

Malvern Home & School Meeting Minutes October 5, 2010

Present: Line Pinard, Claudine Tyrrell, Lisa Blake, Leslie Rose, Vicky Tsorlinis, Emily McRae (recorder)

1. The meeting was called to order by Leslie Rose, who thanked all the teachers as today is World Teacher Day.
2. MSAA Report was presented by Jesse & Claire, MSAA co-presidents.
 - a. Terry Fox Run was a success; we had great turnout & spirit.
 - b. Friday is Red & Black Day. We have already raised \$400 for tickets. It is a Pep Rally, promoting our athletic programs, and we are hoping all students participate. If students haven't purchased a ticket yet, tomorrow is last day. They won't be given a ticket, instead will be issued a tattoo so it's not transferable. Also for sale will be toques for \$10, scarves for \$20 and a BBQ (\$5 combo for burger/popcorn/drink or can buy separately). Tickets are \$5 for students, athletes are \$2.
3. September minutes were reviewed and a motion to approve was made by Claudine Tyrrell, seconded by Therese Occhipinti.
4. **Treasurers report**
 - a. We have \$9626.58, no change from last month.
5. **Principals report:**
 - a. Both VP's are busy tonight, so their reports are incorporated into the Principal's report.
 - b. Thank you to Leslie Rose, who made a speech on Grade 9 Parents Night.
 - c. We had asked for 2 additional teachers to address higher enrollment, but were approved for an additional half a teacher. An existing half time teacher, Ms Acorn, has been converted to fulltime, and we have added classes for Grade 9 Science and Math and 1 Grade 11 Math class.
 - d. The Onward Malvern Foundation met on September 28 to consider specific funding requests from teachers, and some specifically for the pool to facilitate additional permit revenue.
 - e. We had a large flood last week as a result of a toilet overflowing. The fitness room, parts of the basement, main office and principal's office were impacted. Insurance will cover all costs but several Phys Ed classes had to be reorganized. Repairs are expected to be completed in about a month.
 - f. Safe Schools Report. We have had some reports that students are staging off-property fights, with referees and videos. On Thursday, the school is having a Violence Prevention Meeting, with representatives from our Equity Council, police, Toronto Public Health, Toronto Police Services

- and TDSB Equity personnel. Parents are requested to speak to their students to prevent future incidents since someone could be seriously hurt.
- g. We are planning a four day equity conference, entitled “Changing Consciousness, Yourself, Your Community and Your World”. Subjects will include hazing, bullying, self respect and other topics. Additional outside speakers are still being invited.
 - h. The Pool Committee met today. We are in good shape financially, with permits at least 3 nights a week plus Saturday, which generates \$32,800 in pool revenue per year. The committee is focused on increasing revenue and reviewed suggestions on alternatives such as using a website, and adding new programs such as lane swims, family swims, and lifeguard programs.
 - i. David Crombie’s Aquatic Working Group, has requested that the Pool Committee be designated as a sub-committee of The Home & School Committee, to ensure it is officially recognized at our school. Leslie Rose passed a motion that the Pool Committee becomes a sub-committee of The Malvern Home & School Committee. Agreed to by Barb Smelt, seconded by Vicky Tsorlinis.
 - j. We are looking for a Pool Captain, who would need to attend some meetings during day. Sharon Gomes has been filling in but she has no student in school. Please contact Ms Pinard for details.
 - k. Terry Fox Run raised \$4000.
 - l. Grade 9 Co-curricular day was a success with great participation at over 30 booths. There was a BBQ and Grade 9 Council Rep elections. Since two candidates were so close, both were elected.
 - m. Red & Black Day is this Friday and we are hoping all students will participate, since supervision is required for any students who choose to stay at school. Ms Gage has arranged huge media coverage, security and police, who will close Gerrard and Hollis for our parade including the Marching Band, students and staff. The media announcement was read out to parents.
 - n. This year at commencement we will have a new award for environmental leadership, which was named after Frederick Urquart, a Malvern grad. This recognizes the fact that we have achieved Eco Schools Platinum level.
 - o. Ms Santos has committed to send information in advance for November 3 Take Your Kid To Work Day.
 - p. This year’s Remembrance Day assembly will focus on WWI. Mr. Izzo will lead the organization of this assembly.
 - q. Commencement announcement was released today via email. We need parent support for refreshments at the reception. Matthew Jocelyn, the new artistic and general manager of Toronto’s Canadian Stage, has agreed to be the guest speaker.

6. Chairman’s report

- a. The Comedy night was cancelled, as the details were not available in time to successfully advertise and sell tickets. Many famous people were

committed to support the event, and Darrin Pyle, a Malvern grad, has agreed to work with us to reschedule in January or April. Feedback was solicited regarding the price and timing and will be considered for the rescheduled event.

- b. Commencement Refreshments– Helen Coombe distributed a signup sheet for volunteers. Home & School Committee traditionally provides snacks for 400 attendees. We need volunteers to pickup coffee, balloons, cake, fruit, veggie & shrimp trays and to make sandwiches, and baked goods including mini-cupcakes. Also needed is help with setup & cleanup, to serve food and to host the VIP reception for the stage party. Peer leaders have been asked to decorate the cafeteria.
- c. Leslie announced that we still need a new Home & School Committee co-chairman, as this will be her last year. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested, please have them call or email her. The job entails chairing the meeting on a monthly basis, and working with the principal on issues and communications. Other activities are up to you. Leslie was involved in Onward Malvern, and the Pool Committee. Much of the processes and events are well established.

7. Other Business and Questions:

- a. Fridge magnets have been mailed this week. The first set received by the school were incorrectly printed.
- b. Parents are reminded to check out the Malvern website. All announcements are posted there on a daily basis. Academic workspace and teacher blogs links will be added to the website.
- c. A parent has volunteered their home for the Staff Appreciation Party.
- d. A parent asked about the policy for school teams & cost for uniforms. Ms Pinard confirmed that if there is any issue with the cost of uniforms, the school will assist. She will discuss this new concern with the Phys Ed staff. Policies vary by team where some teams use same uniform for several years and some replace every year. A suggestion was made that outgrown or unused uniforms be donated back for sale.
- e. A parent asked whether a team requires a teacher to coach; the answer is yes, a staff member needs to be present. A concern was raised that some sports are dangerous, and teacher/coach may not be specifically trained. Ms Pinard will discuss with Phys Ed staff, particularly regarding cheerleading.
- f. A parent asked whether there is a policy regarding hand sanitizers in school. The school gets them for free and there is one in every classroom. The parent has access to free supply if needed.
- g. A parent asked whether anyone knew about salvia, an herb that can be purchased easily and is not illegal, and provides a short lived, though uncomfortable high. Ms Pinard confirmed that the police will be speaking to specific Malvern students about the dangers of salvia.

Next meeting is November 2 at 7pm.