

**Carman Collegiate
Home & School Minutes
Monday, Apr. 09/2012**

Present: Garth Shindle, Karen Tjaden, Jan Hay, Rob Hamm, Michelle Doerksen, Joyce Nicolajsen, Kim Deamel, Doris May, John Heard, Rhonda Walker.

Welcome and call to order – Michelle

Review & Acceptance of March minutes - Rhonda made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction of the MAPC AGM dates being Apr. 27 & 28, 2012. Joyce seconded. Question from parent regarding March minutes, re. the Student Advisor Program – are there guidelines? Jack stated that it depends on the situation. There isn't an exact guideline. Rhonda followed up and encouraged the parent to go to Administration for further discussion re. the issue brought forward last month. Carried.

Old Business

Manitoba Association of Parent Council (MAPC) AGM – Jan and Rhonda will be attending. \$50 allocated from Home & School, \$25 to Jan and \$25 to Rhonda will go to help paying for their fees for the conference (Cost is \$75/member). Barbara Colorosso will be the guest speaker this year.

Video Presentation from Jack re. Khan Academy – This is a not for profit organization that runs a tutoring website. There is no fee to use the website. There are over 3100 videos on the site pertaining to different subject areas. You need to Login and Create an Account to access the site. There is a link on the front page of the Carman Collegiate website. There are also other links there for tutoring that have been reviewed by the pertaining staff. Parent also suggested that Dennis Friesen who teaches at WC Miller High School in Altona has created tutorials online directly related to the curriculum Carman Collegiate students are taking. He is a teacher who has helped put together the current math curriculums and helps with teaching teachers the new curriculum.

Parent brought up a concern of the students getting test marks back much later than when the test was written. This makes it very difficult for the student to know how they did on a particular unit and to get extra help if it was needed. Parents understand that some students are absent on test day but this leaves the majority of the students at a disadvantage when they have to wait so long to get test marks back.

Grants for Theater Project – Jack is hoping to get a decision back from the PRSD very shortly regarding the approval and funding for this project. It would be nice to see the Home & School do a grant application for the project. Home & School has talked previously about doing a grant application for a bigger project at the school. Michelle stated that based on Home & School financials there would have to be Treasurer's position created if we were going to do any fundraising or grant applications. A lot of grant applications are processed in January and February. Parent suggested putting something in the school newsletter inviting parents who would be willing to help the Home & School apply for grants or brainstorm for fundraising for the theater project to come to a meeting or let Michelle know.

Staff Appreciation breakfast – Will take place Wed., Apr. 18/2012. Asking members to please bring something. Michelle will send out an email to Jack to send out to parents to make them aware and ask them to email her what they are willing to bring. There are 25 teachers and 16 support staff.

Student Council – prior to Spring Break, elections were supposed to be held. These were postponed because no one was running for President. Elections will now happen on Wed., April 11 and be announced on Thurs., Apr. 12/2012. Students can talk to teacher advisor's or current members to find out about the process of running for a position.

Parent asked to read a letter she had written - The letter stated the parent attended the last parent/teacher conference evening. She visited Mr. Lang in the Woodworking class. He is doing a great job with the students but sometimes struggles to run his classes efficiently because of lack of tools and the high cost of materials. The larger equipment has been updated but there is a lack of smaller tools. The students sometimes have to wait for a long time to take a turn. Is there any way this could be addressed? Jack stated that all of the different departments have budgets – more money could always be of help. i.e. school is now needing a new plainer that will cost approx. \$5000-\$10,000. The school has shared these costs with the PRSD over the years. Right now new soldering irons are being looked at for the Electronics room. The school can only go as fast as the budget allows. Also there are space restraints. Right now there is a good array of equipment. Jack has been talking to the PRSD to try to get more money but their budgets are limited as well. Parent asked if there is the possibility of approaching local businesses? Could Mr. Lang and Mr. Williams make a wish list? Jack stated that there is a per student fund that is given. This has remained the same for a lot of years. Parent suggested making DCS, Elm Creek and Miami aware of the issue as well. Parent suggested the woodworking class look at doing fundraising projects i.e. picnic tables, dog houses etc.

Administration Report – AAA Bantam hockey – there were 6 Carman Collegiate students on the team that won a bronze in Alberta. Wednesday, Apr. 11 is movie night at C.C. Thursday, Apr. 12 is the Carman Area Foundation dinner. Garth is planning on taking 2 students from the Philanthropy group to present cheques there. The students received \$3000 from the Carman Area Foundation for the sound system in the theater. Parent thanked Garth for all of the hard work and effort he has put into getting the Philanthropy group going this year. The students in this group raised approx. \$2000 throughout the year. Right now there are about 7 regulars that attend this group and a couple of others that are in and out. Garth will look at doing more of a recruitment next year and add it to the school's handbook.

Band Aid – will take place on May 5, 7pm at the Community Hall this year. This is a fundraising night of music involving the local and school rock bands that are wanting to participate. The music and sound equipment have been donated for this year. Heather Armstrong usually writes an ad to put in the Valley Leader and does an incredible amount of work helping the kids prepare for this event. Thank you to Heather Armstrong for all that she does. Parent stated that she would like to see the school promote this event again this year. She would appreciate if it could go on the sign outside of the school earlier than it went up last year.

Athletic Banquet - to take place at 5pm on June 21/2012 at the Active Living Center. A draft invite was given from Garth. Parents who would like to attend can purchase a ticket from the office for \$20. The students who have played in a school sport have already paid. Michelle stated that the students who attended last year enjoyed it – so hoping more students will attend this year. Grade 8 parents will be asked once again to help serve. Anyone else willing to help with the event is asked to email Garth at gshindle@prsdmb.ca.

Bully movie – Rhonda brought summary of the new movie Bully that is coming out – gave to Garth and Jack. A parent had brought this movie to Rhonda's attention and thought it would be a good thing to show to students at the school. It is rated PG-13 so would have to be shown to the appropriate students. Garth stated that they will view it when it becomes available and incorporate it where it will be suitable.

Twitter Account - Parent asked how things become announced on the school's Twitter account? Garth stated that people can let the school know what is happening with different students so that it can be posted on the school website or the Twitter account.

Movie Night – Parent asked how many people usually go to movie night? Garth said that they've had up to 140 people attend. Cars 2 made the most money. It is mostly elementary school children that attend with their parents. It depends on what movies have been released as to what the school has to choose from to show.

Safe grad – Concern was brought forward by a parent that there are drinking games being planned for the students at safe grad. This parent realizes that there is drinking at safe grad, but doesn't think it's a good idea to encourage excessive drinking. Jack stated that the school is not a part of Safe Grad and he warns the committee organizing the event that the main focus of the event is not to be drinking. The other parents at the table also commented that they did not think this was a good idea. Rhonda will speak to one of the co – chairs of the event to ask her to let the committee involved know that this is not something that is seen as being appropriate or acceptable by the Home & School parents or Administration.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm

Next Meeting to be held will be Monday, May 7 at 5pm