

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: March 27, 2012 6:30 pm

Location: Henry Hudson Library

In attendance: Parents: approximately 13. Principal: Mrs. Browning (arrived from another meeting at 6:55). Regrets: Mme. Boyd, Mr Muress (staff). 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 February 09, 2012 PAC meeting was moved by Mitch and seconded by Jerry. Motion passed.

2. PAC Chair Report – Rob
 - a. Job action Rob requests that any parents with ideas about further PAC response to the current contract dispute between the BC Public School Employers’ Association and the BC Teachers’ Federation (BCTF) please let him know.
 - b. A number of other matters are covered in the remaining agenda items.

3. PAC Treasurer Report – Sheila
 - a. Spring Planter Fundraiser. Details of this will be going home with the students shortly.
 - b. Family Games Night. Division 10 will be hosting a family games night on Friday, April 13, 2012 in the school gym (this was postponed from February 24). This event is 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. Volunteers are needed; anyone who can help, please contact Sheila.
 - c. Popcorn Machine. Sheila asked the PAC to consider purchase of a popcorn machine for use at school functions similar to the one rented for the Winter Fair. The PAC makes a profit of \$50 on a machine rental if 200 bags of popcorn are sold; at a basic cost of \$770 plus tax, using the machine at family games nights, the Centennial celebration, year-end barbecues, etc. it could take about two years to recoup the costs, after which any income is profit. Discussion followed: the machine would come with a three year warranty and maintenance primarily involves keeping the machine clean; no one could think of any impediments to recouping costs more quickly by renting the machine out to other schools; perhaps a used machine in good condition might be a better option if one can be found. There was general approval of the idea of purchasing a machine; in the next short while Cathy will check on a used machine that may be available through her workplace and advise

Sheila; Mitch will check Maynard's auctioneers thereafter to see if anything might be coming forward in a food service equipment auction.

- d. Sales of Centennial merchandise. Sheila and Rob have completed the paperwork and signed an agreement allowing the PAC to sell Centennial merchandise on line. Rob and Tom will now be working on getting the appropriate link set up on the Centennial website; this will allow us to do online registration for student and staff alumni as well.

4. PAC Secretary Report – None at this time. Alan is taking minutes as neither secretary is able to attend tonight.

5. Teachers' Report – Teachers not present

6. School Planning Committee ("SPC") Report – Victoria and Mitch met with Mrs. Browning earlier today, on the topic of annual school fees. Each school currently makes its own arrangement regarding fees for school supplies and programs and as such there are a variety of practices within the district and across the province. The provincial government is currently collecting information about each school's current practice, and considering developing a more standard practice for the province. The SPC recommends not making any changes to Hudson's current practice at this time.

7. Hudson Choir Update – Catherine reported that the choir recorded 8 pieces for the Centennial CD in a day long session at the Vancouver Academy of Music on March 04. Thirty second snippets from two of the songs are posted on the Centennial website. The remaining 12 pieces will be recorded on June 03. Choir rehearsals begin again on Wednesday April 04.

8. Principal's Report
 - Mrs. Browning reported that no update on the job action is available at this time. The April Hudson Hailer will be posted on the website a couple of days later than usual in case more information becomes available in the next few days.
 - There will be a school assembly tomorrow morning to talk about the upcoming Family Games Night; this is the first assembly since the start of the job action.
 - The welcoming meeting for incoming Kindergarten children and their families will take place on May 23.

