

# MINUTES

## Henry Hudson Elementary PAC Minutes

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September 13, 2017 from 6:30-8:00pm

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### In Attendance

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*29 parents were in attendance.*

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### Welcome and Introductions

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Interim PAC Chair and Co-Treasurer, Robert F

- introduces himself and the remaining PAC Board members, Principal Ian Cannon and current committee chairs.
- Notes the Vice Chair External (Alan) is not intending to stand for re-election.
- Explains the organizational structure of loosely knit DPACs within the BCCPAC matrix.

Alan provides information regarding the Vice-Chair External position's duties, including maintaining connections with local non-partisan parent advocacy organizations, and coordinating the PAC's Public Education Support Committee ,

Attendees at the PAC meeting introduce themselves in turn.

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### Approval of Minutes

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The minutes from the meetings held on May 24 and June 21, 2017 were submitted into the record.

**Motion to approve minutes from previous meetings brought by Victoria, seconded by Jerry and approved by unanimous vote.**

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### Activities and Events

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Nina and Nicola review the Activities link on hudsonpac.ca. The Registration link for the new term was added last night.

- Chi Kids for Grades 1-4 on Thursday was added
- New Guitar teacher (played with the Stereophonics on occasion) offering guitar lessons
- Ocean Explorers – new price
- Music Program includes Junior and Senior Choir
- Dance (Nina) at lunchtime on Fridays. 2 classes (K-Gr. 1 and Gr. 2+)
- 3 main events: Winter Fair, Valentine's Day Dance and Summer Fair
- There is an opportunity to contribute especially around Chinese New Year and cultural events
- Welcome Back Potluck, organized by Ian Cannon on September 21, 2017 from 4:30-6:30pm to be assisted by Nina and Gerry.

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## PAC Acting Chair Report

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### Elections

- are held in October of each year to accommodate any movement or changes in membership to the PAC.
- The positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are open.
- There is a tradition with the HH PAC to “double-up” on positions by electing two members to each post.
- Minimum requirements for candidates for the PAC Committee are ability to attend two meetings a month, and to stay on top of incoming email communication.
- In addition to replenishing the current executive, volunteers for hot lunches are always required and appreciated.
- PAC Members need to subscribe to sign up for PAC activities and events.

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## Principal's Report and Teachers' Committee

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Principal Ian Cannon presented his report:

- Reviewed most recent HH Newsletter.
- Described the creation of two additional classrooms:
  - which allows for lowered class size and higher quality assurance;
  - has resulted in loss of the staff room; and
  - requires working with teachers on timing and other challenges around vacating classrooms for after-school and lunch programs.

Addressing waitlist: consideration on compassionate grounds given to families split between schools.

Lunch program now involves eating in classrooms, which eliminates “animal houses”, and makes students responsible for clean-up. First pizza hot lunch is tomorrow.

### Health and Safety Issues

- Needles found on the school yard over the past few weeks
- Rehearse and role play steps:
  - Step One: when a needle or anything resembling a needle is found, DO NOT TOUCH
  - Step Two: Stand by the needle to be sure other kids don't touch the needle
  - Step Three: Have another student, if available, get an adult
- Gap under the fence is being addressed
- Use of “mosquitos”, which emit a whiny noise designed to be heard only by adults to deter persons from urinating or otherwise. This area in front of the gym doors and doorways are power-washed before school each morning.
- Cross-Country season has begun. Running practice is open to adults.
- Library and office monitors needed.

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## PAC Secretary Report

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The HH PAC Secretary's report was deferred as the position is vacant.

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## Budget

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The Treasurer's Report was delivered by Robert and Dana. Copies of the Proposed Budget and a Table of Budgeted versus Actual Expenditures were distributed by Dana and Robert, and reviewed line by line by PAC members.

*[Attach HH Proposed Budget for 2017-2018 School Year and Hudson PAC 2016 Budget versus Actual]*

Comments on the budget were provided:

- Largest fundraiser is the Direct Donation Campaign, which avoids parents having to sell chocolate or wrapping paper and the like. Direct tax receipts are issued. Recommended donation per family is \$50. **Need tangible fundraising goal and seeking volunteers to produce a visual graphic for the fundraiser.**
- Annual provincial grant of \$20/child.
- Hot lunch program is run through the Munch a Lunch system, and is the largest single line expenditure in the budget (\$18K).
- Currently examining why certain lunches fell short of expected revenues.
- Within \$2K of previous year's budget due to underspending on expenses for activities.
- Smaller surplus than expected.
- Handwriting without Tears will not be funded this year.
- Grade 7 students raised their own money to pay for grad.
- Each class and PE receives \$150 for supplies for the year.
- Teachers and others were asked to provide a 'wish list', which was then reduced to a shortlist
- Arts and Sports enrichment: \$12K budget. Bring hip hop back? Keep gymnastics.

**Motion to pass budget in current form brought by Gerry, seconded by Cheryl and passed by unanimous vote.**

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## School Planning Council (SPC) Report

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Victoria presents SPC Report on current projects. School planning available online for all to see. (Lisa gone.)

Discussion led by Principal Cannon regarding data analysis tracking student report cards, behaviour and other data. Conducted 2-3x per year.

In the past, have had involvement of Aboriginal artists in the school.

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## DPAC Representative Report

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Alan presents on three current projects:

- October 14 civic by-election of Trustees. 19 candidates have come forward for 9 positions. See Hudson Page for information links regarding voting in the by-election. An all candidates forum is being held by DPAC on October 3, 2017. Courier education reporter Tracy Sherlock will moderate. Details of time and place will be sent out in the weekly reminders once they are known.
- French immersion program cuts. Five less kindergarten classes this year due to both space constraints created by the smaller class size limits and the challenges in hiring enough qualified FI teachers. The VSB has indicated it wishes to maintain a strong FI program; lobby efforts in support of this are ongoing, particularly by the local chapter of Canadian Parents for French.

- Vancouver School Board is reviewing all special programs and catchment boundaries over the next couple of years, starting with the French Immersion program this fall. DPAC is collecting information about what parents would like to see as the outcomes of this review, and will be hosting a meeting of DPAC reps from all FI schools in the next couple of weeks to discuss. Alan will report back further after this meeting.

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## Committee Updates

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Committee Updates were provided:

- Hot Lunch Committee (Marina B.)
  - Always in need of volunteers. Grandparents welcome.
  - Number of e-transfers has increased.
  - PayPal is not used as it charges a 2.9% fee.
- Guest speakers. One to two guest speakers per year. Aim is to inspire students. Victoria working on ideas. Potential job fair type forum for spring may be in the offing. Aisha volunteered to consider possibilities.
- Spirit Committee (Carly): \$2 from each item of red spirit wear goes to the PAC. Monthly draws will be brought back for fidget spinners. Any red clothing can be worn for Spirit Days.
- Grounds Committee: Report presented by Max, student members of the Committee who obtained VSB approval for a new picnic table and potential for another. Applause. Applause.
- Safety and Social Responsibility working group (Robert and Alan): Aisha to act as liaison on social action projects.
- Technology Committee (John): \$8K of the wish list, including new tablets.

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## Announcements, Other Items and New Business

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Earthquake comfort kits (Need a point person)

Babysitting roster being updated (Alan)

Website (Cheryl has volunteer to help)

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## Next Meeting

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October 18, 2017 6:30-8:00pm, Henry Hudson Library. Correction of date written on Agenda from 2016 to 2017.

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## Adjournment

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**Motion to adjourn was made at 7:57pm, seconded and passed unanimously.**

Note: Principal Cannon will ensure that the staff parking lot will be made available to members on evenings where there is a PAC meeting.