

Home and School - Meeting September 29, 2020



Present:

Dina Abreu
Nicole Brissen
Lisa Del Greco
Laura Greiss
Anne Harkin
Eliana and Talib Hussien
Danielle Leggett

Kathryn MacLennan
Sue Methe
Nadine Mukri
Pavolina Owczar
Krista Pershall
Corinna Rake
Corrinne Tendo

Administration representatives: Rachel Chua Wilson - Principal, Rosemary Hill - English Teacher, Natasha Mentore - Vice Principal, Cycle One

Regrets: Brad Wilson, Sharla Rule and Sharon Louie.

1. **Welcome.** Meeting started at 7pm
2. **Review and Approval of minutes.** Agenda approved with omission of June minutes. Pavolina was unable to attend the meeting at 7pm (she joined later), Lisa became the substitute Secretary.
3. **Additions and Approval of Agenda.**
4. **Introductions of new members.** Nice to see so many new parents from students in Cycle One.
5. **REPORTS**

PRESIDENT update (Corrinne):

- *QFHSA held 2 check in sessions during the period of closure for COVID to see how we were handling the situation. Spoke about BHS graduation and BHS's graduation was highlighted in the QFHSA Summer Newsletter.*
- *QFHSA Spring Meeting was held 22nd August: Approved new directors and Auditor. The main aspect was focus on Back to School, and the role Home and School will play, including ideas for Fundraising.*
- *Question to the group - what do we want our role to be at BHS? Teachers wish list, how to accomplish things in our new reality*

Rachel Wilson **expressed her gratitude from her and the staff for the Welcome Back Breakfast**. It was really appreciated. She made reference to the beautiful new BHS library, a mindfulness room, a conference room, decorating - which have been school initiatives. She suggested that **H&S may be able to get involved with special surprises for the kids** (smaller gestures). Lisa and Rosemary suggested that there was a possibility to **partner with Student Life, Bison News and Leadership class**.

Ref funds for students in need. Rachel has been able to cover all the expenses with the school budgets.

Natasha Mentore has been promoted to Principal at another school and will be leaving as our representative from Administration. She thanked us for all our efforts and said how much she's enjoyed her time with us.

MEMBERSHIP (Krista)

Looking at online options for payment, Corinna mentioned the possibility of a website where we could set up PayPal account to accept payment. There is a small fee but it's worth it to ease membership. \$20.90 for full membership - .90cent fee from PayPal.

We had 33 members last year. Simplifying membership adhesion could lead to higher participation.

MOTIONED by Nicole to **establish an online payment method using PayPal and odd additional transaction fees**. Seconded by: Krista. No Abstentions, all in favour, motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT (Dina)

June we approved \$400 for Breakfast

Available funds starting this school year \$2039.06

cumulative balance carried forward, some funds already allocated:

- students in need \$500
- Musical 2018/2019 (Ms White) \$210
- Musical 2019/2020 (Ms White) \$190
- Popcorn/PhysEd \$380
- Parent Workshop \$600
- Science 2018/2019 (Ms Cerevolo) \$278
- TSAW 2020/2021 \$715
- Funds of Appreciation (??) \$200
- Funds of Appreciation 2021 \$200
- John Killingback 2021 \$125

= \$2,039 balance of funds available

Expenses from 2018/2019 not used. **Rosemary Hill will communicate with teachers re funds that have been allocated with but not dispersed** (UPDATE: after the meeting was adjourned but before we ended the Zoom call Rosemary had received an email response from Ms Cerevolo, she does not need the funds but she thanks Home and School. Rosemary suggested that we consider Ms Cerevolo's request in the future, should she have one.)

ADMIN TEACHER REP (Rosemary Hill)

Rosemary Hill thanked H&S profusely for the Welcome Back Breakfast and for the support of the exceptional administration at BHS. The Curriculum night was a big success. "Small gestures sustain us" - thanking the parent community for their kind gestures and support this year.

Likes the idea of working with Student Life, Bison news etc and engaging with students.

Project with Nicole - a grant for \$1000 for a recycling initiative starting with grade 7 and some cycle 2 students. Nicole (parent) worked on the grant and BHS was one of 10 schools chosen. The grant is for recycling and composting initiatives.

GOVERNING BOARD (Sue)

Maria Rebolledo and Sue Methe are on the liaison board. Sue attended the AGA. **There will be no PPO at BHS this year.** H&S is a stand alone body that has autonomy to operate somewhat independently from the school. We don't represent all parents. The school administrative team communicates on our behalf. Gov Board recognizes H&S as representing the parent community. Sue can relate information to Gov Board on our behalf.

NEWSLETTER (Lisa)

Consideration of moving Newsletter to a website. Discussed the costs of hosting and a domain name for WordPress or other tools. Other schools have found that there is a valuable return on investment and their overall revenue has gone up. Corina discussed the technicalities of starting a website. Google sites is another option for integration with some limitations. The cost is roughly \$170 a year.

Sue talked about how the FB group was set up to fill the gap and reach out to parents. It's not officially a H&S initiative.

MOTIONED by Lisa to **set aside up to \$200 to create a website for H&S to communicate with the parent community.** Seconded by: Pavolina Owczar. No Abstentions, all in favour, motion passed.

PARENT WORKSHOPS (Danielle)

Last year workshops were planned but had to be postponed due to Covid. There are **lots of Zoom opportunities and we're looking forward to future events.**

Tabled conversation about Parent workshop for next meeting.

FUNDRAISING (Corrinne on behalf of Brad)

Cookie Dough + Recettes en Pot fundraisers held in the fall. Comedy Show + Chapters were cancelled due to Covid. These events were approved by Gov Board for up to one year.

Other ideas are masks with school logo, mask clips and lanyards, Fairtrade coffee fundraiser, Giftcard (music currently uses this for fundraising).

6. ELECTIONS

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS - Elections

Sue offered to share guidance as the "Past President". Reviewed open positions and voting procedure.

Nominations were held for President, Co-President and Vice-President and the results were as follows:

- **President: Danielle Leggett**
- **Co-Vice Presidents: Talib Hussain and Eliana Hussain**
- **Secretary: Pavolina Owczar**
- **Treasurer: Dina Abreu**
- **Membership: Krista Pershall**

Committee Positions

- **Gov Board:** Maria Rebolledo and Sue Methe. H&S is well represented on Gov Board as Eliana is an alternate at the Gov Board, Rosemary Hill is on Gov Board and Danielle Leggett's husband is a parent representative.
- **Alumni:** Sule Gover
- **Parent Workshop:** Danielle Leggett
- **Fundraising:** Brad Wilson
- **TSAW:** Anisha Shaffie & Sharla Ruel
- **Welcome Back Breakfast:** Lisa Del Greco
- **Newsletter** (may now roll into website, Corrina)

MOTION by Sue TO PASS EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 2020/2021 school year. Seconded by Lisa, Krista and Pavolina. Dina abstained, all in favour, motion passed.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

Talib brought up wish to help **connect students who are learning from home with BHS student community.** **Rosemary Hill said she would act as a school liaison for that initiative.**

Future meeting dates need to be convenient for administration and teacher reps and near the Gov Board and Staff Council dates.

8. NEXT MEETING: dates will be established with Administrative Team and communicated.

9. Meeting adjourned 9:18pm. Motioned by Pavolina, second: Sue.