

Canterbury High School Music Parents Support Group

Informal meeting - July 2015

Minutes of Meeting

Present: J'lene Bradley, Diana Hampson-Wilson, Pernilla Berin, Will Costain, Gord Aitken, Shawn MacArthur, Linda Cudmore, Craig Cudmore, Mary Desousa-Chan, Lisa Fast, Marie-Christine Feraud, Liz Hong-Farrell, Natalie Dayneka, Tim Robillard

Regrets: Clare Pelley, Amanda Lovatt, Menaka Raguparan, Ian Douglas

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Minutes from June

Motioned –J'lene, Seconded by Diana

3. Student Update - none

4. Grad Committee Update - Mary

- **Fundraising for Grads**– Mary raised the difficulty with fund raising for grad. It was noted that the Department pays the balance if less funds are raised. There is typically a tiered ticket prices (i.e. subsidized rate for students)
 - see also separate item on Fundraising efforts

5. Informal School Update

- **Strings Program**– A new teacher has been hired (Janice Mah) for Strings. She has lots of experience with strings being involved in the Strings Suzuki and will be a great addition to the program.
- **Announcements** – Male chorus won in their class in Nationals; VOCUM was 2nd in their category; Application to Edmonton (Nationals) - waitlisted
- **Grade 11 Theory** – Music theory classes for grade 11s in 2015/16 will mix vocal, strings and winds students. This has traditionally been done for grade 12s with much enthusiasm.
- **Grade 12 recital – 2016**

Possible venue change – Music Department is considering return to Chateau Laurier. Historically it was held at the Chateau Laurier in the ballroom; It was held at the NAC for the last three years but given construction, contact change, rental fees may not be waived for terrace in future, etc).

General Discussion on Grade 12 Recital - See below – Other Business

6. Fundraising

- a. **Fundscrip** - Linda – summer period – nothing to report
- b. **Silent Auction** - Gord – nothing to report
- c. **Coffee** – Natalie – to sell next fall – Music Night. The plan is to advertise sooner. Natalie noted that paper copies did the best – she would like to distribute by class.
- d. **Clothing** – It was noted that there were sizing issues even with sizing kits. It was suggested that a blitz could be done in the class rather than during lunch and that the orders would be taken on-line and that there would be a disclaimer that would be included on-line regarding sizing.
- e. **Fundraising efforts** – Council discussed difficulty with raising funds for music program. (This past year, the principal did not allow Laser tag and car demos so Council needs to come up with other initiatives.) There was recognition that there is a general fatigue with fundraising and that it usually targets same students/families and asking them to buy something. Initiative that can target others would be best. Citrus was noted as a great fundraiser and it targets friends/neighbours and the broader community. General discussion on what types of initiatives council could initiate to raise funds (direct ask, reach out to Alumni, selling item, etc) and examples of what was done successfully at other schools/venues (frozen berries, wreaths). While the wreaths were a good idea; Council did not favour the specific scheduling which conflicted with a very busy time in the music program and requirement to prepay. Council discussed exploring idea of frozen berries (typically done in February/March).

7. **Webmaster** - Amanda – no update for July

8. **Treasurer** - Pernilla – There is \$1185 in Christine Hansen [Scholarship Fund], \$20,000 to be transferred to music department. There is 10,000 in student accounts with \$1400 from previous grads. Council discussed notion of rolling into GRAD 2016. Diana motioned, J'lene seconded and council voted in favour of rolling the \$1400 into GRAD money for 2016. Pernilla noted that there was \$280 left from flower fund for music nights. Council agreed it should be left for flowers. \$10,000 excess funds to be spent. She noted that there was \$887 left (profit) from the fall music clothing order. She also noted that Music Night ticket sales go to the Department. Money in student accounts can be used for Grade 12 recital (tickets on line, music banquet etc.);
9. **Wish List** – Electronic Drum kit, Rhythm + monitor \$2000; 20 music stands \$2500; Chrome Books – shipped \$650

10. **E-mail List/communication** – Craig still tracking down the information/owners of various media

11. **Communication to NEW Grade 9 Parents**

Council discussed reaching out to new parents – getting consent (consistent with anti-spam legislation) and providing some important information regarding upcoming dates (AGM on

September 14th), communications with Parents – emails and REMIND, police checks to volunteer in the school, important dates (Music night dates), etc. Secretary to action [post script: e-mail sent August 24th]

12. Upcoming Events

a. **September 26th – Police memorial**

13. Other Business

- **Music Co-chairs to meet – transition:** Binder and memory stick with presentation for AGM will be provided to them (Mackie and Sarah). Student co-chairs will revise the AGM presentation
- **General Discussion on Grade 12 Recital** - Council discussed Recital – more formal nature – needs to be communicated to students and parents alike – it is a BIG deal /rite of passage and parents should attend for the full day. Typically, students don't have a good sense of what it is all about unless they have attended with a sibling. Council discussed ways to build awareness (promote at AGM, slide show at music night that could be shown pre-show, etc) and build-up (montage, visuals, videos)/create a buzz and continually promote. Council also discussed potential of changing the name (e.g. Grad Gala, etc). Name change to be discussed further – revisit. It was noted that the Grade 12 recital is not part of the curriculum and that there can be ensembles performing together etc.
- **Graduating Parents – thank you!** Thanks to Pernilla, Amanda, Lisa, and other graduating parents for all their work on Music Council. Lisa indicated that while she is “graduating” she is still willing to assist with sign-up sheets.
- **Next meeting September 10th and AGM to be held Monday September 14th**

Adjourned at 9:15