

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: February 9, 2012 6:30 pm

Location: Henry Hudson Library

In attendance: Parents (approximately 15). Regrets: Principal Mrs. Browning. 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. Motion. A motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2012 PAC meeting was moved by Gary and seconded by Wendy. Motion passed.

2. PAC Chair Report – Rob
 - a. SPC Election Results. The three parent SPC members from last year (Mitch, Monica and Chantal – the PAC representative) wanted to continue on as the SPC members this year. One additional parent, Victoria, also wanted to be involved. Rather than put this to a vote, it has been agreed that Victoria will serve as a back-up or shadow member of the SPC. The SPC constitution document in the Office permits shadow members to attend all SPC meetings, and to vote at a meeting only if one of the three primary members is unable to attend such meeting.

 - b. Letter from Minister George Abbott. Rob circulated a letter of today's date that he received from Minister George Abbott in response to Rob's letter to him. In the letter, Minister Abbott reports that, in an effort to resolve the current contract dispute with the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF), he has asked the Labour Minister to appoint a fact-finder to meet with the BCTF and the BC Public School Employers' Association to inquire into the status of negotiations and determine whether there are any reasonable prospects of a negotiated settlement. Rob has responded to this letter by asking how much a fact-finder will cost, what the anticipated outcome is, and why the Minister can't go the negotiating table himself. Rob also invited the Minister to our centennial celebration. Rob encouraged the parents to write polite letters to Minister Abbott expressing their opinions about the current contract dispute.

3. PAC Treasurer Report – Rob (as Sheila and Andrea absent)
 - a. Family Games Night. The school will be hosting a family games night on Friday, February 24, 2012 in the school gym. Some parents of Division 10 students have agreed to organize this event to raise money so that another school (which has been identified by Principal Mrs. Browning) can establish its own "Pay What You Can

Fund.” All members of the Hudson community are encouraged to support this event by attending and/or volunteering. So far, Rob has managed to procure from Starbucks and other vendors some items to use as prizes at the event.

- b. Directory of Services. On behalf of the PAC, Sheila is in the process of putting together a “directory of services” by and for Hudson parents and families. The outcome will be a directory which lists Hudson parents’ names and occupations/services, telephone number and/or email address and/or website. Only the parents’ first names and surname initial will be made available, unless otherwise specified.
4. PAC Secretary Report –Christine
 - a. Book Drive. Chantal is working on a French and English book fair and perhaps a book drive before the end of the year. We will need parental help with this as Ms. Nikon can help with guiding a fair but cannot, due to the current job action, run it.
 5. Teachers’ Report – teachers not present
 6. Principal’s Report – Principal not present
 7. School Planning Committee (“SPC”) Report – nothing to report
 8. Members-at-Large Reports
 - a. Earthquake/Disaster Readiness. Andrea C. was not present, so Rob presented this report. We still need to go through the emergency supply shed to assess the status of the current contents (e.g. expiry dates, amount of supplies, etc.), ascertain how much storage space there is, and decide what needs to be purchased. Andrea is looking for a volunteer to help her perform this task at some point during daylight hours, and estimates it will take about 90 minutes to complete. Jerry volunteered to help Andrea with this matter.
 - b. Playground Funding Report. Gary reported that Committee 2 (the planning committee of the VSB) met last night and that they have applied to get funding for the playgrounds that need to be replaced in the district. The VSB has come up with a new 22-step procedure outlining how a school should go about getting a new playground. Gary will be seeking more clarity from the VSB on this procedure. The playground at the East side of the school will be removed in summer 2013. Playground grants from the Province were cancelled three years ago, but there is

still \$3.6 M fund left to replace playgrounds. However, each school can only get \$25,000 of these funds. It seems that the VSB would have to apply for the funds for the playground replacement, not the PAC, so information about this process will likely be difficult to acquire. However, Hudson could try going a different route and obtain money on our own to replace the playground. The Rotary Club may have between \$2500 and \$5000 to help us towards a new playground, but a new playground will cost \$25,000, including the cost of labour. Gary mentioned that the VSB will pay to remove the playground, but will not pay to install it. Rob indicated that he was thinking of putting on the Hudson website a way for people to donate to the playground fundraiser. He also had the idea of putting a fun coin collection contraption somewhere in the school, so that people could have a bit of fun while donating their spare change. Two questions from the group were: (1) Should the PAC initiate a designated fundraiser for the playground? and (2) If the playground gets funded (e.g. by the VSB or by some other donor) and we have raised funds for it, what can we / should we do with those raised funds? (i.e. we wouldn't necessarily be able to return those funds to the donors, but could we indicate in the fundraising description that the money will be used for a new playground, or other PAC-sponsored purposes?).

- c. Centennial Committee. Rob reported that White Spot will be our caterer for the event. They will be bringing their 30-foot-long portable-kitchen truck to the party and will be offering a Triple-O type menu. Ms. Browning and White Spot have already dealt with the permit issues.

