

M'KIS PARENT ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES 23 OCTOBER 2008

1. **Opening of meeting**
2. **Apologies** : Mini Guda, Cynthia Wylie, Sean Grow, Marjolein Harting
3. **Approval of Minutes** the minutes from the last meeting were approved.
4. **Reports**

4.1.1 Headmaster

Walt Morris

Mr Morris reported that the Standardised Testing results are back, and that the schools results are very good. He gave an explanation of how these tests assist teaching staff to identify strengths and weaknesses within groups of children in each grade, enabling appropriate program improvement. He also mentioned that the results are suggestive and not predictive of a students future outcomes. It has been necessary for a teachers contract to be terminated, this issue was dealt with appropriately. Mr Morris made note that MKIS senior students are doing very well and are being recognized outside the school for their achievements. These include leadership roles within MUN, and achieving the highest average scores in the IB programme last year. Mr Morris also announced that he will not be renewing his contract after July 2009, as he is retiring and returning home.

4.1.2 Principal Middle/High School

B Peterson

Dr. Peterson reported that all students and teachers were back from their Malaysian Studies trips in one piece, with no major incidents. A big thanks to Lehar for the many hours she spent organizing the trips. The Plan Test for Grade 10 students was run on Wednesday 22nd Oct. The UN day assembly for Middle/High school will be very full with students and teachers, unfortunately no space for parents to attend. The M.U.N is expanding and developing well, students heading to Singapore for THIMUN in November. Parent/Teachers conferences will be held on Wednesday 29th Oct in the gym from 1pm-4pm and 5pm-8pm. Middle School Halloween Dance is Friday 31st Oct. On 1st Nov students from Music Honor Society will be running a film festival show casing students work. The Volleyball Tournament held recently at the school was a big success. SEASAC tournaments approaching soon. MS/HS have two Free Dress days coming up on Friday 24th (UN Day) and Friday 1st Nov.

4.1.3 Principal Elementary

P. Sicard

Mr Sicard reported that ITBS scores will be sent home on Friday 24th, parents can discuss these results with Homeroom teachers if necessary. An off campus evacuation was recently held and all went very smoothly, many people behind the scenes helping to make this successful. Student Report Cards may be ready to e-mail home as early as

11th or 12th of Nov. Students were involved in the Scholastic Books Reading Day, where they read for 33 minutes, and Scholastic Books donated books to students/schools with limited resources. The Swim Meet was very successful and Mr Sicard said that it was pleasing to see the Swim Team and other MKIS sports teams developing and competing well. Student teams in a local soccer tournament came 1st and 4th. The school is looking to reduce unnecessary student absences and tardiness. A new warning bell system has been put into place, and a letter to be sent to parents when absences appear to be excessive.

4.2 President

C MacDonald

Ms MacDonald reported that the date for the next AGM needed to be changed due to a conflict of venue use. The new date was approved for Wednesday 6th May 2009. The printer in the PA room is to be replaced, a laser printer not necessary when considering use and cost. Charity night was held for China/Myanmar, although turnout was disappointing, those who attended had a good night, RM2000 raised. The associated activity afternoon to be held for Elementary students has been postponed. RM 500 was donated to one of the MKIS maintenance workers, whose son tragically died in an accident. The cut off date for photo orders has been extended to Wednesday 29th Oct. The PA are to charge out use of the Popcorn machine, it was agreed that RM 50 would be the charge, RM25 refunded if the machine was returned cleaned.

4.3 Financial

K Rigney-Z

Ms Rigney-Z reported that the current available funds held on the PA account was RM24500. She also reported that the BookFair was a big success, and there are funds available to cover the cost of a visit by author Karen Wallace.

Subcommittee reports and Ongoing Business

5.1 Flags in the Breezeway

M Harting

Ms MacDonald on behalf of Ms Harting, reported that there is no Dutch flag in the Breezeway and hasn't been for some time. It was suggested that an overall update of the flags be carried out, to make sure the flags of all students and families home countries are represented

5.2 Net Covers for drains

M Harting

Ms Stanton reported on behalf of Ms Harting that there are still deep drains around the School grounds that do not have net covers.

5.2 Attendance Procedures

Ms MacDonald and Ms Stanton voiced concern that parents are not always aware if their child leaves the school grounds after being dropped off by a parent/driver/school

bus. It was suggested that a system be in place where parents are called if students do not show up to class at the start of school. It was asked what the schools procedures are in the case of Elementary, Middle or High School students not being in class. Dr Peterson reported that the school is looking to hire a secretary who would be solely responsible for attendance/absence systems and a point of contact for parents to prevent duplication of calls, or absences not being monitored.

Other Business

- 6.1 Ms MacDonald noted that there is still nobody to head up the Fun Fair Committee.
- 6.2 Ms Stanton suggested an idea for future fundraising. An Art Auction where parents can bid for pieces of their childs' (or other childrens') artwork.

Close of Meeting