

# Henry Hudson PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: January 13, 2015

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Henry Hudson Library

1. Call to order 6:31 pm.
2. Motion made and approved to approve of the minutes from last PAC meeting.
3. PAC Chair Report – not discussed
4. Principal's Report
  - a. Present issue of lack of sufficient space to accommodate catchment area students.
  - b. We currently have 16 classrooms and 16 divisions, 387 students currently enrolled and room for 398 maximum.
  - c. The projected growth by Statistics Canada for this area indicate a student age population growth of 10-20 kids per year. This rate of growth does not allow the school to meet in catchment area needs.
  - d. The VSB has been implementing an enrollment management strategy, classifying schools as either 'schools with space', 'yellow', or 'full'. Henry Hudson is in the 'full' category, which means that we will have trouble accommodating in catchment area students.
  - e. We have moderate enrollment in the upper grades, but very heavy enrollment at the kindergarten level, there will need to be some planning as to how to accommodate the current bottom heavy student population as they move up through the grades. Many discussions regarding this have been had, it is currently at the school trustee level.
  - f. Hudson is currently working on a workable program to maximize space and to determine a number it can intake yearly that is sustainable.
  - g. What this means for September 2015 is:
    - i. Cross-boundary students will not be accommodated at Hudson. Existing cross-boundary students can remain at Hudson, but out of catchment students with a sibling currently at Hudson will not be admitted.
    - ii. In catchment area students with a sibling in the school will be given priority.
    - iii. The remaining spaces will be allocated to in catchment area students by a lottery system.
    - iv. Those in catchment area students who do not immediately get enrolled will be placed on a waitlist as not all students who get accepted choose to enroll. Parents will be offered a spot at Hudson once the applications are in (January 31, 2015), they are then given 24 hours to respond to the offer of admission. Should a spot be refused, it will go through the waitlist until it is filled.
    - v. Students who are not given a spot will be allocated to other schools with room.
  - h. Our enrollment numbers allow for Hudson to have a third supervisory aide. We now have a student support worker (SSA) acting as the third supervisory aide. In September 2015, we will have the third supervisory aide the school enrollment numbers qualify the school for.
5. Teachers' Committee Report – (not present)

6. School Planning Council Report
  - a. Elections were held and Bruce, Marina, Victoria have volunteered to continue on. We need one more parent to sit on this committee.
7. PAC Secretary Report – (not discussed)
8. PAC Treasurer Report (presented by Marina)
  - a. Financial overview for 2015 discussed in general
  - b. Winter Fair debrief
    - i. Our winter fair was a huge success and thank you for all the effort from volunteers and staff.
    - ii. We netted \$767 after significant investment in materials, decorations, leftover prizes, etc that can be used again next year.
  - c. Teacher’s classroom and fieldtrip funds
    - i. Each class receives \$100 for school supplies and \$300 for a fieldtrip annually. The PAC will give the money to Andrea in the office, and send a communiqué out to the teachers that the funds are available. Teachers then can utilize the funds and submit their receipts. This year we are asking for a few details on how the funds are spent.
  - d. Student enhancement fund (previous called the “Wish List”)
    - i. The teachers have reached a stalemate regarding the student enhancement fund allocation. Marina and Bruce met to discuss best use of funds and it was recommended that we use the money to purchase and install electronic projectors and screens in the 4 remaining classrooms currently without them (12 of 16 classrooms already have projectors and screens).. The cost is between \$7500-10K. These projectors are really useful and greatly appreciated by both teachers and students.
  - e. Sports and art activities
    - i. Hip hop dancing in gym class was discussed and approved at a cost of \$2,500-\$4,000. Some people have suggested that we look into other types of dancing, but it was decided that the kids love hip hop dancing. We are looking for an instructor who can give us a day rate as the students have less access to the gym. And also, a new take on Hip Hop that is not a regurgitation of a previous year’s program.
    - ii. A Carnival celebration is being planned by the school, date to be determined.
  - f. Direct donation campaign
    - i. We are on target for our fundraising goals, the PAC will assess our accounts in April to determine if a direct donation campaign is required this year.
9. Committee Updates
  - a. Hot lunch program.
    - i. Our hot lunch program is on track to meet our target fundraising for year of a minimum of \$27K.
    - ii. We are looking for more parent volunteers to help with serving on hot lunch days in February due to some key volunteers being away that month.
    - iii. Our current hot lunch leader is leaving next school year. Marina B will be taking over as leader and has been shadowing the current leader to learn the ropes. Marina P will continue as volunteer assistant to both.
  - b. Spirit committee

- i. Half of the ordered stock of spirit wear has arrived, the remaining will arrive this week.
  - ii. The school is planning a superstar date to celebrate exceptional students. This occasion may be the perfect venue for spirit day.
    - 1. The grade 7 class is leading the communication of the Hudson Hawks Cheer and getting the votes in on what will become the official school Tagline.
    - 2. The committee recommends using the Blues Brothers “Shake your Tail Feather” song as song/dance anthem for the school. It was discussed that the choir could learn the song and the hip hop dancing could include instruction of the dance to this song.
  - c. Safety and Social Responsibility working group (includes Traffic Safety)
    - i. The school is looking for parent volunteers to help with the safe arrival program. The hours are 9:00 am to 9:30 am +/-, one or more days a week.
  - d. Communications Committee
    - i. Will meet in the third term.
- 10. Activities and Events
  - a. Spirit day – discussed under the sprit committee section
  - b. Hudson choir
    - i. Rehearsals start January 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Guest speakers program
    - i. Victoria is working on the mayor ... the date is to be confirmed.
    - ii. Friends for sharks will happen February 24<sup>th</sup>.
    - iii. Saleema Moon has been proposed for Sexual Health Education talks. A survey will go out to parents to determine level of interest. This would be an evening event, include parents, and would be optional. A fee of \$5 per family was discussed. The community health nurse does sexual health education in the classrooms.
  - d. Juniors dance party/intermediate and seniors’ dance
    - i. The PAC would like to put on Hudson’s first Dance ever! The dance will be during school hours, it was felt that this would be more inclusive rather than an after school event.
    - ii. We will have 2 x 45 minute dances for the Juniors on one afternoon, and a Seniors dance the following Friday (or something like that!)
    - iii. The dance would need parent volunteers to chaperone (but it is discouraged to volunteer to chaperone a dance your child may be at, especially for the older grades).
  - e. Gym lunchtime and afterschool activities
    - i. Providing lunch time yoga was discussed.
    - ii. There was some discussion about an after school computer club and also, M. Dominique is setting up his lunchtime computer club for third term.
    - iii. A talent show is proposed, will discuss after spring break.
  - f. Grade 7 graduation and other activities
    - i. The PAC is looking into adding a few special field trips for the grade 7 class.
- 11. Other
  - a. Stage separator
    - i. Shellee will look into the cost of a room separator.
  - b. Rainy day items

- i. The location of the rainy day club is yet to be determined.
    - ii. The club needs more Lego, the PAC will approach some toy stores to see if we can get donations, we will also put a notice on Craig's List requesting Lego. A few parents could help out as well.
  - c. Student babysitting club
    - i. The PAC would like to coordinate a list of the students who have passed the baby sitting course and would like to babysit for parents. This list would then be distributed to the parents (with parental consent).
- 12. Next meeting is Wednesday February 11, 2015
- 13. Adjourn