



- d. Budget - \$12 million shortfall
- means loss of support people (i.e. psychologists, speech and language pathologists, etc.)
  - schools have a diverse variety of needs, specialized care and programming.
  - cuts will have a big effect on schools.
  - suggested cuts include charging staff to use school parking lot
  - Band program will quite possibly be cut next year.
  - there are a series of public meetings/ consultations coming up, parents can attend.  
\*see DPAC E-Bulletin above for dates

Q: How are there less funds, more cuts every year to services and programs?

A: Costs go up, funding doesn't match the increase. Every budget expense means cutting something else.

#### 4. Teachers Report

- a. Teachers Wish List - Some PAC money raised goes to technology, resources for teachers.
- Mme Nikon heading up committee.
  - Areas: Technology, Resource, Gym, Intermediate, Primary, and Library
  - Each interest group identified top 3 priorities for wish list.
  - Top priority overall probably Technology (needed to make all classes equal - i.e. one projector or Smartboard in each classroom)
  - also high priorities: Handwriting without Tears Program (already implemented and very successful), Gym (equipment benefits whole school), Smart document camera (would have school wide use, not just library), 15 refurbished laptops (because of loss of computer lab).

Q: Has VSB committed to paying for 2 projectors?

A: 2 would come out of school budget, 2 from PAC funding.

Q: How much money do we have available to spend? Can't pay for everything on this list.

A: This is just a process of thinking about what is needed and what the priorities are. Here's what we would *like* to have if/when there is money.

Treasurer: As a very rough estimate, we are anticipating a \$10,500 surplus, plus we raised more than \$6000 extra over budget projection.

Chair: Treasury needs to finish the budget, figure out how much we have to spend, then go from there.

Q: Under Primary costs for special projects, \$50 spending per classroom seems low.

A: That is on top of the \$100 per child already in budget.

Q: With loss of computer lab, are the refurbished laptops a rescue solution?

A: Yes, a bit. A mobile computer lab with portable laptops would help fill the gap.

- Part of the role of the librarian is to teach digital literacy, research skills and how to access online resources. It provides education to kids and teachers for online literacy, helps with equality across the board.

Q: Do the computers all have to be the same?

A: already have a variety of products in the school, not all standardized.

- 5 years ago VSB gave 1 new computer to each classroom and replaced computer labs.

- after a major crash VSB went with more standardized equipment.

Point raised: by corporate standards there is a 3 year life on computers.

Principal Adams: not sure that a new lab would be the best way to go anyway, even if the money were available. Portable items would probably be the best way to go. (i.e rolling cart of iPads, rolling cart of laptops).

Q: Emails exchanged with Audrey Van Els (computer consultant with VSB), she is coming to visit school next week. They hadn't been aware that Hudson was losing its computer lab.

The thought is that Hudson should move up on priority list, could be first in line to be funded by VSB for new laptops/ technology.

A: Need to meet with the tech committee.

Q: When would we know? If PAC pays for this, does it mean that the school board doesn't have to pay for something it would normally help fund?

A: Let's ask VSB and they can always say no.

- Goal: to have parent feedback on wishlist by next month.

- Point raised: Handwriting without Tears - there is a deadline for ordering for next year.

b. PAC funded activities for Fall 2014 - (school wide activities)

- General feeling is that we are done with Hip Hop.

- suggestions from teachers? Ms. Johnson is heading the committee.

- Gymnastics is very popular, badminton carried forward?

- if we are losing band, maybe something music related? Or yoga?

Q: Are we forced into stop gapping music if we are losing band next year?

- Point raised: 2 weeks used to be a lot of time with less kids. Next year with more kids, there will be diluted time and higher costs with more divisions.

## 5. Secretary Report

a. New PAC website - hudsonpac.ca or go to Hudson VSB site to find link from old PAC site.

- has subscribe feature, calendar, blog and lots of info

- Jo gave a tour through the site for the group present

- Looking for anyone interested in helping maintain the website (wordpress)

- all feedback is welcome, people are welcome to contribute info as well.

