

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: February 12th, 2013. Meeting started at 6:35 pm.

Location: Henry Hudson School Library.

1. **In attendance:** Parents (approximately 11). 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. Principal Mr Adams and babysitters were absent so it was decided that the meeting should progress rapidly and children present were asked to stay in the library, reading or otherwise playing quietly.
2. A motion to approve minutes from January 2013 PAC meeting by Jerry H. was seconded by Simon. Motion passed.

3. Point Grey-Cornwall Corridor Project Update - Robert

- a. Robert asked if there was anyone who had attended open houses for the corridor project that were held in the community. No one present had attended but a couple parents did the online survey. Robert reported that one idea the project has is to turn York Street exclusively into a bike lane, which would leave no safe area for our cars to drop off students coming to school. He stressed how important parent feedback to the project will be and suggested the two ladies who visited the PAC meeting in January, Dhaneva and Elnaz, come back again to a Hudson PAC meeting to share the ongoing intent of the City's project on our neighbouring streets.
- b. Simon mentioned that the police were out the next day, giving tickets and it was a good thing as there was an accident at Cornwall and Cypress last week at about 11 am (no Hudson child was involved, thankfully). Rob said he and Mitch were working together with Pat Allen at the Community Road Education Team to see what influence Hudson has to change signage and how best to educate the drivers and students around the school to keep everyone safe. Mr Allen is also able to coordinate City and VPD enforcement to make sure drivers are adhering to the rules and regulations around Hudson. Hudson has been "highlighted" and therefore it is likely to see further enforcement around the school. Rob reiterated that the administration, the staff and the PAC's job is simply to educate the community, and there is no authority to enforce.
- c. Beth added that she had noticed there was no signage on Cypress Street to indicate that there is a school here. She mentioned that usually there are speed indicator signs that help drivers keep in mind to slow down. She watched for about an hour last week and realized that, between Cornwall and 1st Avenue on Cypress, cars speed through, without the knowledge that Hudson Elementary is right there. Some ideas to educate drivers along Cypress were plywood, life-size, colourful cut-outs of children to put along the street, painting the street itself or power-washing a stencil on the street

to make drivers notice the area as a school zone. Rob also mentioned that he had been looking into crossing guards or a traffic safety officer.

4. Choir Report - Robert

- a. Robert explained that the choir was going to be working with Ms Armitage this term to help in the production of Wizard of Oz and that the PAC Executive had authorized to pay for the choir director and accompanist's extra time out of choir funds. Further, four choir members are getting extra tutelage to help them match pitch and keep them from damaging their vocal chords. This expenditure will also come from choir revenues.

5. Secretary Report - Chantal

- a. Chantal advised that there was just a couple of items. She is looking at organizing Bike to School Week again this year, which will be coming up in the Spring - dates yet to be determined.
- b. Although Mr Adams was not present to verify, Chantal gave a heads up to parents that March 13th and 14th were expected to be student-lead conferences that result in early dismissal of 2pm both days.

6. Treasurer's Report - Dana

- a. Dana made a quick report of recent treasury expenditures. She said the PAC had recently paid about \$3000 for the gymnastics program, \$200 for Olympic javelin-thrower Elizabeth Gleadle to speak at an assembly and \$800 for the *carnavale* performers.

7. Accidental Fundraising Committee - Beth

- a. Beth updated the meeting on the fundraising effort for the playground, reporting that \$9066 had been donated to date by Hudson families. She stated that she found that not all families at the school knew that this fundraising was happening. In order to get more exposure, Beth proposed signage on each door of the school, signage on the soon-to-be-ripped out playground structure that would gather attention (ie. "R.I.P. tombstones") and another letter sent out to families to make sure more families get involved in the fundraising. She said that so far there has been no reply from possible corporate sponsors Concord Pacific and Lululemon. She and the AFC are currently soliciting Suki's and Biennale. Andrea C. mentioned that she is trying her "in" at the Billy Bishop Legion.
- b. Beth reported that Gary, who is the project manager of the playground replacement, is working on getting the HST waived on the new playground structure, once we need to pay for it. He is also looking into the possibility of installing the structure with our own volunteers to save cost and what that entails, including whether the structure would be insured in the same manner as other school play structures.

8. Earthquake Supplies & Planning

- a. Since Mr Adams has the full update to the comfort kit collection and the earthquake preparedness project, Robert asked parents how many still had to hand in their kits. Surprisingly, there were a little less than half who had not done so. No one present objected to an extension of one week (Feb. 18th) to turn in comfort kits.
- b. Robert reminded parents that the next PAC meeting would be about seismic upgrading plans with Patti Bacchus, school trustee. He asked Chantal to make sure she sent out the link to a video made by Bayview parents about what an earthquake might look like at their school - which was built around the same time as Hudson. He mentioned that it would be a good idea for parents to prepare questions to ask Ms Bacchus while she is able to focus on our school.

9. Kidproof Course - Andrea L.

- a. Andrea asked about how to offer "Safe at Home Alone" or "Babysitting" courses to Hudson students. She had contacted Kidproof who could teach these courses if we could somehow set them up in the school. Chantal said she would liaison with Mr Adams to see about setting up a day and seeing if there was interest in the Hudson population.

11. Next Meeting

- a. Next PAC Meeting to be Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30 pm in the library with guest speaker school trustee Patti Bacchus.

12. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Simon was seconded by Todd at 7:30pm. Motion passed. (A special thank you to all the kids who were incredibly quiet and patient during the meeting!)