

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: April 17th, 2012 Meeting started at 6:38 pm.

Location: Ms. M's classroom, Henry Hudson School.

In attendance: Parents (approximately 16), principal Mrs Browning and guest Aboriginal Education Enhancement Worker, Karen Lepine. 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 March 2012 PAC meeting by Gary W. was seconded by Andrea M. Motion passed.

2. PAC Chair Report - Robert

- a. Robert began the meeting by reporting that, thanks to Tomasso O., centennial registration and electronic payment had been implemented on the centennial website (www.hudsoncentennial.com). He wanted to mention that faxed registrations would be coming directly to his home fax machine.
- b. Robert introduced a guest who would be speaking first: Karen Lepine, an Aboriginal Education Enhancement Worker with the Vancouver School Board. Karen and Trudy Paris will be putting together a room for the centennial to present aboriginal history of Kitsilano for June 21st - the centennial and National Aboriginal Day. She is hoping to work with grade 7's to make bannock, offer some governmental giveaways and she is looking into having elders who will tell stories. Andrea mentioned she could connect her with Jay Forsyth who works in Natural Resources who may also help Karen get connected with local businesses, if need be.

3. Principal's Report - Mrs Browning

- a. Mrs Browning spoke about the recent BCTF vote that occurred Monday and Tuesday, the 16th and 17th of April. This is a vote deciding the teachers' next move in job action, perhaps discontinuing any and all extra-curricular involvement. Results of the vote are due out early next week.
- b. Robert asked Mrs. Browning whether she had any recommendations for parents, in supporting teachers and administration. Mrs. Browning indicated that she felt the staff at Hudson felt very supported by parents. Staff and administration were continuing to work well and communicate well with each other to do the best for the students. They maintain their pact to keep the students and their education at the forefront. Staff and administration realize they have a great relationship despite the strain due to job action and they appreciate the parents' support.
- c. Mrs. Browning mentioned that this Friday, April 18th is a Pro-D Day. This is a development day to determine the school's growth plan and it is a unique

opportunity for staff and Mrs. Browning to meet away from the school to discuss the focus and strategies for the upcoming year. The school plan for this school year focuses on literacy and social and emotional well-being. As there have been no formal staff meetings this year due to job action, Mrs. Browning feels these goals have been worked on but not in the cohesive manner that the staff would be able under normal circumstances. She would also prefer to have data from the entire school through regular staff meetings to pursue these goals. She therefore proposed to the SPC that this year's school plan be rolled over for next year and the committee supported her proposal.

- d. Monica M. asked Mrs. Browning if teachers had been keeping data this year. Mrs. Browning replied that teachers had been keeping data for report cards but not for the goal of social and emotional well-being. She replied that she is certain teachers know how their own class is doing, but the wider (school) assessment has not been tracked.
- e. Mrs. Browning mentioned that she has information about a parents forum from the ministry of education. The forum hopes to get feedback from parents about creating connections for student success.
- f. Mrs. Browning let the PAC know that she wishes to produce a paper version of the Hudson Hailer newsletter for the last couple months of the school year. There is so much happening and to keep parents informed about the Centennial, she will be sending a paper version of the Hailer home in backpacks.

- ACTION ITEM:** Chantal will make a concerted effort to attach a link to the Hudson Hailer to the weekly reminders.
- ACTION ITEM:** Mrs. Browning will send out information to parents about BC Education forum.

4. **Earthquake Supplies & Planning Committee - Andrea C. & Mrs. Browning**

- a. Mrs. Browning went to a conference about earthquake planning, in part due to parents' concern over the possibility of such a disaster in Vancouver. Mrs. Browning felt it was good to talk about the reality of an earthquake and how each school should make their own school plan for such a disaster.
- b. May 3rd, 2012 will be Earthquake Preparedness Drills around the Vancouver School District. The whole school empties out (no matter the weather), sets up groups and gives out the earthquake supplies. This year the "full release" (when parents come to the school to pick up and sign their child out) will not be happening unless individual parents wish to do this.
- c. Andrea C. has spoken to Patti Bacchus on her twitter page to solicit further materials for schools in the event of an earthquake. Apparently Patti Bacchus

is passionate about the earthquake issue (it was the platform on which she ran for school trustee) and will be held accountable by her social media followers. Andrea will keep us posted.

5. Wealthy School Revolution Fundraiser Update - Monica M.

- a. Monica reported that the WSR fundraiser for Hudson had generated about \$300 up to April 2012. She will continue the campaign to advertise in the hope that more families will order even just some of their groceries through the program, bringing 20% of sales back to the school. Mrs. Browning suggested using the Hudson Hailer as a new way to reach parents.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Monica will write up a piece to put in the print version of the Hudson Hailer to educate families and help promote the fundraiser.

6. Secretary's Report - Chantal M.

- a. Chantal reported that the Scholastic English book fair that occurred April 2nd-4th had been a success, with net sales of \$4600. (The last book fair's total sales were about \$3200.) Chantal wanted to thank the volunteers, the staff, Ms. Nikon in particular, the administration, the parents and the students for all their support and assistance. The PAC members felt Ms. Nikon knows how best to use the commission from the fair, so she is looking into the options available.
- b. Chantal mentioned that the French book fair was ongoing and was going very well so far.
- c. Chantal made a call out to any parent volunteer who is willing to take on organizing a Bike-to-School initiative at the end of May. It would necessitate exciting the kids about getting to school on wheels, promoting safety practices (especially on school grounds) and running a draw on the day of "biking to school". She is finding that her plate is full due to the run-up to the centennial.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Chantal will put a call out for a parent volunteer to take on the "Bike to School" initiative in the weekly reminders.

