

Malvern Home and School Association
Minutes of Meeting September 14, 2010

Present: Line Pinard, Diane Sharpe, Fermer Santos, Claudine Tyrrell, Mike Izzo, Virginia Dawe, Leslie Rose, Vicky Tsorlinis, Helen Coombe (recorder)

1. Meeting called to order, first meeting of the year, large attendance due to many grade nine parents' interest. Line opened with welcome, introduction of all staff present and council executive. Thank you to Nanci Harris past secretary, and Jen Nahorniak past co-chair, they will be missed and their contributions were greatly appreciated! Reminder of the nature of the meeting as a forum for general discussion, not for inquiries about specific teachers. Leslie Rose continued welcome and mentioned the 2 Academic Scholarships of \$750 given by the Malvern Home and School Council, and a new Music Award to be given in honour of past Music Teacher Bill Mighton which will be awarded to a grade 12 student with a Jazz specialty. The Council also hosts 3 main events during the school year, The Commencement Ceremony in November, A Teacher Appreciation night in December and The Boardwalk Ball fundraiser in the Spring, details to follow.
2. **Student Council Update:** External Affairs Rep Gracie James told us about all the "Frosh Week" activities planned for the last week of Sept., as an introduction to the grade 9's. Mon Sept 27 Jello Eating Contest, Tues Sept 28 Dodge Ball in North Gym, Wed Sept 29 Doughnut Eating Contest, Thurs Sept 30 Terry Fox Run (3.5 Km around the school)-schedule TBA. Fri Oct 1, Grade 9 BBQ followed by election for Gr 9 Rep on Student Council. Also main gym set up with reps from all teams and councils for a co curricular event in gym for all gr 9's to find out about their school and where they can join. Will sell SPC discount cards as a fundraiser, \$9 each(Google to get more info). Will try to plan monthly activities. Bake sale Fri Sept 17 to benefit flood victims in Pakistan.
3. **Mike Izzo - Safe School Report:** Mike is a teacher at Malvern who has been involved in a 3 year study investigating issues of safety at Malvern by survey. Mike co chairs Equity Hub, goal is to promote social harmony, 13 staff involved, student reps, public health, group helps coordinate and promote equity and social justice at Malvern through 7 social justice groups. Mike has also developed the Gr 11 Equity and Social Justice course. Some findings of the 85 question Student Safety Survey are as follows: Our student population is 77% white, remainder are Black, Asian, Latin American; we have more females than males; 95% speak English (respect and inclusion can be issues for minorities) When asked "Do you Feel Safe at school? 92% say often or always, when asked where does bullying hazing happen- most responses identified it happening off school property and 72% said they would never report bullying. The question is HOW DO WE HEAR ABOUT THE PROBLEM? Students at Malvern do not see hazing as bullying, need education to change culture. We need a community approach to end the cycle of violence, parent reps welcome on committee. Please contact mike.izzo@tdsb.on.ca with suggestions/comments.

- 4. Review of Minutes** of June 1 meeting. No errors or omissions. Motion to accept minutes as read by Leslie Rose, seconded by Barbara Smelt. Motion passed.
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Current Balance \$9,626.58, most of from Boardwalk Ball, very successful fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who participated in and supported the event. Looking forward to this year!

