

PAC Minutes  
December 5, 2018

### 1) Welcome and Intro

Round table of introductions

### 2) Approval of past minutes (Nicole/John)

### 3) PAC Chair report

Seismic update with VSB

This morning there was a meeting held at the Vancouver School Board for the seismic updates.

#### Overview:

#### 3 Options:

1. **Retrofit**
2. **Rebuild**
3. **Partial**

Some schools got into trouble as there was no voice advocating for them or trouble arose when information was flowing the wrong way. The school board wants to channel information to the PAC by way of the Principal. The PAC then can communicate to the wider parent population..

To ensure that the VSB and Ministry feel comfortable communicating with the PAC, we want to formalize a committee to represent parents appropriately.

Things we know/questions still remaining about the seismic upgrade planning after the meeting with the VSB:

- Cost updates are sent to the province and the province decides what is done in terms of an update. The school board would not suggest what they wanted done. PACs do not see the updates before they sent to the province.
- What is the working design capacity? We are at 100+% capacity. Hudson has 401 students at 125% capacity. *Answer from VSB:* If it's an upgrade it's the same. What's the growth plan? *Answer from VSB:* There is none; we are fixing the building.
- If they retrofit - the goal is to make the building on the footprint it currently sits on to not fall down and not kill our children. The mandate is: only to build for human survival in an earthquake. Nothing more
- They tried to kick HOOSC out last year so the assertion that a retrofit will include HOOSC is suspicious.
- The teachers have a report from VESTA that outlines the classroom configuration needs.
- Ian is the conduit for questions and communication about the planning process
- Mike Rossi is the go to for seismic updates.
- If it's a new school - they would look at in catchment requirements for the design. There is a school enhancement fund which we could look at to get the needs met.
- Swing sites mean kids may need to go to a new school while the school is being built/retrofitted. We won't know how this will look until the province decides.

*Question:* Are growth needs factored in to which way this goes or is it purely based on cost assessment?

*Answer:* It is purely cost. There was a 6 million dollar difference for Edith Cavell and that's why they went with retrofit. As we go into this. We should do math with supporting information about the cost and what happens with good information and constructive suggestions. This building is old. The foundation is in muck and the safety is - well, it's unsafe. What's the cost to fix catastrophic collapse? Sounds simple but engineering is not.

*Question:* What concerns me is how a school board gets away with no access for disabled people. There is no access currently.

*Answer:* A parent's daughter has disabilities and has met the VSB but there are many definitions of accessibility and so a ramp may be enough without an elevator. So be cautious with the wording and definition of accessible.

Mr Cannon's update from VSB meeting:

- If they knock the school down, they will be working with the city of Vancouver to also have child care. This should be in addition to HOOSC. There would also be hope for all children care spaces. In terms of input, there is money available to a second fund, that the board has to access. We would then have input and our ideas would be welcomed at the design stage. For example - where would HOOSC be? Before and after school care.
- Truly hoping this school is knocked down. If so, we better meet the needs of the community. We are hoping when this comes out in January we have the option of a new school.
- On January 31st the project definition report is sent. Then we have a lull of 2 - 6 months while the Ministry decides what is done.
- Regardless of what happens - I don't foresee us being in the building when they do what they need to do. A swing site is probably a reality.
- Timeframe: a lot of it depends on the timing and if funds are available. The Ministry is budgeting to see how many of these upgrades they can put through.
- Hudson will be in a capital plan and those are done in an annual plan which is done in 2019.

*Question:* Why don't they build the school on the same land?

*Answer:* They have done that at some schools. The new school was built on the same land. The old school will be torn down.

More information from PAC Chair Robert:

- I also looked at the options and the new build is what is best. Our challenge is going to be the area standard (the building codes for how to build a new school). The area standard does not include non enrolling classrooms - we are going to have to fight to get space for art and music. The area standards do not meet the new curriculum and it's not being supported.
- There is an argument for known capacity and longer amortization for cost. The school has been standing for over a century.
- If we could use this school for the community and for supporting needs that would better assist us.