7. Treasurer's Report - Sheila

- a. Sheila reported that the Spring Planter forms had been distributed and were due Friday, April 27th. Delivery of the plants would be Friday, May the 11th, just in time for Mother's Day on Sunday, May 13th.
- b. Sheila was also glad to report that Cathy M. had helped the PAC procure a popcorn machine. Although the PAC was looking at paying about \$780, Cathy M's employer decided to "gift" the machine to the kids. The PAC is now the proud owner of a yummy popcorn-making machine donated by the

Canadian Legion. Many thanks to Cathy M. for the connection and to the Legionnaires.

8. Playground Equipment Replacement Update - Gary W.

- a. Gary W. gave an update on the state of funding for the playground. He and another parent volunteer, Svetlana, have been looking into getting corporate funding to help with the huge cost of the playground replacement. He attended the District PAC meeting and spoke to the trustees on the playground replacement committee. He was given the “flow chart” demonstrating the steps necessary in requesting playground equipment through the VSB. The process to “officially” ask for replacement of our playground has been noted and Mrs. Browning and Gary are following the process carefully. The PAC is unsure whether there will be any funding for replacement equipment from the VSB or the province.
 - b. Robert asked Mrs. Browning how donors could write cheques to Henry Hudson to receive a tax credit, with donations going to playground replacement.
- ACTION ITEM:** Mrs. Browning will see if cheques of \$20 or more from individual donors for playground replacement are eligible for a tax receipt.

9. Division 10F Games Night Report – Sheila

- a. Sheila told the meeting about Div 10's initiative to raise funds for a less fortunate Vancouver school through a games night at Hudson on April 13th. She wished to thank the PAC for prize donations and she added that attendance was great and many pitched in to help. The \$818.25 that was raised will be used to help start a “pay-what-you-can” fund at a school less fortunate. This was an excellent opportunity for Hudson kids to help kids in their own community. Andrea C. mentioned that she was previously at a school that was not able to administrate the gaming grant. She wished to point out how significant an effort this initiative had been.

10. ChildRun - Theresa K.

- a. Theresa is once again heading up Team Hudson for ChildRun 2012. She is organizing a bake sale for Friday, May 4th after school on the playground. Cathy M. asked about donating baked goods and Theresa said those who are able should email her. Chantal will put a note in email reminders.

11. Hot Lunch Report - Wendy M.

- a. Wendy's 3rd term hot lunch intake met expectations as far as numbers again. She is currently surveying to see if a third day would be worthwhile for families and for the hot lunch program. Andrea C. suggested there may be profit in simply providing a beverage and snack instead of a full lunch on the third day.

12. Choir Update - Catherine

- a. Catherine reported that there were 40 students enrolled in choir this term and it was going very well. The kids had picked up three songs in two rehearsals! Catherine figures this may be a function of the children getting used to her since she has been at the school now for three years, plus their skills developing over time.
- b. The final recording date for the centennial CD will be June 3rd. Robert is hoping to have all of the CD liners ready to print at the same time as the final recording date so that the CDs can be expeditiously put together in time for June 21st. The liner pages will be put together by Robert and Pascal with Hudson children's art work.

13. Centennial Committee Update – Alan P.

- a. The next centennial meeting will be April 25th at 8 a.m. The centennial committee is still looking for volunteers to help put together decade displays for the '80's and '90's into the future. Anyone available to help, please contact Alan P.
- b. Now that registration is up and running on the www.hudsoncentennial.com website, the centennial committee is looking for volunteers to help with publicity. The committee wants to ensure to spread the word to the community and ensure alumni who wish to attend will be notified. The committee has broken down the job into 5 sections of publicity. The first section of Vancouver schools, PACs and the district and provincial PACs is looked after by Chantal M. and Mrs. Browning. The second section of radio and email-based publicity (ie. Yomama) will be covered by Andrea C. The third section of publicity is T.V. Andrea C. suggested the committee contact Express on Shaw, a BCIT channel who often run stories on local events. A volunteer is still needed to take on this section. A fourth means of publicity will be distributing posters to be displayed in windows of local businesses. This will be done on foot by Jo G. and Elaine. Finally, Sheila C. volunteered to help contact newspapers on behalf of the committee.
- c. Alan noted that there are other schools also celebrating their centennial this year. Friday, April 27th, Sir John Franklin at Hastings and Boundary is holding its centennial. If anyone wants to attend and report back, that would be greatly appreciated.
- d. The centennial committee is still looking for period costumes to be worn or displayed at the the centennial. Robert suggested the volunteers could wear these costumes while "working the crowd" and setting the tone for the 100 year's celebration. Anyone who has access to vintage costumes, please let Alan know. Rob suggested some of the costumes could be home-made too.

- e. Registration for Hudson families will be coming out in late May. The pricing for food at the centennial barbecue will be slightly less than on the website. Stay tuned for more information.

14. Grade 7 Bake Sale Fundraiser - Cathy M.

- a. Cathy reported that the grade 7 bake sales have been doing well. At the first bake sale, there was too much inventory, so the teachers had a lot of sweets left in their staffroom. They scaled back on the second bake sale and it sold out. The third bake sale was very popular and the grade 7's raised \$450. The bake sales seem on target to meet their goal of paying for a grad cruise for the students and the \$10-a-student fee for annual books for graduates.
- b. The next grade 7 bake sale is Friday, April 27th at lunchtime.

15. Next Meeting

- a. Next PAC Meeting to be Monday, May 7th at 6:30 pm in the library.

16. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jerry H. was seconded by Gary W. at 7:55. Motion passed.