

Comox Valley Montessori Society Monthly Meeting – June 2012

Present:

Ocean Varney	April Brosko	Lisa Wilcox	Michelle Burry
Carmen Costantino	Dave Ogilvie	Korina Rushton	Danielle Ennis
Judy Darby	Inderjeet Kaur	Manoja Gangodage	Malai Sam
Donna Gambacorta (school trustee)			

1. Call to Order – 7:34pm

2. Introductions

3. Adoption of the Agenda

It was regularly motioned and seconded that the agenda be accepted.
CARRIED.

4. Minutes

It was regularly motioned and seconded that the minutes be adopted from
AGM on May 23, 2012. CARRIED

5. Reports

5.1 Trustee Report – Donna Gambacorta

A new asst superintendent, Tom Demeo joins the district.
School board 71 will be adopting the new budget on Tues, June 26th and it
will be balanced.

The school board is trying to get a link on the website to notify the parents,
public and other schools what school is doing what kind of fundraiser in a
hope to help broaden sales and get support from others.

School Board & District will be meeting this week regarding the hospital
and come up with ideas on how to lessen the impact on Queneesh. If we
have concerns that we want to voice please email

Donna.Gambacorta@sd71.bc.ca. She encouraged parents to send send
hard copies to 607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay, BC V9N 7G5.

Two week Spring Break overwhelmingly passed for next year. Donna was
asked if she knew the dates yet and she said that it would be posted on
the website.

5.2 Administrator's Report – Ocean Varney presented on behalf of Dan Costain

If anyone is interested in getting involved with the PAC for the next year they are looking for new people to join and help support.

Monies will be spent by the PAC in the following areas for: playground balls (\$1000), new mural in the multipurpose room, new shed for a garden project which PAC also got \$5000 from the district in order to help fund.

5.3 President's Report - Ocean Varney

Hope everyone has a great time at the picnic on Sunday and welcomes all the new parents of children that will be attending in the fall, to the meeting.

5.4 Vice President - Ocean Varney read on behalf of Erin Walsh

Erin is presently busy getting Fundscrip ready for relaunch for the new school year. There will be more details once this is up and running.

Preparation for the Annual Pot Luck Picnic has been taken care of for Sunday, June 24 at Kitty Coleman Park.

Carmen was asked to send out an email regarding the picnic on Sunday with directions.

5.5 Treasurer's Report - Michelle Burry

Explained to new parents at the meeting that the funding for our classes comes from the school district, fund, raising and parent donations. Approx \$31000 for our budget, which goes up every year cause we keep adding a new class every school year.

Year to date as of right now:

Approx. \$17,000 in bank account

Parent Donations since June 1st - \$18,747

Fundraising Total – \$9,527

- ❖ \$300 from Ziva Spa Fundraiser
- ❖ \$2,011 from Fundscrip (includes owing of \$289)
- ❖ \$583 from pi day
- ❖ \$507 from Epicure
- ❖ \$6,402 from Tea & Auction

Expenses to date \$28,700 spent slightly more than we brought in but we had some in the account from last year. Includes inventory purchases since June 1st of approx \$21,500.

Questions from new parents regarding fundraising and who they will give their cheques to and how much is expected for donations. Also wanted to know when they will pay for school supplies. Michelle answered all of the questions.

5.5 Secretary's Report - Carmen Costantino

Two new registrations this month.

Mrs. Campbell has found a french language program called A.I.M. that she want to get trained for to be more effective at teaching the 4-7 classes in the coming years. It uses hand gestures to allow the children to acquire vocabulary quicker. The district and Queneesh are contributing a little bit; budget is EXTREMELY tight for Queneesh next year. She would like \$600 out of her training fund to pay for it. Board voted yes to approve it.

5.6 Inventory - Lisa Wilcox

Spent \$10,445 out of last fiscal year; the money left over in the budget for next year's budget.

Still accumulating more supplies for Lynn, Tiffany and Michelle's classrooms and waiting for some items to come in. She will need help bringing stuff in and labeling everything when the new supplies arrive in July. Lisa will contact the class liaisons to send out information on the shutterfly accounts when she will need volunteers. Carmen will need to send out an email to the membership when needing volunteers.

Lisa suggested, Dan Costain have a welcome to the school at the beginning of next year for the new families. In order to get new families acquainted with the schools and any of its policies.

6 Old Business

6.1 Fundraising – April Brosko read on Erin Walsh.

Last month we made \$152.75 with only 6 supporters. (\$4,425 ordered)
Year to date we have made \$1200.48.

Suggesting that next year there is "willing to be a member" sign up form sent out at the beginning of the year in order to increase membership. We only have 6 or 7 people regularly ordering every month. We will continue to have "hallway" sales for the grocery stores next year, but in a limited capacity as hoping to have more people online.

There will be new payment plans next year and will be explained when Fundscrip roles them out. They closed our account a week early this month so some people had trouble ordering for this turnaround.

April explained what fundscrip is to our new members/families and how it helps CVMS.

6.2 Potluck Picnic

Erin has taken care of everything and there is nothing that needs to be added regarding the picnic.

7. New Business

7.1 Elections of Liasons of Chair and Inventory Controller

Sarah Ritchie only member nominated – she wins unanimously.

April Brosko only member nominated – she wins unanimously.

Questions regarding whether or not we will fill the 2 vacant positions on the board. It is decided that the two empty board positions will be filled in September.

7.2 Shutterfly Update – April Brosko

April is suggesting that all existing shutterfly accounts will be closed down in July so that new sites can be set up for the new classrooms in the fall. It is suggested by members that we wait til September to shut them down so people can access contact info over the summer for playdates and parents get time to take pictures off the site.

Korina suggests that Mrs. Buchanan gets to keep her website because her name is “Montessori with Mrs. Buchanan” and has no grades in the titles.

Ocean suggests that April get suggestions from the teachers and see what they want before it is decided upon whether existing sites will be shut down.

April agrees that if it is decided to shut the sites down that liasons post when this will happen.

7.3 CVMS Becoming Members of VIMA

Anne Buchanan via email to CVMS has been requesting that CVMS joins the Vancouver Island Montessori Association. Some of the reasons Anne think this would be beneficial for CMVS is that it will enhance professional development , networking for teachers and board members, offers workshops, may be a good place for material sourcing, classroom visits and the opportunity to recruit new teachers when needed. For over 100 students the fees are \$100 and are due by the end of June. Board voted in favor to have a trial period for one year to see if this is beneficial for our society.

7.4 New Fundraiser in Fall

April Brosko, on behalf of Sharene is suggesting we do a new fundraiser in the fall that will sell buds/flowers and help raise money for CVMS. Board voted yes to do the fundraiser.

7.5 Video Games

Danielle is concerned that older kids in the classroom/playground and the violent nature of the games are beginning to influence the kids in the lower grades that play and are in the older kids classes. She is looking on advice on how she can deal with it with her kindergarten child, but also make sure parents are aware of the effect that these games have on our children.

8. Meeting Adjourned - 8:31 pm