

Dear Parents / Guardians

The Parent Group has identified two main projects as priorities for fundraising. They are:

1. Playground - the large playground structure in the school yard will be removed this summer, as it no longer meets safety regulations. This will impact the kids as there will be less to play on in the school yard. Funds are required to purchase and install new play equipment.
2. Swimming Lessons - there has been interest expressed about getting EES students to Brandon during school hours for swimming lessons next school year (2010/2011). The parent group would like to determine the level of interest in doing so. The parent group will be sending out a survey, with report cards, to assess interest levels. Please help us by filling them out and returning them. Thank you.

Attached is a copy of the minutes from the last Parent Group meeting of February 24, 2010. The next meeting will be held **Monday March 22 at 7 pm** at the EES library. Everyone is welcome!

If you can't make the meeting, but have something you would like discussed, please contact a Parent Group member.

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EES Parent Group Contact Information

President	Barb Desiatnyk	585-2672	barbied@xplornet.com
Principal	Kathleen Slashinsky	636-2266	kslashinsky@rrsd.mb.ca
Teacher Rep	Jennifer Carlson	636-2266	jcarlson@rrsd.mb.ca
Secretary	Shanna Frith	636-7759	sfrith@goinet.ca
Director	Tara Elliott	636-2717	tarastev@mts.net
Director	Leslie Roesch	636-2302	clroesch@mts.net
Director	Marsha Merrick	636-2275	merrickconstructionltd@gmail.com

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EES Parent Group Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2009 – 7 pm EES Library

In attendance: Barb Desiatnyk, Leslie Roesch, Shanna Frith, Kathleen Slashinsky (EES Principal), Jennifer Carlson (Teacher Representative)

- Motion to approve meeting minutes from January 27, 2010 – Barb, Shanna – minutes approved.

Principal's Report

- Pancake breakfast raised approximately \$1500. A total of \$2279.93 donated to Haiti.
- Book Fair – Over \$2000 was sold in books. This means EES will receive \$800 in books and resources.
- Jump Rope for Heart was held – total count not complete yet.
- Teacher Appreciation Week – a success.
- Upcoming Events and Important Dates –
 1. Winterfest will be held March 24, 2010 in the evening beginning at about 6:30 pm.
 2. Kyle Huntinghawk will be in the school February 25 to talk to classes about his experience at the Olympics.
 3. School Wide Community groups will be held February 25th.
 4. Oak Hammock Marsh presenters will be coming to EES on Friday February 26th. This program is funded by the Little Saskatchewan River Conservation District.
 5. Spring Break – March 26th is the last day of school before spring break.
 6. Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held March 19th, 2010.
 7. Playground – during the summer months of July or August, the large play structure will be removed. This structure does not meet current safety regulations. Fundraising to put in new playground equipment is necessary.

Unfinished Business

- A copy of this meeting's minutes will be sent home with all students, as well as a copy of the contact information for the Parent Group members. Past meeting minutes are available on the school website at:
www.rrsd.mb.ca/schools/erickson_elementary/pages/parents_info.html
- Swimming lessons – We are hoping to plan for students to take swimming lessons in Brandon during the next school year (2010/2011).
 1. A survey needs to be sent out to families to determine the level of interest. The survey will go out with report cards. Survey to be complete and sent to EES by March 10th to ensure it gets in the report card envelopes.
 2. If there is sufficient interest, fundraising to pay for this will need to begin now.
- Bank account for Parent group – Kathleen to speak to Laurie Bachewich about how this could be done.
- Camp Wanakumback – Kathleen to speak with Janet Gusdal about opportunities.
- Child Care for Parent group meetings – it is hoped that with availability of child care at meetings, that the parent group would get more participation from families. Kathleen is scheduling a meeting with Erickson Collegiate to see about students coming to help out for credit.
- Cook Book Fundraiser – We decided to pursue this project (www.gatebook.com). Envision this being a joint yearbook/cookbook that will be sold to families and around

the community. Need 2 recipes from each student and photographs taken throughout the year. Looking for some volunteers help to organize the cookbook. Jennifer will send letter to homes as well as put a note in the next newsletter asking for students to bring in recipes. Recipes can be either sent in on paper or emailed to jcarlson@rrsd.mb.ca

- Need to get letters out ASAP to Lions Club and other service groups for financial support. Carry forward.

New Business

- EES's approach to Bullying: Dana Hanson, the Resource Counsellor, is willing to come to a Parent Group meeting to give a talk on the school's programs on bullying. This would be open for any family member wishing to attend. Notes to be sent home in planner for this.
- More volunteers needed – The parent group is very small and more individuals are needed in order to raise funds required for things like a new playground structure and swimming lessons. How can we tap into help from families of students? Carry forward.

To Do List:

- Write fundraising letter to be sent out to Lions Club and other service groups. **Shanna**
- **Kathleen** to speak to Janet Gusdal (camp), Laurie Bachewich (account), and Erickson Collegiate (child care).
- Meeting minutes to go home with students attached to newsletter. **Shanna**
- Survey for swimming lesson interest to school by March 10th
- Dana to determine what meeting night she can come to talk about bullying. This needs to be advertised with note home in planners.
- **Jennifer** to send letter home and in newsletter, requesting recipes for Cookbook Fundraiser.
- Find volunteers to help with cookbook – typing in recipes, organizing photographs

Next Meeting: Monday March 22nd, 2010 at 7 pm at the Erickson Elementary School library