

**Miles Macdonell Collegiate  
Parent Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 28, 2010**

Colleen welcomes the group and asks everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

Colleen tells everyone about the Miles Macdonell parent council:

- not a fundraising committee
- information that sometimes we don't get from our kids
- website is also a good place to get information

## **Reports**

### **Staff**

Brenda gave the group a review of what the kids have been doing in the month of September:

- Grade 10 Welcome and BBQ
- Student services working on course changes; last June the timetables went out to Grades 11 and 12 so they could make changes to their timetable then. Having those students taken care of at the end of last year has made a big difference for student services staff.
- Student Club Fare was held to show the kids all the different clubs they can be a part of in the school
- Welcome KLAS students
- Welcome 25 International Students (EAL – English as an Additional Language)
- Grade 10 Assembly
- Open house
- Grade 12 Parent Grad meeting
- Grade 12 IB Parent and Student Meeting
- Student Council Leadership Retreat (Camp Manitou)

October

- Grade 10 IB - 7 Habits Workshop October 14 and 15
- Grade 12 Good Neighbors Senior Fashion Show Oct. 13
- Scholarship Information night Oct. 14

November

- 50 Universities will come to share information with the students (November 5<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon)

### **Music**

- Jazz band will be attending the Brandon Jazz Festival in March
- Auditions for Prodigy complete
- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> is the Music Christmas Craft Sale

### **Administration**

- School year started with 1245 students. Ms Laurie will have Sept. 30 count at the next meeting
- Scholarship/Honors night was held. Information on Honor Awards can be found in the students' agenda or on the website
- Different programs in the school are: Regular, French Immersion, IB, Cosmetology, Health and Human Services, English as an Additional Language, International Students, Japanese Exchange and this year we have a French Exchange Student
- Theatre group will be presenting The Diary of Anne Frank this year, November 23 – 25

## Trips

2010-2011

- France and Spain March 2011

2011-2012

- Fall – New York Theatre and Museum Trip
- Spring – Costa Rica
- Music trip in Spring
- Partner with another school for an additional trip (potential)

2012-2013

- spring – Theatre trip to London, England

## School/Staff Priorities

- Assessment – agenda/website and summer mailings has this information
- Technology TTT School
- School wide positive culture (compass symbol) keywords posted in the school, teachers have t-shirts
- Service to the community CAS volunteer opportunities for IB students
- Curriculum – changes to Grade 10 Math, Grade 11 American History, Grade 12 IB Theatre Arts program
  
- PD Day November 22 for staff, presentation from Educational Researcher from British Columbia, Ms Faye Brownlie
  
- Sign out front was damaged during construction but back up and running now

## New Teachers

- Ms Hull – History and English
- Madame King - French
- Mr. McKay – English and Social Studies
- Mr. Washnuk – English
- Ms Zubricki – Math
- New Vice Principal Mr. Jacob
  
- Christmas Break – last day of school, Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Come back to school Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

## Construction

- wheelchair accessible school
- band room now all one level
- washrooms by cafeteria and Health and Human Services entrance
- 2 elevators
- new heat on South side of school

## Report cards

- Oct. 20 Interim Report cards (codes and comments)
- Oct. 28 from 5:00 – 9:00 Parent/Teacher/Student meetings
- Oct. 29 from 1:00 – 3:15 Parent/Teacher/Student meetings
- Mid-Term – Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> with percentages

One parent commented on how great it was that the kids now have math text books. The school cannot provide text books for all students in all subjects but made the decision to provide text books for all math students. Well done!

Parent Council meetings are held the last Tuesday of every month. We do not meet in December or June and the March meeting will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> due to spring break

## **Alumi**

Jim explained that the Alumni was formed after the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Funds raised are donated back to the school in the form of scholarships, luncheons, benches etc

- There is a fundraiser for Grad. Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Canad Inn Transcona (\$15.00)
- 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary planned for June 30-July1 2012
- Alumni website has this information along with information on the history of the East Kildonan, North Kildonan and Elmwood area.
- Fundraiser in April with Sisters of the Holy Rock

The question came up about Parent Committees in the school. It was discussed that each activity may have parents meet as a group, depending on what activity it is. Music, Trips and Grad usually have a parent group involved.

## **Parent Council Meeting Themes**

Ms Laurie asked the group of parents to come up with topics they would like to learn about at the upcoming meetings:

- Dealing with Adolescent Students (Resilience)
- Dealing with the Adolescent Brain; Rewiring of the Adolescent Brain
- Internet Awareness and Cyber Bullying
- Driving and the Law
- Youth and the Law
- Transition to Post Secondary Schooling (Scholarships)
- Student Engagement and Motivation (time management)
- At Risk Behavior in Adolescents
- Drivers Education

## **No New Business**

The next meeting will be October 26<sup>th</sup> and Ms Laurie will be arranging speakers on Student Engagement and Motivation, time management, students taking responsibility and at risk behavior in adolescents. Ms Laurie will also provide information on the Drivers Education program in handout form.

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