

Hudson PAC January 17, 2018- Minutes

6:30-8:00

1. Call to order at 6:35
2. Minutes approved from Dec 6, 2017 Jerry and Alan
3. PAC Chair Update – Robert
4. **-Special Advocacy Section**
 - a. Playing Field update – Answers to some of the questions reviewed (see bottom of minutes). Will get an answer for the cost of the field by Jan 31. We need school Board approval to move forward. We need to send a delegation to the Committee II meeting. Robert to contact board
 - b. Vacant Positions on Executive – Secretary, Activities Coordinator and web master are open and needed for PAC to continue.
 - c. Activities Coordinator – needs to be filled as this is an important position. There will be mentoring from Nicola for hand-over. One or two people could fill this position. Angela expressed interest in knowing more about the position.
 - d. Secretary – Tannis to do temporarily. Formal motion for this at next meeting
 - e. Webmaster – 2 to 3 hours per week Position
 - f. **Seismic Upgrade Update**
 - i. Monday February 26 in gym – presentation for parents; 3 presenters including Mr. Cannon – will do 3 short presentations and then have Q and A. This is to hear about Hudson’s earthquake preparedness plan and a chance to update your family plan.
5. DPAC report – Alan See "Advocacy update - January 17, 2018" at the end of the minutes.
6. Events report
Nina absent. Stella standing in reported that there will an event on Friday March 9 School Dance, Hawaiian theme. Free event with some snacks and drinks available for purchase. Some parents are required to supervise the dance. Noted that the Winter Fair made money
7. Activities Report
Already covered
8. Principal’s Report -
 - a. Painters are in for next 2 to 3 weeks – painting classrooms and hallways; some classes are having to move out/relocate during work.
 - b. Student learning grant from the province has to be spent by end of January. Working with teachers to arrange.
 - c. VSB required predictions for next years’ population – currently is a waitlist for children wanting to get in to this school. Important for staffing. Please let school know if you will be leaving the school next fall.
 - d. Robbie Burns Day – Scottish dancers will come to the school.
 - e. Black History month February- still need a presenter.
 - f. Grade 4 and 6 Math teams – let by Mr. Cannon. Will be competing
9. Teachers report – none present

10. Secretary report – no report
11. Treasurers' report
 - a. See Excel sheet "[PAC budget to actual 2018-01-17.pdf](#)"
 - b. \$902.70 to go to the Pay It Forward Fund. Robert to instruct bank.
 - c. Best year ever for direct donation.
12. SPC – no update
13. Committee Reports
 - a. Hot Lunch – can always use more volunteers. Carnival – Feb 16 Mme Boyd to organize. Volunteers required.
 - b. Technology. 11 laptops have been ordered for \$7638.29. School to work to keep laptops from moving from floor to floor due to the risk of damage.
 - c. Junior and Senior Choirs – registration in process
 - d. Spirit Committee – jerseys not being returned. Please make sure your child returns their jersey at the end of the term/activity.
 - e. Grounds Committee – Table needs to be repairing. When weather better
 - f. Garden/Green – Mmes Freeze and Laititia taking care of school based gardening. Still no greening committee with adult
14. New Business
 - a. Signs "Invest in your Children" – will be hung up on fence along Cornwall
15. Next meeting – Feb 21
16. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 (Dana and Jerry)

Advocacy update - January 17, 2018

Our advocacy updates are for information only, to encourage informed parent participation in issues affecting public education, and do not represent specific positions of the Hudson PAC executive.

If you have any questions about the following, please contact Alan, PAC Vice-Chair (External) and Hudson rep to DPAC, through HUDSONPAC@gmail.com

1) Parent Advocacy Network / Families Against Cuts to Education email campaign.

These two groups invite everyone your participation in this campaign to encourage the provincial government to follow the recommendations of its own all-party Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to **make funding for public education a priority in the coming budget**. Please check out the email tool at <http://facebc.ca/newyear/> . PAN and FACE also joined forces with four other parent advocacy groups for a meeting in December with Premier John Horgan and Education Minister Rob Fleming; the coalition put forward **six recommendations** which are worth a look for a detailed overview of ongoing issues such as seismic upgrades and resources for special needs -- see the lead article at <http://www.panvancouver.ca/news> for a link to the full text.

