

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: December 10th, 2013. Meeting started at 6:30 pm.

Location: Henry Hudson School Library.

In attendance: Parents (approximately 20), teachers, principal Mr. Adams. Please note, a full list of attendees is available from the PAC Chair upon request. For privacy reasons the full list is not posted in the minutes.

1. Minutes
 - a. A motion to approve minutes from the November 2013 PAC meeting was motioned by Beth and passed by Robyn. The minutes are posted on the website.
2. PAC Chair Report
 - a. Mrs. Nikon went to Chapters to thank them for adopting our school so well with the >\$4K in gift cards and see where a large poster from the students might get displayed. The manager at Chapters has been very enthusiastic and is excited about the poster from the kids.
 - b. Robert has arranged for the Point Grey/Cornwall project representative to take part in our January 2014 PAC meeting. They will be able to comment on the current construction and the work that will affect York Street (around the school) likely to start around March break.
 - i. It is recommended that all parents that drive or bike to the school to have a look at how they will drop off and pickup with the new street configurations around the school.
 - ii. Check out: http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/York_Bikeway_proposed_design.pdf
3. Principal's Report
 - a. Getting close to end of term:
 - i. Preparing reports that go out the last day of school
 - ii. Days away from holiday presentation.
 1. There are 2 shows, one at 10am and one at 1pm
 2. Get tickets to the office by Friday
 - b. There was a great day with the VPD dogs
 - i. Both the dogs and the police cars were a great spectacle.
 - ii. A special "Thank you" to Victoria for arranging a great assembly.
 - c. Garden beds are coming along great!
 - i. Beds are setup but nothing is planted yet.
 - ii. The VSB has not signed off the approval yet.
4. Teacher's Report
 - a. N/A.
5. Secretary Report
 - a. There is a Calendar of Events that is ready to go up on the website to supplement the school calendar.
 - b. Reminder that the PAC meeting dates have been scheduled to the end of the year. Dates noted below. Please also check out the website: http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/HUDSON/Parents/PAC/Pages/PAC_Meeting.aspx
 - c. The VSB/Hudson has changed its website to a SharePoint format.
 - i. Please check out the school's new site .
 - ii. The PAC section is a bit limited, but the meeting minutes and PAC meeting dates are there plus the Constitution and Bylaws and any other information.
 - iii. If you have SharePoint experience and want to contribute to the PAC section, please let the chair know.
6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Playground refund is coming from the school and Gary had been following up on. This is approximately \$4K.

- i. It was recommended to repay back the GIC which was borrowed from to pay for the playground ~\$2K.
 - ii. It was also recommended to contribute to a contingency fund that has not be contributed to in 8 years.
 - iii. A resolution was presented on these recommendations.
 - iv. Q: Were all the GICs cashed out. A: Only one GIC worth \$2K was cashed.
 - v. Q: GIC? A: Guaranteed Income Certificate which gets around 1.65%.
 - vi. Rob passed motion and Gerry seconded. Motion passed.
 - vii. Another recommendation was made to ask Gary how much the orbitor cost that was cut from the original design to keep the playground within budget.
 - viii. Action items:
 - 1. Find out orbitor cost
 - 2. Contact Pat at HOOSC to see if they are willing to contribute
- b. Direct Fundraising:
- i. Exceeded goal of \$4000. ~\$5K.
 - ii. Donation receipts will be sent to board to get tax receipts.
 - iii. Congratulations on the success of the direct donation!
- c. Winter Fair
- i. First off Thanks so much to all the volunteers, Sheila and Andrea!
 - ii. Word was got out early for volunteers and that was a great success.
 - iii. Record number of volunteers = less time spent per volunteer
 - iv. Raised almost \$2K divided up between HOOSC, books, PAC
 - v. An idea for spending the additional funds beyond budget would be to look at new uniforms. The volleyball team could use new uniforms as the current ones are well worn. The price would be about \$6-\$10 per jersey. A range of sizes would be required.
 - vi. Another idea would be to contribute more to the grade 7 grad trips.
 - vii. Action item: research jersey costs.
 - viii. Q: Grads got hooded jackets that might be another source of jerseys.
 - ix. Q: Will there be a spring fair. A: Nothing is currently planned, but if someone is interested, please contact the chair. There is the end of year BBQ which is a great social event.
7. SPC Report
- a. Background on SPC (School Planning Committee) noted.
 - i. Sets goals for school (numeracy and social responsibility).
 - b. Elections are in January.
 - i. 3 parents and principal form council.
 - ii. 3 parents consist of one from the PAC exec and two not in the exec.
 - iii. Mitch is stepping down as a parent not on the exec. Thank you Mitch for being such a proactive member of the SPC.
 - iv. Victoria is standing for the committee.
 - v. Chantal would like to stand as parent not on the exec as she is no longer on the exec.
 - vi. Also note that there can be a shadow member. This member has no voting privileges but attends meetings.
 - c. Q: what does the SPC do? A: governance body for school. Ten years ago used to be a five year accreditation. Replaced with this committee to oversee school relevant programming and budget.
 - d. SPC meets three times per year. Fall, winter and end of year.
 - e. An output is the School Growth Plan which is approved by the committee.
 - f. Action item: Rob to send out email noting that SPC elections will be upcoming.
 - g. PAC exec and SPC often work together for benefit of programming for school.
 - h. Q: should there be more of a balance between English and French streams on SPC.

