

## **HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING**

**Date & Time:** June 9th, 2011 Meeting started at 6:35 pm.

**Location:** Henry Hudson Library.

**In attendance:** Parents (approximately 25), principal Mrs. Browning, Teacher Candidate Tanja and teacher Mme Boyd. 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 January 2011 Pac meeting by Chantal M. was seconded by Sheila C. Motion passed.

### **2. Traffic & Safety Update - Robert**

- a. Robert wished that a "to do" item be noted for September and the return to school. He will organise a meet and greet at student drop-off to educate new and returning parents about where and how it is safe to drive and park around the school grounds.

### **3. Choir Update - Robert**

- a. Robert reported that the choir's revenue is in the black for this school year. The surplus will be carried forward to next year's program, beginning in September.
- b. The Chamber Choir/Choir will be performing for parents at the volunteer tea and at another time that is yet to be determined. Deborah mentioned that some members will also be performing at the Talent Show.
- c. Robert reported that Catherine would like to recruit more boys in the choir in the fall to round out the overall sound of the choir, give more variety to song choices and keep the choir from becoming a "girls only" activity.

### **4. Volunteer Recognition – Robert**

- a. Robert announced that he, Wendy M. and Andrea M. would like to publicly recognize Deborah F. and Kevin F. for their outstanding hard work in developing, running and growing the Henry Hudson Hot Lunch Program. Six years ago when the program began, there were about 100 fewer students who participated in the Hot Lunch Program. Since then, Deborah and Kevin have given a tremendous amount of their time organising, shopping, coordinating, recruiting volunteers and preparing meals for every Thursday Hot lunch and many other special occasion meals at Hudson. All in attendance unanimously thanked these two volunteers who will be leaving Hudson in June with their graduating daughter.

## **5. Hudson Hailer – Robert**

- a. Robert reported that there have been some issues with parents not reading the Hudson Hailer monthly school newsletter, which is a valuable source of information about school events. Ms. Batstone said there are extra cases of legal size paper at the school that could be used to print copies of the Hailer next year in an attempt to gain more readerships.
- b. A motion to go to a paper Hudson Hailer Newsletter (as well as an electronic link on the Hudson website that currently exists) starting next September by Robert was seconded by Christine O. and Jerry. Motion passed.
- c. Chantal mentioned that she needs to provide link in weekly reminders to remind parents to access the paperless format too.

## **6. June 23<sup>rd</sup> End of the Year BBQ – Robert**

- a. Robert opened the floor up to final discussions about Hudson's Graduation and End of the Year Party. Wendy M. mentioned that about 10 more volunteers were needed. A handful of parents offered their help at the meeting, with Wendy taking their names and it was noted that anyone else who is interested should contact her.
- b. Wendy suggested to Deborah that more condiments should be purchased this year so that we don't run out like last year, with a few parents agreeing. Deborah said she would take care of it.
- c. Robert reported that he was meeting with Sue of VIBE1 about her dance coordination and deejaying the night of the BBQ to sign a work agreement and give her guidance for the dance portion of the evening.
- d. Mitch L. reported that he had checked the sound system and it was all good to go for the dancing and deejaying. He mentioned that there was a wireless mic also available.

## **7. Cross Country – Robert**

- a. Robert advised that there is a volunteer parent needed to run the cross country program in September. Anyone interested should contact him.

## **8. Secretary Report - Chantal**

- a. Chantal reported that the book sale will be postponed until the fall to allow enough time for Ms. Nikon to go through all the books collected during this year's book drive. It was suggested that we may want to do another intake of books at the beginning of school before the sale.

## **9. Treasurer's Report - Sheila**

- a. The Spring Planter Fundraiser generated about \$480 in revenue.
- b. The Earthquake Fundraiser generated about \$333 in revenue. With some surplus in the budget already allotted to earthquake supplies, there is about \$1333 to help pay for supplies for the earthquake preparedness shed for the school.

## **10. Hot Lunch Proposals – presented by Wendy M. and Andre S.**

- a. Attendees heard from two parents about proposals for continuing the Hot Lunch Program next year at Hudson. Attendees were asked to vote blindly on which of two proposals could take over Deborah's experienced volunteer position of administering and coordinating the Hot Lunch come September which generates revenue of \$10,000 for the PAC.
- b. Wendy M. presented her hot lunch program proposal. She proposes to offset the cost of being paid for the position by introducing hot lunch on another day of the week.
- c. There was much discussion about how busy parents appreciate to have the option of another hot lunch day per week. There was also consensus that the hot lunches provided seemed to be healthful and a "real meal" – both important for parents to be behind the hot lunch program and an essential part of educating children in eating healthy foods prepared from basic ingredients.
- d. Andre S. presented his proposal of supplying Rocky Mountain Flatbread as a one day per week hot pizza lunch. The company is local, uses fresh ingredients and is an appealing choice for young kids. He suggested that the pizza could be served with local, fresh donations of fruit and vegetables from BC farms and Quest.

