

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: December 7th, 2010 – meeting started at 6:35 pm

Location: Henry Hudson Library

In attendance: Parents (approximately 20), Principal Mrs. Browning, & Mr. Muress. A full list of attendees is available from the PAC Chair upon request. For privacy reasons a full list is not posted on the web site.

1. A motion to approve minutes from November 2010 Pac meeting moved by Zan was seconded by Sandra. Motion passed.
2. **PAC Chair Report - Robert**
 - a. Winter Fair. Robert raised a glass to congratulate Sheila and Andrea, as well as all those who assisted at the Winter Fair, for putting on such a fabulous event. The Fair brought out a real sense of community among Hudson's "extended family" and was a huge success.
 - b. Raffle. So far \$1500 of revenue has been earned, less approximately \$350 in expenses. There are still tickets remaining to be sold, and many parents have yet to turn in their raffle ticket booklets and their earnings. The deadline for returning the tickets will be Friday of this week, as the draw will take place during the evening Christmas concert next Tuesday, December 14.
 - c. Traffic & Safety. The PAC had two banners made and hung on the fences outside the school (one along Cypress near the corner of Cypress and York, one along York between the corner of Cypress and York and the school driveway). These banners remind parents of the location of the drop-off only zones and the location of the 5 minute stopping zone. However, these signs are not yet having the desired effect, as some parents are still stopping and leaving their cars in the drop-off only zone. And now that York has been temporarily closed to traffic (due to the water main construction) between Cypress and Arbutus, drop-off time will be even more chaotic. Parents need to give themselves more time in the morning when doing drop-off, even just 4 minutes more, in order to make sure their children can get to class on time. It was also noted that at some point during the construction, part of the sidewalk along York between Cypress and Maple may have to be closed due to the over-swing of the construction crane (the York sidewalk between Arbutus and Maple was previously closed for this reason).
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Robert to contact Chad (parent police officer) to see if some kind of a meet-and-greet can be done in the New Year to get the word out to parents about the safest (and proper) way to drop off their children at the school.
 - d. Hudson Out of School Care. The AGM will take place tomorrow night (Wednesday, December 8) at 6:30 p.m. in the yellow building.
3. **Treasurer's Report– Sheila**
 - a. Sheila thanked Mr. Muress, Mme. Boyd and all the volunteers who helped make the Winter Fair such a success.
 - b. Although the numbers are not in yet, the Winter Fair made money. Sheila and Andrea will go over the numbers in the next week. The Winter Fair was a huge success and Sheila and Andrea have received a great deal of positive feedback from teachers, parents and students.

The most popular events at the Fair were the “kids only” shop, the bottle pull and the food.

- c. Hudson Out of School Care (HOOSC) prepared all the decorations and signage for the Fair, and had their own section at the Fair where they sold various crafts. Sheila received positive feedback from Pat of HOOSC; Pat thought the evening went well, and expressed that HOOSC would be happy to collaborate again next year.
- d. If anyone has any comments or suggestions about how to improve aspects of the Winter Fair for next year, please send an email to Sheila or Andrea.

4. Teachers’ Report– Mr. Muress

- a. Mr. Muress announced that the new computers have now arrived at the school and expressed gratitude.
- b. Mr. Muress also expressed gratitude to the PAC for the Winter Fair. 20 of the 28 students in Division 1 volunteered at the Fair, and they thoroughly enjoyed doing so. Besides bringing the students and parents of the school together, the Fair also brought in a lot of people from the community (including former students), which was wonderful to see.
- c. The decision has been made to go ahead with the grade 6/7 camp out in April at Sasamat Outdoor Education Camp. Only 38 students will be going, so it will be a small group this year.

5. Principal’s Report – Mrs. Browning

- a. Mrs. Browning had a wonderful time at the Winter Fair and expressed a huge thank you to all who helped make it a success.
- b. It has been brought to Mrs. Browning’s attention that the school may be losing the wooden playground on the East side of the school, off of Cypress. A November 25, 2010 article in the Vancouver Sun entitled “24 Elementary Schools Face Loss of Aging Playgrounds” lists Hudson as a school that received a warning letter last June which advised the school that the wooden structure would be removed in three months to two years. Apparently this is due to safety concerns with regards to the aging wood. It is unclear whether Hudson was sent or received such a letter. Mrs. Browning has asked Doug McClary at the Board to look into this matter. In any case, the Board would be responsible for the cost of removing a playground in this scenario.
- c. The official opening for the new accessible playground at Kits Beach is on Saturday, December 11 at 11:00 am. All are welcome to attend.
- d. On February 22, Terry Small will be giving a talk at Killarney Secondary School. This talk may be of interest for parents of children in grades 4 through 12.

6. School Planning Council Update – Deborah

- a. The SPC will be holding its elections in January. There will be 2 vacancies (as Monica M. is staying on) and one member needs to be someone who is on the PAC executive. Deborah will send out information before the elections, but urged everyone to consider putting his/her name forward. The SPC holds only 3 or 4 meetings per year, so it is not a huge time commitment.

7. Centennial Committee Update – Alan

- a. Members of the committee (Alan, Mme Boyd, Mr. Muress, Mrs. Browning) had a meeting last month and decided that Hudson will celebrate its centennial at the end of the 2011/2012 school year. One reason for this is that there are 5 or 6 other schools in the city that are celebrating their own centennials in May or June 2011. If Hudson waits until 2012 to celebrate its centennial (which makes sense anyway, since it was not until 1912 that the construction of the school was completed), we will have better access to VSB supplied presentation structures, etc. Also, having a June celebration ties in nicely with the annual end-of-year school barbeque event, so perhaps the two events could be merged. The date the committee is considering for such a celebration is Thursday, June 21, 2012 (which takes place during the second-to-last week of school). This celebration event would be the culmination of a week-long open house at the school to mark the centennial.
- b. Mr. Muress will be bringing this date to the teachers next week and they will vote on it. Mr. Muress or Mrs. Browning will report back to the PAC at next month's meeting.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Mr. Muress or Mrs. Browning will request input from the teachers regarding the scheduling of the 2012 centennial celebration event.
- c. Out of interest, Robert asked for a show of hands from those present in favour of holding the centennial open house celebration event on June 21, 2010. This was affirmed unanimously.

8. New Business

- a. Sheila advised that the new hot lunch forms are out, and that there are many new meal choices available. The school is now using new vendors and suppliers, and is trying a new menu as a bit of an experiment.
- a. Sheila also mentioned that extra help is always welcome and needed on Thursdays with the hot lunch program. Helping out at hot lunch is an easy way to put in some volunteer hours!

9. Next Meeting

- a. Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, January 12th at 6:30 in the library.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.