6. Principal's Report:

- a.** Welcome, great to see all of you! Start of 7th year!! Happy to be principal here. Joined tonight by your VP's Fermer Santos A-L, and Diane Sharpe M-Z. We are looking for a volunteer to shadow Leslie Rose this year as her son is in grade 12. Thank you to Leslie for attending the TDSB BelieveIt! Event Sept 1 at the ACC with me, she will tell you more about it.
- b.** We have 60 teachers so far this year, including 10 new staff members. This Home and School Council coordinates fundraising activities with The Onward Malvern Foundation; they have scheduled a meeting Sept 28. Proceeds have funded our weight room, music equipment, the drama dept and library.
- c. Plant Report:** This building was built in 1903; renovations have been ongoing with the help of parents' support, thank you! The latest is that the pool change rooms have been painted and front seats in auditorium are on order and should come in November.
- d.** Admin staff are collecting your emails by home forms to include parents in BLAST emails of information. If you haven't received a BLAST email by Oct 1, please let us know by contacting the attendance office. I have letters for you tonight expressing my dismay over hazing of gr9's this fall. We have added staff patrolling of the halls; have had assemblies and PA announcements warning students of consequences. We have had 2 incidents reported where we had enough information to consequence the students involved. 55 Division is going to present at our Safe Schools Assemblies this Thursday.
- e.** EQAO Gr 9 Applied Math scores are up from 48% last year to 64% reaching a level 3 – 4 (Board avg is 26%) The Gr 9 Academic Math score is 89 –90%, (Board avg is 81%).
- f.** Eco School PLATINUM Designation has been assigned to Malvern! This is very difficult to obtain. Thank you to all staff and students who are responsible for reducing our environmental footprint!
- g.** Fridge magnets with important school dates will be mailed to you. Also you can check school website for information on timetables, team practices, for the announcements open The Tackler.
- h.** Fri is school Photo day.
- i.** Sept 28 Staff Meeting, late start 10:15am, follow Special Schedule
- j.** Sept 29 Gr 9 Parent's Night-7 pm. start
- k.** Sept 30 Terry Fox Run
- l.** October 1- Gr 9 Curricular Fair and BBQ and elections at lunch.
- m.** Fri Oct 8 Red and Black Day. We will march to Birchmount Stadium with the Marching Band for games like Field hockey and football wearing as much red and black as possible, Special Schedule.

8. Vice Principals' Report:

Diane Sharpe: We are over-enrolled, as of today at 1011 students. We will be asking for more staff. Time table changes should be requested by this Friday and should be done by Sept 24. Feel free to contact me by phone or email. To reach staff just put a period after staff person's first name and after surname @tdsb.on.ca

Please phone in absences and provide a note with your child upon their return explaining their absence. If you get a call from the school even when your child is at a sports/music event, please remind the teacher/coach involved to report these events to the office.

Attendance staff: ingrid.buchinger@tdsb.on.ca A-L OR wendy.rickerby@tdsb.on.ca M-Z

Fermer Santos: Gr 9 Parent's night, Wed Sept 29, 7 – 8:30pm. You will have a chance to meet the Ass't Curriculum Leader for each dep't. Today was the first late start due to PD for which the topic was Academic Work Space. The Board's mandate is to develop a web based collaboration between students and teachers ideally where homework/assignments/calendars/announcements can be posted. There will be BLOGS and other functions. Parents will eventually have access.

9. Chair: Last year Leslie Rose(chair) and Nanci Harris, (secretary), put together A Gr 9 Parent's Handbook from the Malvern Home and School Council. Feedback is welcome. Our War Memorial is in need of repair, fundraiser planned for Sept 30 at Malvern Comedy Show, please support. Details to follow. We need 50k, have already raised almost 15k, gov't will match what we raise up to max of 25k. Our pool is safe thanks to tremendous parent, staff and community efforts. We need a Pool Committee to ensure we keep up permits to keep pool open. "Going Solo" is book of starting out on your own tips published by a Malvern Grad which we sell as a fundraiser for any graduating students you may know; please see me for a copy (\$19.95). Last year sales raised \$150. We have secured a \$1000 Parent's Reaching Out Grant, this year propose to offer proceeds to 10 counseling sessions for students at risk . Last year we hosted events like "Helping Teens Make Good Choices Around Drugs and Alcohol". Vintage Wear is a fundraiser we will run again with the Red and Black Society. We will sell rugby shirts for \$75. We will BLAST email more info to you.

10. New Business: New Cross Country Tent funded by Home and School only for use by Cross Country Team. Leslie and Line attended the TDSB event Believe It at the ACC Sept 1 with over 20,000 attendees! Director of Education Dr Chris Spence spoke at this inspirational, motivational, educational event attended by teaching staff, support staff, parent and student reps and trustees. The goal was overall school improvement, "creativity, open mindedness, belief in students until they believe in themselves" were messages which resonated. You can visit www.beliveitourtimeisnow.ca to see clips from the conference and additional readings from the keynote speakers.

We are happy to welcome back Vicky as treasurer, hoping for a Secretary to come forward, (Helen Coombe taking minutes tonight), not difficult, just email minutes to Line and Nickie Lewis will Blast Email to parents before next meeting. Also need a volunteer to shadow me as I will be gone next year.

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 5th, 7pm in the Library.