some Grade 5 or 6 students. Volunteers are also asked to help set up on Wednesday, November 16 at 2:30pm.
- **Halloween Committee (Carmie D'Agostino)** – See Business Arising
- **École en Santé/Healthy School Approach Committee** – Theresa Andrusko would like to know if members would prefer to have these activities on Friday nights or Sunday afternoons. Most members prefer Friday Nights.
- **Holiday Decorating Committee (Sabrina Livornetti)** – going well
- **Family Fun Night (Anita Catalani and Patty Marinelli)** – see New Business

- **Graduation Committee (Carmie D'Agostino: liaison)** – Diana Cugliandro is chairing this committee. Graduation will be held at the St Martin Hotel. There are 33 children and about 10 staff members who will attend. The Committee is asking Hands for an allocation of \$75.00/child, which will cover the cost of the hall, which will approximately cost \$2800. Graduating Parents will not be asked to pay anything for their children. The Committee will hold 2 small fundraisers to be able to provide memorabilia for the graduates. Tracy Marak suggested that the children bag groceries at her husband's grocery store to help raise funds.

Maria Abbraccio motions to allocate \$75/graduate to the Graduation Committee. Gina Mori seconds. There was a Vote by Secret Ballot. 25 members were in attendance.

17 yes

8 no

Adopted.

- **Fun Day Committee (Carolina Asquino and Lydia Tawil)** - After some discussion, it was suggested that the Chairperson present a theme or a proposal of activities and projected budget after the next two fundraisers, which are the December Movie Night and a Winter Dance in the New Year (January/February).

Tracy Marak motioned to table the discussion. Sonia Pivetta seconds.

- **Garden Club Committee (Nadia Cristofaro)** – 18 students have joined the club, slightly less than last year. There was some confusion as to which days the Garden Club would be meeting. Ms. Neveu will clarify this with the teachers. There was an article in the last issue of the Laval Families featuring the Genesis Garden Club.
- **Choir Committee (Tina Rosato)** – Tina Rosato spoke with Theresa Andrusko and she will be contacting the church to reserve a date for the Holiday Concert. Dimitri has cancelled the last 2 Choir classes. He said he would try to re-schedule those days. If there any questions or concerns about Choir, you can address them to Theresa Andrusko.
- **Staff Appreciation Week Committee (Patty Marinelli and Sandra Pisegna)** – committee needs to discuss their plan before asking for funds
- **Hands Newsletter and Publicity Committee (Lydia Tawil, Tina Rosato, and Patty Marinelli)** - A Welcome Back Carnival article will be featured in the Federation's Newsletter, in the Focus on the Locals section.

New Business:

- **December Movie Night** – The proposed date for Movie Night would be December 16th. The Committee decided to charge a small fee for admission as well as to ask



parents to donate some toiletries to Pro Vision Laval. Food would also be sold. There will be further discussion of the details at the Fundraising Committee meeting.

Patty Marinelli motions to have a Movie Night on December 16th. Sonia Pivetta seconds.

Adopted.

Patty Marinelli motions to allocate \$150 to Movie Night. Maria Abbraccio seconds. Adopted

- **Christmas Social** – Tina Rosato proposed to have a Christmas Social on December 15th at a BYOW restaurant. Most members showed interest. She will organize the Social and details will follow via e-mail.
- **Holiday Festivities** - On December 22nd, the students and staff will be having their Community Potluck Breakfast. Ms. Neveu asked members if they could dress up and spread Holiday Cheer, as was done last year. There was a suggestion to transform the Library into Santa's Workshop, where a volunteer could read a story to the children. There would be a schedule for all classes to visit. Decorating would have to take place the day before, on December 21st. Anick Brunet offered to donate Bookmarks to the children instead of the Candy Canes we have given them in the past. Tina Rosato will organize the Holiday Festivities.

Tina Rosato motions to have a Santa's Workshop activity for the Holidays on December 22nd. Nadia Cristofaro seconds.

Adopted

Tina Rosato motions to allocate \$100.00 to the activity. Pina Di Luca seconds.

Adopted

Varia:

- **Home and School Storage** – The question was raised as to whether HandS had some storage space for donated decorations. We do, so any donated items that do not take up a large amount of space are welcome; however, the executive team will have to review all donations before storing them.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tracy Marak. Robert Fillipin seconds.

Adopted

Next Meeting: December 13, 2016



**Genesis Elementary School
Home and School Association**
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*Quebec Federation of
Home and School Associations*

<http://www.qfhsa.org>

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