

## PAC Meeting Minutes 3 Dec 2014

1. Approve minutes from Nov 4, 2014. John, Shellee
2. PAC Chair report: Marina investigating various other PACs, DPAC, BCCPAC etc to understand role better.
3. Principal's report:
  - a. Band and choir concert Dec 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.
  - b. Winter celebration Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, each Division preparing a song or other presentation, about 1 pm
  - c. Had a good professional development day on 4 Rs, Respect self, others, school, community. This year going to look at it as teaching tool, in context of Playground. What does it mean to respect yourself, others, school, community in the playground. Then could be, what does that look like in classroom. Take two or three months to look at 4 Rs for playground.
  - d. Photo re-take day Dec 8<sup>th</sup>
  - e. Marina asked: how will notice go to parents? This year, no play and band and choir on different day than each classroom, so not decided if will be tickets for parents or not.
  - f. Is there interest about a safe arrival program in this school? System, optional, that once attendance is done, who is away is shared with safe arrival person who phones parent to check where kid is. Are they home sick or away, or does this reveal that the child is missing. Special phone number for safe arrival to call to say your kid is home sick or otherwise away from school. Requires volunteers to run, some set-up and communication with homes. Up to parents whether they think would be valuable. Has worked well at other schools; very rare that we ever do lose anyone (never in 10 years has Bruce had to call police to find missing kid). Marina suggests ways to make it logistically easier for the parent volunteer. Parent question: when I call secretary to tell them kid is sick, what happens to that info? Principal replies that that information goes to teacher for attendance sheet. Bruce really like to work with group of people to get that up and running.
    - i. Is there a visitor's sign in, sometimes you see people you don't know. Bruce: we have a sign in for people who are here to work, but otherwise schools are pretty open places. A sign in system would have to apply to everyone. If you are uncomfortable about someone you see, feel free to notify the office and they will diplomatically go and check that person out. Supervision aides are known to check on adults who seem to be picking up kids at odd times.
4. Teacher's committee report: M. Dominick & Mlle Meza gave presentation on Henry Hudson Community Garden.
  - a. Started with lots of meetings, 2013-14. Pilot year. Got it going, applied for grants, building garden, and buying the tools. Teachers have wanted it but took the input of parents especially Beth and Svetlana, who connected teachers with lululemon and SPEC, and a number of parents with expertise in gardening and landscape design. First grant (summer 2013) applied for lululemon, who agreed to give \$9000 and we could get everything started to build, buy tools, resource people and materials. Put into contact with Russ from Tupper Tech, who teaches trades for high school students. They came

and buddied up with Gr 3 and 4 students who actually built the planters. See video on Youtube of Henry Hudson Garden (put link in minutes).

- b. See new beautiful sign: SPEctacular Henry Hudson School Food Garden
  - c. This year 2014, new garden educator is Nikoo, brought in more teachers that want to do gardening with their classes. New fundraising opportunity, Toonies 4 Tulips; parents/kids buying tulip bulbs and planting them was a big success. Sold about 178 bulbs. Leftover money will be used to build storage to facilitate care of the garden during summer months with access to tools, and parent volunteers during rush hours. Also we have leftover money for lessons from SPEC to a variety of classrooms.
    - i. Spuds for Tubs: government sponsored, teacher applies to get 5 large tubs and potatoes and soil to plant, and document the growing. Mlle Meza was successful in applying this year. By the end of February she will need help to get the supplies from the hardware store to the school grounds.
  - d. Future ideas:
    - i. Hope this year to have harvest party in spring; last year unfortunately job action got in the way.
    - ii. Outdoor classroom, lessons
    - iii. More beds
    - iv. School compost bins. M. Dominick's class has successfully had a worm composter in classroom to eat food waste students collect from classrooms.
    - v. More fundraising opportunities needed... please share your ideas!!
  - e. Parent questions: how do kids get involved, just through their classrooms? At this time, it's through classrooms. Every student welcome to help water etc, no one excluded.
5. SPC Report: meeting next week
  6. PAC secretary: Shellee has been updating contact lists for class reps & committee members, if you haven't already please send her your email (shared internally only, not published).
  7. PAC treasurer's report: Family photos made \$280. Going to start producing and publishing financial statements in more reader-friendly way.
  8. Winter Fair going very well. Still need more volunteers to run games, hoping some Grade 7s will do it. New Fair activities: Photo booth with props, preselling tickets on MunchaLunch to reduce the initial line-up to buy tickets. Still need donated items for string pull (full bottles) and kids only market (presents to buy for their parents). Exciting raffle items. How do we get into gym to set up day/night before?
  9. Spirit committee. Spirit wear sale went well, PAC made \$700, which will cover cost of team jerseys the PAC bought. Sold 100 youth t-shirts, 46 hoodies, 14 sweatshirts, and adult shirts too. Met every quota for production of items. Will have another sale in the spring. Most popular items, should we buy extras and people can buy from us before first Spirit Day? Agreed in PAC to spend up to \$400 on extra items for samples and sale.
    - a. Also planning to buy a leather press to make scraps of leather from Lincoln's leathergoods business into tail feathers for backpacks.
  10. Kids have been putting together Spirit taglines, being reviewed and adjudicated by spirit committee.
  11. Teachers' Wish list now called Student Enhancement Program. Teachers have almost finished their list and what percentage they would attribute to tech, art, gym, science, resource, etc. We

want to have all this budget items spent in early 2015 and so we can have feedback to parents on how we are using funds to help their kids in class.

12. Direct Donation Campaign will be in the New Year, when we know whehte rwe are meeting our budget projections and have more to say about how funds being used this year.
13. Hot lunch going well, got all permits. New items being piloted. Hot lunch sign up for new year will happen later in December.
14. Safety and Social Responsibility working group
  - a. Looking forward to hearing more about 4 Rs and how parents can help out, especially with playground
  - b. Spoke to district principal regarding supervision on school grounds, what can parents do?
  - c. Traffic safety around the school; hand out about traffic safety around school.
15. Rainy Day Club. Bruce having a LEGO drive.
16. Afterschool and lunchtime activities; one parent trying to coordinate a lunchtime Yoga program. We will do briefer for parents about how to get a new activity going. Bruce can't give space to parents to run programs, legally. Need to build partnerships with other organizations, get rental space. New gymnastics group coming to do gymnastics, less expensive than last year.
17. Guest speakers: Mayor will come, but not yet scheduled.
18. Babysitting club for Gr 6 and 7, there's another babysitting certification in upcoming professional day. Also putting together a system to parents can find a babysitter from the Hudson students.
19. Trying to extend library hours.
20. Potential events for new year or next year: student council, school dance, flea market, spring fair ... ? Always feel free to approach someone with ideas.
21. M. Dominick working with some kids to put together a student blog.
22. Choir performing with band on Dec 19<sup>th</sup>. Also three community performances coming up next few weeks, see PAC website.
23. Earthquake comfort kits have all come in. Each division has all kits in a big ziplock bag, also makes it easier to send back to everyone.
24. Adjourned: Raymond, Victoria.