Rob also reported that he obtained the raffle licence today and he is busy with organizing the prizes for the raffle. One prize will be a Yamaha desk-top audio system, which he obtained at cost (\$369) from Commercial Electronics.

Rob will need volunteers to help him keep track of the raffle tickets (i.e. keep track of which families have taken which ticket numbers to sell) and also to help him sell tickets. Some parents have more opportunities than others to take tickets to their workplace to sell, for example. There will be incentives for parents who sell the most tickets (e.g. 10 bottles of wine donated by Hamilton Grill, 5 pairs of Vancouver Canadian baseball tickets).

Alan reported that the Centennial Committee had met in late-January to go over the plans, and will be meeting again on February 20 at 6:00 pm. He also mentioned that his hope was that the Centennial party could be paid for by the revenue generated

from raffle ticket sales. He also reported that at the Centennial, White Spot combo will cost \$10.00, but will only cost \$8.50 if purchased in advance (i.e. pre-sales). One parent asked whether we could, as a way to generate more funds, sell the combos at \$9.00 each, and then give \$8.50 to White Spot as agreed. Rob will look into this.

Alan also informed the group that one Hudson parent has volunteered to produce a cake for the centennial party, and that Mitch has put together two bands who will be performing at the party. One band will perform from 4:00 to 6:00 pm and will play music from the 1900s to 1960s, and the other one will perform from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and will play music from the 1960s to the present.

Alan also reported that:

- Ms. Browning has contacted the school board to figure out parking solutions and perhaps have some parking spots on the grass at the far end of the field.
- Rob has spoken with Hudson parents who are members of the police force and to St. John's Ambulance to seek out volunteers to man the event. St. John's Ambulance will provide some volunteers in exchange for a \$200 donation.
- Chantal is looking for volunteers to help her create decade displays in the glass cabinets inside the school entrance.
- Rob has asked Karen (Hudson's mobile First Nations teacher) if she would want to set up a First Nations room, given that June 21 (the day of the party) also happens to be National Aboriginal Day. Rob is waiting to hear back from Karen.
- Alan is looking for help with writing copy to go into the memory book which will be handed out at the event. It will consist of 12-16 pages, and VSB will be printing that for us.

Some ideas and questions from the group with respect to the centennial party were:

- Do we have a rain back-up plan for the party? Is there a tent we can use?
- Will there be junk food at the party, or is the only food going to be White Spot food. Could we have a popcorn machine and a cotton candy machine? This might be another fund-raising opportunity.
- Can volunteers working at the event wear T-shirts (e.g. bright colours) so they can be easily identified by the party goers?
- If Hudson alumni are attending the school, could we give them colour-coded nametags to wear (e.g. stickers colour-coded for each decade) so that fellow-

alumni can pick out other alumni who may have attended the school at the same time as they did?

- People who are running a decade room in the school should dress up in period costumes.

d. Wealthy School Revolution. Monica was not present, so no report at this time.

e. Grade 7 Fundraising Report. No grade 7 parent present, so no report at this time.

f. Hudson Choir Update. Catherine reported that the choir will be producing a CD to be sold at the centennial party. The choir will be recording the songs at the Vancouver Academy of Music, which has graciously allowed the choir to use a room and a piano for this purpose at no cost. Catherine has found a recording engineer who has worked with live performances, and the first recording date will be March 4. The choir will be recording 8 pieces this term, and then 12 pieces at another session in term 3, for a total of 20 pieces (2 per decade). Some parents have volunteered to help out with the CD cover design and art work. There are 46 students in the choir this term, and part of the money from fees will go toward the production costs of the CD. Catherine also reported that they will attempt to put on the centennial website some samples of the songs they record.

g. Hot Lunch Program Update. Wendy reported that the hot lunch forms for term 3 will be handed out and collected before spring break, so that the program can get going the first week back after spring break. She also reported that Hudson applied for a grant for a new fridge to store hot lunch foods in, and that a new fridge has already been obtained. Wendy also reminded the group that Carnivale will be taking place next Wednesday. As Wendy will be organizing the pancake station at Carnivale, she is looking for more volunteers to help her there.

9. New Business

- Rob wanted to remind the group that the primary objective of the centennial party is for the current students and parents / teachers of the school to celebrate the school's 100th birthday, and to have fun doing so.
- Rob reported that he will be contacting the Billy Bishop Legion to help out with the 1930s or 1940s rooms.
- One parent asked whether the centennial committee had considered looking into parking availability at the armoury on Burrard or at the Molson's plant during the centennial party.

- Rob reported that Andrea C. has pointed out that Hudson needs help with media relations, etc., respecting the centennial party.

10. Next Meeting

Next PAC Meeting: Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 6:30 in the library.

11. Motion. A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Christine and seconded by Gary. Motion passed.