8. Hot Lunch

- a. Going well. Projection of ~\$25K net. Half way through year is ~\$12.
- b. Wendy aims to have forms out and returned by end of this term for next term. Likely next week.
- c. Q: we miss the first week of each term of hot lunch, any options to make this process more efficient like web based forms, printable forms. A: The hot lunch has been continually streamlined and is working quite well at this stage.
- d. A parent noted that the hot lunches were good (except maybe the hot dogs).

9. By law committee update

- a. The committee thinks that the current bylaws are 80% fine, and can be augmented with bits of the other PACs' sample bylaws to fix most of what seems outdated, with just a few tweaks of our own. We hope to have a draft for approval by Mr. Adams, and subsequent circulation around the community for discussion, by the new year.
- b. The current bylaws are on the website and were a great find to be resurrected from an old filing cabinet.
- c. Thanks to committee for hard work and we look forward to hearing proposals.

10. Community Garden Project

- a. Proposal awaiting VSB approval.
- b. Currently just dirt and boxes. Kindergartens helped with dirt!
- c. Plan would be to involve daycare during summer when school is out.
- d. Lululemon been very supportive with shovels and will tend garden during summer.

11. Choir Update

- a. Chamber choir to perform at VanDusen on Dec 12 during the Festival of Lights.
- b. Junior and senior choir to present during winter performance on Tuesday Dec 17th. Two performances. Last practice is on Monday.
- c. Choir will restart after holiday on the 20th for junior and 22nd for senior choir.
- d. Q: how has the split to a junior and senior choir been observed? A: It was noted that junior choir is often harder to settle down at beginning, but once singing, sound great.

12. Winter Fair Update

- a. Andrea and Sheila are retiring from planning the winter fair but will be available for advice/support for a planning committee next year.
- b. Volunteers make all the great extra-curricular programming at the school, any volunteers for the winter fair are greatly appreciated and as noted, earlier the planning, the easier the event.
- c. Action item: document all the details from this year of what worked and what didn't.
 - i. Fun games.
 - ii. Good prizes and very visible for raffle. Raffle sale lineups increased with announcements.
 - iii. Small disappointments with some string pulls.

13. Grade 7 Grad Update

- a. Tracy and Robin are assisting coordinating the grads in their plans.
- b. Grads are still not sure what they want to do but will be fundraising with bake sales, etc.
- c. Boat cruise around harbour an option.
- d. Also looking a other fundraising options.
 - i. Noted that a clothes donation fundraiser was an option that the PAC was not pursuing.
 1. Action item: Rob to pass on information to grad committee.
 - ii. Desire to get grads involved in fundraising similar to winter fair.
- e. Noted that both grad classes (English and French) are 6/7 split classes.
 - i. Desire to involve the grade 6s in some way. Class party?
 - ii. Also desire to have concept of pay-it-forward where younger grades encouraged to help grade 7s as they will be fundraising for their grad eventually.
- f. Principal Adams noted that the ceremony by the school is in the afternoon.

