

Henry Hudson Elementary School
Minutes of PAC Meeting Oct 26, 2016

1. Called to order 6:35 pm. Minutes of previous meeting approved (Rob/MarinaB).
2. PAC Chair report. Very busy first 6 weeks. New session of robotics, Diwali festival coming up. Focusing this year on events that celebrate different cultures. Ballet next week. Carving celebration in the new year. Lots of activities, trying to bring lots of things to lunchtime and after school periods. We are all members of the PAC, so everyone please step up and put some time in there.
3. PAC Secretary report. Moving newsletter to constant contact shortly.
4. Treasurer's report. Direct donation campaign underway; have raised \$3000 of our \$10,000 goal so far. Other than Hot Lunch and Direct Donation, there are no PAC-related fundraisers. Next month we will have budget-actual spreadsheets to report. Etransfer system going very well and saving credit card/paypal fees.
5. Principal's report
 - a. Newsletter going home on Friday via email
 - b. Second set of laptop computers have arrived! Waiting for VSB technicians to come to get them set up for student use. Total bill \$9000.
 - c. Ballet BC – permission forms today sent home. 8 classes attending the Ballet; thanks to Nina for organizing. Participant fee only \$2; some classes walking and some classes taking transit.
 - d. Arts Umbrella booked for Jan-Feb 5 weeks. 10 classes receiving drama workshop sessions. Thanks again to Nina for organizing. Classes not able to do the Ballet field trip invited first to sign up for Arts Umbrella.
 - e. Hallowe'en: Grade 7s Hallowe'en fair in the gym, with games and booths. Each class comes for 30-60 min. Hallowe'en parade in the morning. Look at Friday newsletter for guidelines re costume safety. No replica weapons please.
 - f. Earthquake comfort kits – notice to families went out in September newsletter but very few kits came in. Mr Cannon will send out specific notice re kits in the first week of November. Must use ziplog bag; include items such as note, phone numbers, photograph, small toys, cards, foil emergency blankets, mittens. Whatever they might need for a day or two. School has stored water & food.
6. Teachers' committee unofficial report from Mme Tso. Very pleased to be having the second set of laptops, will be much easier to access for 2nd floor, especially younger kids.
7. SPC (School Planning Committee) will meet in the Spring. Continued focus on aboriginal culture & new curriculum goals for education.

8. DPAC Rep report. Alan has written a report that will be attached to these minutes; includes lots of links to find new information. DPAC has a response re VSB trustee firing, on their website. The new government-appointed trustee has been invited to DPAC meeting on Thurs Nov 10th. DPAC has various workshops, e.g., how to run a PAC & advocacy for public policy change. Alan will make these available too. Current DPAC chair is seeking NDP nomination for next provincial election, so she may have to step down. DPACs getting together and written to federal government to suggest infrastructure financing for seismic upgrading of BC schools. Lots of interesting links about education policy.

9. Committee updates
 - a. Hot lunch. MarinaB reports it is going well. Always needs more volunteers. Tuesdays food gets delivered and served; Thursdays they cook so really need more volunteers. Need continuity in volunteers but doesn't have to be every week, and it is lots of fun. Hot lunch is our major fundraiser. Please help out!
 - b. Spirit committee. Spirit wear should arrive Friday or Monday. About 70 families ordered, PAC raises \$2 per item. Orders still open, just won't arrive at school with the big shipment. Jerseys are coming back from cross country to go out to volleyball. Jerseys now on a deposit system. There are 5 intramural sports and so we need to transfer jerseys from team to team efficiently! First Friday of every month is spirit day, wear RED!
 - c. Safety & Social Responsibility. Progress being made re anti-loitering mosquito devices. These keep youth away with an annoying sound if this is the cause. Also making brighter lights. Recently people are hanging out and purposely urinating on doors in the night; clearly not the students. Custodian has to spend first half hour of his day washing urine off. Dog poop on field also a problem. Now more poop pick up reminder signs, and photographs being taken of offenders. No one is supposed to have dogs on the property until HOOSC is closed. Should we put up poop bag dispensers? Everyone should be watchful, and sign at the office when you are coming to do stuff at school.
 - d. Technology committee. New laptops getting ready to go.
 - e. Grounds committee. Vegetable gardens are run by teachers; grounds improvement committee is PAC and focused on making outdoor environment nicer. Have done multiple proposals to VSB outdoor classroom but they have vetoed all natural materials for it, so the committee is revising proposal again. Need people to take this on! Teachers take the kids outside often, would be great to have an outdoor class space. Or could apply budget to put back hockey nets etc.
 - f. In-school activities. Arts Umbrella for drama, drumming workshop, gymnastics, floorball. Using budget to get floorball equipment set. iRide for grades 3-7 coming in the spring, so will also try to do another activity for younger kids. Try to get activities that work for the whole school. Mixture of sports and arts activities. CST can also run 1 sport per term. There are some choices for which CST sports are offered at the school, so we will be seeking feedback.
 - g. Communications: calendar and e-blast system coming!

10. PAC reports

- a. Excellent cross-country running team this year. The Grade 1 girls swept their event, finishing 1st, 2nd, 3rd! UBC Thunderbirds have offered free training for track and field this winter and spring.
- b. Fruit and Vegetable program has been taken over by Adriana. Mr Dominick's class is doing the classroom distribution this term.
- c. Choir: there are about 40 kids in junior choir and 25 in senior choir, with lots of boys! Senior choir is going to sing O Canada at investiture where Peter Mansbridge will be receiving Order of Canada. If there are more ideas where choir(s) can go sing, let Rob or Catherine know.
- d. Diwali is coming up on Friday! First ever fireworks display on a school field because MarinaP managed to get a permit. This is an official Diwali Fest event.
- e. Winter Fair committee is seeking volunteers. We usually have a kids' market, cake walks, and lots more.

11. French book fair went well; sold \$3800 so will make \$1800 for school library.

12. Executive elections:

Previous slate re-elected by acclamation, plus a new volunteer for Secretary.

Chair: Marina P.

Vice-chair external & DPAC representative: Alan P.M.

Vice-chair internal: Nina P.

Secretary: Lisa R.

Co-treasurers: Rob F. & Dana T.

13. Meeting adjourned, 8:00 pm

