

# Canterbury High School Music Parents Support Group 2013 Annual General Meeting

**September 16, 2013**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**7 pm**

**Introductions:** Laurie Hamilton, Head of the Canterbury Music Department, introduced herself and Music teachers John Pohran, Grace Vigneron, James Caswell and Damien McLaughlin. She also introduced J'lene Bradley, co-chair of Music Parents Support Group

**2012/1013 additions:** Items added last year included updated technology through iPads and a new Smartboard, 3 new pianos, chairs for the Strings room, bows and violas, dresses and tuxedos.

**Music Council:** J'lene introduced Kayleigh Pink and Simon Au-Yeung, co-presidents of Music Council for the school year. They discussed the role and membership of the Music Council. Information from their presentation is included in the link under Music Parents Group.

**Music Parents Group:** J'lene discussed the role of the Music Parents Group in supporting the teachers and students. This presentation can be accessed at:  
<http://www.chsmusic.ca/parents/minutes/2013-2014/2013-09-16-Music-Parents-AGM-Presentation.pdf>

**“Graduating” parents:** Three members of the Executive of the Music Parents group whose children graduated in 2013 were thanked for their contributions to the Music Program: Clare Pelley, Co-chair, Cathy Steele, Treasurer, and Heather Anderson, Webmaster.

**Constitution:** One of the projects of the 2013-2014 year is to revise the Music Parent Support Group's constitution. This will be discussed at regular monthly meetings and perhaps separate consultation meetings if necessary. A special General meeting will be held with all parents/members later in the year for review and voting. The current constitution can be viewed at:  
[http://www.chsmusic.ca/parents/docs\\_forms/documents/MusicParentsGroupConstitution.pdf](http://www.chsmusic.ca/parents/docs_forms/documents/MusicParentsGroupConstitution.pdf)

## **Elections:**

Co-chair: Gina Pink, elected  
Co-chair: J'lene Bradley, re-elected  
Secretary: Jennifer Roberge-Toll, elected

The following parents stepped forward to serve as Members-at-large  
Patricia Filoso  
Diana Hampson-Wilson

Natalie Dayneka  
Rosemary Baldwin  
Rachel Vincent  
Marilee Mansfield

J'lene thanked all who volunteered and reminded parents that every parent is a member of the group and welcome to participate in the monthly meetings.

An updated list of the full executive and volunteer names, along with contact information, is available at: <http://www.chsmusic.ca/parents/executive.php>

### **Tips on private music lessons**

James Caswell presented information about private lessons for students in the Canterbury Music Program. The following is a summary of main points. Parents are encouraged to speak to their child's Canterbury Music teacher for suggestions and further guidelines tailored to individual need.

The main benefits of private instruction:

- The teacher can spot and correct any technical difficulties and problems before they become ingrained
- A 1-1 program is tailored to the student, allowing progress at the student's rate
- The teacher can help the student set goals, and also set goals for the student.

Considerations in choosing a private teacher:

- Location—close to home or school is important.
- Personality. The 1-1 relationship is important. Many teachers offer trial lessons and you may wish to try a few teachers before deciding.
- Expectations—be clear about what you want. Is it instruction, technique, exam preparation?
- Ask the teacher's qualifications. Teaching requires different skills than performing.
- Ask what happens at the lessons to find out about format and use of time.

Lastly, remember that it is important to change teachers throughout a student's years of lessons. Most private teachers appreciate that students will change teachers as part of the program of study.

Your child's performance teacher at Canterbury will be happy to discuss suggestions for private instruction further with you.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:20 pm**

**The next regular Meeting of the Canterbury Music Parents Group will be held in Room 160 at Canterbury High School, Thursday, October 10, 2013, at 7 p.m.**

*All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend!*