- g. He recommends that a community feel option might be nice with a BBQ at Jericho and the parents/community can celebrate and come together in a fun social environment.
- h. As this could be low cost, there can be less of a focus on fundraising in the community. Hopefully also easier to organize this year and should be easier to organize if it were to become a tradition in the school.

14. French Immersion Trip

- a. Alan notes that the trip is “not dead yet”. A small group is trying to move forward investigating with other schools.
- b. Should know by end of January.
- c. Alan has generated lots of useful information for planning in future years. Thanks Alan!

15. New Business

- a. Anti-bullying fundraising T-shirts
 - i. Svetlana recommended a fundraising opportunity that is combined with the Anti-Bullying campaign that the school is involved in.
 - ii. A company organizes the fundraising: KoBooks.com.
 - iii. Concept is kids create their own design for the shirt that is inspired by the “Anti-Bullying” theme and the company prints it for them on a pink shirt (many styles to choose from) for a cost of about \$16-\$32.
 - iv. The school would make 15 – 20% depending on if the shirts were shipped to school or home.
 - v. Anti-Bullying day is February 26th, so to get the shirts in time, the orders would need to start soon.
 - vi. Questions:
 - 1. Q: Could this be combined with the school’s anti-bullying lessons and each class could present a common design? A: Could be, but that is for school to decide and the company is set up for each child to make their own shirt at home.
 - 2. Q: If we were to agree now, is a financial guarantee required (minimum number of shirt, minimum fee)? A: There are no admin fees.
 - 3. Q: Previously we just asked the kids to wear pink shirts that day not requiring any additional messaging. A: Company is offering kid designed shirts and puts up posters (with school’s permission) around the school about anti-bullying through a liaison.
 - 4. Q: Can the teachers be asked if they are interested? A: Yes. Though this program can be done just a home.
 - 5. Q: If this is a fundraising campaign is there anything that these funds could be used to benefit the school in terms of the Anti-Bullying campaign? A: speakers at assemblies.
 - 6. Q: Can it be a Grade 7 Grad fundraiser? A: Good idea if they want to take it on. Setup to get them involved in the fundraising as mentioned previously and potentially in a mentorship role explaining to the younger grades what Anti-Bullying is about.
 - 7. Q: What happens with the other 80% over the money raised? A: Some goes to costs of running company and some goes to programs the company is involved in raising Anti-Bullying awareness.
 - vii. The company would like to give a presentation at the next PAC meeting (January 15th).
 - viii. Principal Adams noted that if this was a fundraiser at the school it would be under the PAC umbrella. Principal Adams can still help if under PAC umbrella like other fundraisers.
 - ix. Action item: get a draft of what would be sent home.
- b. Rainy Day Club
 - i. No sheltered area outside for kids to play outside when weather is miserable.
 - ii. Desire to create an option for kids to go outside or inside.
 - iii. Shortage of things to do inside.
 - iv. Looking at spending \$400 on toys and storage furniture/bins for inside use.

- v. Questions:
 - 1. Q: Are donations an option instead? A: Looking for specific items that are easy to put away and still useable/fun if pieces go missing. Hard to manage getting those in.
 - 2. Q: What types of toys are desired? A: Chess, checkers, jenga, lego. Things that are not dependant on adult involvement and easy and quick to clean up.
 - 3. Q: The daycare already uses this exact concept in storage bins that are easy to hide and put away, have you discussed the option of working with them. A: No.
 - vi. Authorized \$400 expenditure but also speak to daycare and parent community for specific items.
 - vii. Action items: Speak to daycare about common use area/toys/bins.
 - c. We Day
 - i. Q: The kids had previously gone to We Day in September. Can they do that again and how do they get invited?
 - ii. The costs used to be funded by the school board but it has become too expensive.
16. Next meeting date:
- a. Tuesday Jan 15th at 6:30pm.
17. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mitch was seconded by Robyn at 7:50pm. Motion passed.
18. Future meeting dates:
- a. Wed Jan 15
 - b. Wed Feb 12
 - c. Tues Mar 11
 - d. Wed April 9
 - e. Tues May 13
 - f. Wed June 11