2) Canadian Parents for French

The BC and Yukon branch continues its efforts to convince the newly elected Vancouver School Board to **restore the spaces** cut to this year's French Immersion program. For details see: {Rob, could you please link to the January 08 email from CPF "VSB Open Letter" here?}

The branch is also encouraging any Vancouver parents interested in **re-starting a Vancouver CPF chapter** to contact them, as there is some \$3700 in funding to assist with this available until the end of the federal fiscal year on March 31. For more information, contact: {Rob, could you please link to the January 12 email from CPF "Funds Available for Vancouver Parent Group" here?}

3) District Parent Advisory Council

Each DPAC executive member acts as liaison to a number of Vancouver schools; **Hudson's new DPAC liaison** is Roy Park from the Van Horne Elementary PAC, who was ratified as a new DPAC executive member and elected as DPAC treasurer at the January 11 DPAC meeting. Two at-large positions remain open.

DPAC's general meeting this month includes a **forum for parents on navigating the resources for students with special needs**, with presentations by Suzanne Perrault, a parent advocate and mediator for inclusive education, and Mette Hamaguchi, the VSB's new director of learning services, and an opportunity for questions from the floor. The event is from 7 to 9 pm, Thursday January 25, in Room 180 at the VSB office at 1580 West Broadway (at Fir). All parents and guardians of students in Vancouver public schools are welcome to attend -- for registration and information re childcare for the event see <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/special-education-navigating-inclusive-education-tickets-42033239551>.

The November **forum on changes in progress to the VSB's grading and assessment system** has been posted on the DPAC website at <http://vancouverdpac.org/resources/>

For other DPAC news see <http://vancouverdpac.org/generalannouncements/2018/1/7/january-2018-update>.

4) British Columbia Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils

BCCPAC is the formal route for parent input into the Ministry of Education in the same way that the Vancouver DPAC is the formal route for parent input into the VSB. All DPACs in the province and many individual schools are members of BCCPAC, Hudson among them. For news on BCCPAC activity about a number of issues, including the provincial Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity policy, presentations at the BCCPAC-hosted DPAC summit late last year, and encouraging involvement of indigenous families, see <http://bccpac.bc.ca/>.

BCCPAC is also seeking nominations for several executive positions for the coming year, and asking for resolutions by February 10 from PACs and DPACs for their annual general meeting and conference in May. The Hudson PAC executive will consider preparing a **resolution asking the province to revise the area standards for design**, applicable to new schools and to seismic upgrades, to include designated space for out-of-school care, individual instruction for special needs, and other uses not specified in the current standards that seem essential to a quality education (arts, music, computer lab, staff lounge, etc. -- all spaces that have been lost at Hudson over the last few years of increasing enrolment and are not specifically planned to be replaced if the eventual seismic upgrade involves replacing the existing school building with a new one). Alan will make some initial enquiries at other local PACs further along the seismic upgrade process and already lobbying the VSB for these changes (Tennyson, Bayview) to see if we might work with some of these schools on a BCCPAC resolution as one way of taking this issue to the provincial level, where the design standards are set.

Playing Field

Over Christmas and New Year's the PAC Chair followed up. It was the assumption that a quote for the field was going to be obtained. The supplier of this type of drainage had not responded yet. Mr. Meschino mentioned that the field repair would come from the Province's Annual Facilities Grant.

This led to this Q&A exchange as of January 16.

- What happened to the field being do-able with existing budget?

- *There is no annual facility grant money identified for the field in last year's budget. We need to identify this in this year's request.*

It's a great idea to hit the Ministry Annual Facilities Grant, but that adds uncertainty, particularly if that doesn't work out.

- What's the likelihood of success with this grant?

- *It would be unusual that the Ministry would not support our AFG request but there is also no guarantee. We will need to go about it one step at a time. First- we need Board approval for the AFG submission to go forward to the Ministry for approval.*

- Did we ever get a quote on the field?

- *We are waiting for the quote. As indicated, we had identified the end of January as our target date.*

- Committee II agenda. How we get on this agenda and how we send a delegation to such a meeting?

- *The PAC is welcome to be a delegation at the future meeting. The request has to be made latest - the Friday morning of the week prior to the following Wednesday Committee II date. The contact person is Lois Schack at 604 713 5019.*

- Since the field is unsafe as a seismic gathering place, is there another way to get funding?

- *Our AFG application for the slit drainage will identify that the need is safety related. I am not aware of any other funding.*

- Federal funding. Did talk to Evin about that? I emailed you her contact info on December 8u

- *Thank you for this*

- Is there a plan to use the money we committed? The timing the PAC authorized has pretty much passed, but we don't want financial surprises.

- *It is entirely up to the PAC. Our AFG application will not be dependent on the PAC gracious contribution made to date.*