9. Members-at-Large Reports

- a. Earthquake/Disaster Readiness. Andrea C. was not able to be present, but forwarded a report which Rob presented. The review of inventory and available space has been completed; thank you to Jerry for helping out with this. We also thank Parvinder for work on the shelving, which involved some out-of-pocket expenses for him. Mrs. Browning will advise if the school needs any help from the PAC to cover all of these, as there was a sense at the meeting that the PAC that we wish to make sure that Parvinder carries no personal expenses from this work. The megaphones in the shed had expired; one was replaced by the VSB and Andrea has ordered a second one and a replacement flashlight. Mrs. Browning also reported that the water bin has been refilled; at the time of use it will need to be boiled if it is going to be used for drinking. She reminded us that the inventory developed by the school district is not meant to provide for all needs for the school's capacity of 350 people for 3 days, and assumes that people will be steadily leaving the site for their homes or other accommodation over this time.
- b. Playground Funding Report. Gary was unable to attend; in his place Rob reported that it will soon be possible to make donations through the Centennial website towards replacing the playground equipment on the east side of the school that will be removed in summer 2013. Some other funding options are being looked into by parents with specific contacts. By the end of this year we should have a clearer picture of what resources we need and what resources we have for this project VSB.
- c. Centennial Committee. Alan reported that the Centennial committee had met on February 20 and will meet again March 28 (tomorrow morning) at 8:00 a.m. in the library. Any interested parents or staff are welcome to attend! Updates included:
- Mrs. Browning has arranged for the fire department to attend the celebration; they anticipate being able to display their 1912 fire truck.
 - Andrea C. produced a brief video about the Centennial celebration which is viewable on the website.
 - Alan met with retired music teacher Kathy Burt, who generously offered use of photographs and some student poetry from the late 1960's and early 1970's. Immediate past principal Bruce Porritt, who retired from Hudson two years ago, did his first stint as a student teacher at Hudson in Ms. Burt's class.
 - Ms. M. is willing to have her class work on producing a memory book; Alan will consult with her re what kind of outline of content and format she would find most useful.

- We remain in need of volunteers to help Chantal create decade displays in the glass cabinets inside the school entrance, and to help with decade rooms to cover the 1950s and from 1990 forwards
- We also remain in need of someone to coordinate publicity about the event, which should start getting out to local media soon after the Easter weekend.

Rob reported that White Spot will be our caterer for the Rob presented the pricing for registration (staff and student alumni), food (through White Spot) and merchandise (CD, memory book, commemorative photo, greeting cards, toque) that will be available on line and at the event, as well as pricing closer to cost for current families who will be able to order via a flyer to be sent home closer to the event, much as has been done in past years with the year-end barbecue, incorporated into the Centennial party this year. The sense of the group was to go with this pricing; the committee will now work to set up the online registration.

Rob also thanked Andrea B. for beginning to distribute and collect raffle tickets through the school office, and asked that everyone get the word out about the raffle, and help to sell tickets or direct people to the ticket order form linked to the Centennial website.

- d. Wealthy School Revolution. Rob M. reported for Monica. About \$300 has been raised so far, with 42 families currently registered, but not all using the system every two weeks (at this point 3 families have placed orders for the next delivery date). We were reminded that the school pays shipping fees out of their portion of the income on any order with a total value of less than \$750. Some school supplies are also now available through WSR; there is also a “quickshop” function on the webpage to make ordering more efficient. A future task for the PAC will be to get the word out more about this ongoing fundraising initiative.
- e. Hot Lunch Program Update. Wendy reported that the registration for term 3 went well and is projecting an income of between \$6,000 and \$8,000, about 1/3 again what had originally been anticipated.
- f. Grade 7 Fundraising Report. Cathy reported that the students remain enthusiastic about fundraising for graduation events. The bake sales have been consistently raising enough funds that their targets for their own events and a donation to another school seem very reachable by the end of June. Mrs. Browning reported that the harbour cruise has been booked and the deposit paid.

10. New Business

- A parent raised concerns about dogs in the school field after hours – both about biting, as her son had been bitten, and about waste being left behind. She had called the City and discovered that the current signage on the school fence shows an out of date phone number for reporting concerns. She would like to encourage parents to use the correct number, 311 (ask the operator for “animal control”), to report any issues – if this is done consistently the City will understand that interest in the issue is ongoing. She has been advised that the City will place two garbage bins for dog waste on site, on opposite corners of the field. Mrs. Browning has also made enquiries of the City and has been informed that City employees will be monitoring the site more closely before school hours and after 4 p.m. The City has also agreed that the school can update the signs and the grade 4/5 (English) class has taken this on as an art project.

11. Next PAC Meeting: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 6:30 in the library.

12. Motion. A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Sheila and seconded by Rob M. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.