Q: Kindie Corner - would have been helpful in the past. How do new parents find the info?

A: Will pass info on to them at the Welcome to Kindergarten on May 9th.

Q: Is this going to replace weekly reminders?

A: Still need to work out the details w/ Chantal and a trial with the site. Ultimately would like to integrate the two.

## 6. Hot Lunch

a. Hot Lunch program discussion - coping with larger numbers next year.

- How do we serve hot lunch to all the kids next year? (not where, just logistics of feeding them)

Wendy: at about 330 kids now, 400 kids next year. Already at a critical point w/ resources and equipment for 330 kids. Can't accommodate more now as it is.

Q: What options are there?

- Will need to make a substantial investment in equipment in order to make it happen next year. And will need a major commitment from volunteers to make it happen.

- Will work with HOOSC to move things out of the kitchen.

- within kitchen: need another convection range, increased counter space, induction cookers, shelving and storage, etc., plus dishes, trays, equipment.

Q: Does it have to be a HOT lunch?

A: Would still need assembly and refrigeration space.

Q: Is there the option of packaged items?

A: Would change what parents are willing to pay for.

- Having a HOT lunch in the middle of the day is really beneficial for kids.

Q: Does pizza day make money? What about 2 pizza days a week?

A: Pizza does make money but parents wouldn't go for 2 pizza days a week. Plus food still has to be kept hot.

- Need to make sure food is healthy, prepared and served right, safe, etc.

Q: What about the kitchen in the gym?

A: So much smaller, with less counter space, single stove, etc. ( now serving 220-230 kids, next year ~300+. On one domestic stove, can't do it.)

Q: What about running two kitchens?

A: Would need to double the volunteers and to equip the second kitchen.

- Probably easiest to piggyback with daycare - do it all from there and upgrade space in the current kitchen.

Q: Can we rotate days for kids? 2 days/week for some, 2 days/week for others?

A: would need double the volunteers for that, plus other issues.

Q: Option: what if we max hot lunch at 250 kids? lottery?

\* Bottom line is we need to invest in equipment for the hot lunch program. Hot lunch is the main fundraiser for the PAC.

- Point raised: remember, anything bought is capital investment and owned by PAC.

Q: Do we want to invest now or quit running our main fundraiser?

- Need to look at cost of investment vs. what funds Hot lunch will bring in.

A: Cost of investment should still be well under what we raise from Hot Lunch.

- Wendy will come back with more numbers next time and investment recovery model.

- need to make a decision next meeting.

## 7. Treasurer Report

a. Hard to give exact numbers. Most of expenses happen in May/ June and haven't been paid out yet.

- Probably have approx. \$7000 extra over expected surplus.

## 8. SPC Report

-SPC is working on a secret project.

## 9. Members-at-Large Reports

a. Bylaws Committee Report - will update next time

b. Community Garden Project - website launched, gardens planted today.

c. Hudson Choir - starts next week. Jr. choir Tuesdays, senior choir Wednesdays.

- forms have gone out.

d. Grade 7 Grad - Mr. Adams proposes working on a model for next year to help parents organize the grad celebration and do the same thing every year. Suggestion is a beach BBQ from 6-8pm, family experience. Bring community back into the grad celebration and make it family centered.

e. Rainy Day Club - Don't know what the space will look like yet.

f. Year end BBQ - Regular BBQ supplier is no longer available (M&M sold franchise). May need a different model this year.

- Date picked: Thursday, June 19th

- Liked live band last year. Cost was \$600 for the night.

-usually close to a break even event (celebration, not a fundraiser)

- budget cost for music again this year would be \$600

## 10. Next meeting date Tuesday, May 13th, 2014 at 6:30pm

## 11. Motion to adjourn by Jerry, seconded by Mitch. Meeting ended at 8:05 pm.

## 12. Future meeting dates:

Tues May 13, Wed June 11, 2014