- e. There was some discussion as to who would be the coordinator of the program to ensure the fruit and vegetable donations are picked up and prepared and who would collect and organise monies from the students for hot lunches. Recruiting enough volunteers to run the entire hot lunch program may be difficult. There are companies that are paid to administer hot lunch programs at schools that cost about \$500. Perhaps the hot lunch program will end up costing more per student.
- f. The two proposals were put to a blind vote and Wendy M.'s proposal was carried with a decision to review the satisfaction of students and parents in November/December of 2011.

### **11. Playground Equipment Update – Gary**

- a. Gary has kindly written a proposal to Rotary (connection through Margot, one of the school's SSWs), looking for grants to help fund our replacement playground equipment. We are open to any and all available funding, so if anyone else is aware of grants to help fund the replacement of our school's playground equipment, please bring it to Rob and/or Gary's immediate attention.

### **12. Principal's Report – Mrs. Browning**

- a. Mrs. Browning reported that a new classroom is being built in the "girl's basement" of the school. Construction will begin July 1<sup>st</sup> as there is some asbestos in the walls and exposure to the students should be minimized. Hudson Out of School Care will be losing daycare space but these renovations have been planned for a long time, so the daycare has been able to plan for it.
- b. A new bike rack is being installed on the school grounds, next to the old one. Delivery and installation is expected for this week.
- c. Mrs. Browning would like to thank the Teacher Candidates (formerly known as Student Teachers) who will be leaving the school next week. She has heard nothing but good things about their amazing job at the school.
- d. Robert asked Mrs. Browning whether there would be any changes to the school staff next year. Mrs. Browning says the staff will remain more or less the same from her knowledge. There are however three teachers that will be moving on from Hudson next year: Ms. Mesa, Ms. Paone and Ms. Paris.

### **13. Teacher's Report – Mme Boyd**

- a. Mme Boyd reminded everyone that this Wednesday, Thursday and Friday there will be a Student Art Show set up in the gymnasium for parents/caregivers to view. The teachers are happy to set up all the art, but Mme Boyd was hoping that parents would take on the role of keeping the gymnasium open before and after school hours so that working parents may come in to see their child's/the school's art. Chantal M. said she would recruit and coordinate with parent volunteers to run the Art Show. Teacher Candidate Tanja agreed to make posters to advertise around the school.

### **14. Centennial Committee Update – Alan**

- a. At their last Centennial Meeting, Sylvia W., Alan and Mme Boyd decided that this time next year, we will be preparing for a Hudson School Open House until 5pm with an End of the Year BBQ/Centennial Celebration after 5pm on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2012.
- b. The Centennial's Facebook page has begun to generate traffic and provide a link with some of Hudson's alumni.

### **15. School Planning Committee – Mrs. Browning**

- a. Mrs. Browning reported that the School Planning Committee signed off on Hudson's new school plan for the 2011/2012 year at the end of May. The Committee decided to maintain the goal of student literacy, but decided to add social and emotional health as an additional goal. This goal will be directed with a focus on self-regulation.

### **16. Earthquake Supplies – Andrea C.**

- a. Andrea has been working hard to put together a list of essential items and a budget to provision the earthquake supply shed. Mrs. Browning reported that she heard from Jane Morris at the VSB, who guaranteed her that tarps, water and 2 search and rescue kits would be provisioned by them. Ms. Morris maintained that water (to fill the two empty water containers) would be delivered to the shed by the end of June this year. Ms. Morris also made herself available to answer any questions.
- b. Andrea has researched two proposals for spending on earthquake supplies for Hudson:
  - i. OPTION 1: Supplies + Comfort Kits
    1. Parents provide comfort kits for their children, including items such as individual dietary requirement snacks (if necessary), bottled water and emergency blanket. The kit would be renewed every year by

families. Kits could be stored and divided into divisions in the shed. Cost of supplies needed to purchase would thus be reduced by about \$700 to approximately \$1400.

ii. OPTION 2: No Comfort Kits

1. PAC would need to buy more “shelter” items, snacks and water that could be provisioned in comfort kits, so cost would be approximately \$2100.

c. Attendees held a vote to determine which of these two options is favourable. Unanimous decision to go with Option 1, where parents provide comfort kits, was the final vote.

**17. Next Meeting**

a. Next PAC Meeting to be determined by PAC executive in September.

18. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Sheila C. was seconded by Chantal M. at 7:45. Motion passed.