More information from DPAC representative Melissa:

- At DPAC, Edith Cavell now has 12 members and is creating a DPAC Seismic Upgrade committee. If Hudson would like to give input, we should consider sending more parents to DPAC as they have.
- The mandate of the committee is to try to get the VSB to enter into communication and consultation protocol. Currently, schools are finding out what decision has been made through media. That's how Maple Grove found out that sending kids from Edith Cavell to their school was one of the options.
- If you are interested and have the time show up at the DPAC meeting next week. The better turn out, the better support we will have.
- Ask any PAC Exec member if you want to get together and pitch in and help we will connect you.

#### **Proposed Motion:**

The Hudson PAC general membership empowers the Seismic Committee to act on its behalf to achieve the best possible outcome for our children with respect to the seismic upgrading of our school. Specifically, the seismic committee will meet and liaise with Vancouver School Board Trustees, Vancouver School Board Committee II, Vancouver Project Office, Ministry of Education, media and public, as needed to

- Increase transparency

- Increase parent consultation
- Advocate for the seismic project to include non-enrolling and specialized spaces which are integral to our children's learning and functioning of our school.
- Advocate for the childcare needs within the Hudson Community
- Provide consultative advice and support during the PDR (Project Definition Report) phase

This motion should be reviewed once the PDR is released and the impact of the change can be better assessed.

A parent requests to add a line to advocate for children with disabilities, and that change is made:

- Provide advocacy for people with disability

Proposed motion is passed by PAC vote (Jennifer/John)

#### **4) Principal's Report**

1) Winter concert on the 19th. Hannah sent out email for tickets - please respond to Hannah. Everyone gets at least 2 tickets.

On the day of the concert, students want to do a food bank drive. Please bring a non perishable food item.

2) School temperature. The natural gas disruption has heat turned on at 8:30 and promptly turned off at 5pm. Heat is at 30 degrees. In Madame Lorieau's class wear your warm clothes.

3) Drinking water:

Lead in the drinking water has to have less than 5 parts per billion - our water was less than 5 parts per billion. If water was over 10 those fountains have been shut off until it's been dealt with.

#### **5) Teachers committee:**

Nothing

#### **6) Treasurer's Report**

As of today our donation drive is at \$2720 dollars. We wanted to raise at least \$9000 and we wanted to close it out on the 14th.

#### **Hot Lunch Updates:**

- Anyone who has not paid for hot lunch we need you to clear your account.
- Marina B has 4 volunteers who are leaving and they cannot make the schedule. We are "starving for volunteers".

#### **7) Events Report**

Everything is going well for Winter Fair. 270 kids have bought advance tickets. At least 50 more kids usually show up on the day of the event. So far \$4000 has been raised, and we expect \$1500 more on the day of the fair.

We also have a lot of volunteers signed up. We need raffle donations and prizes. There are 19 confirmed people giving cakes.

This year we are doing a 50/50 raffle and a prize raffle. The Grade 6s and 7s are fundraising for camp. We were donated a big roll of tickets for a 50/50 draw.

## 8) PAC Secretary Report

Nothing

## 9) Activities

- Term one wraps up this week
- Term two starts in the new year. All activities are back and we didn't lose any - we may have gained two.
- Ocean Explorers had sponsors come forward to subsidize some programs. With discount the cost is \$199.00 - but the discount is only available if you register by December 25th.

*Question:* We have a bully problem and children are not wanting to join due to a behaviour problem with the child. What is protocol?

*Answer:* Once an issue is brought to our attention we bring it up to the provider. We cannot exclude people but depending on the nature of the behaviour we may be able to decide (based on issues) that we can remove. Parents should raise their concerns early if there is a problem. Contact Activities Coordinators about your concerns and let them know.

At the evening Winter Choir Concerts on December 18th, CTV Live will do pre tapes that will be aired on December 19th.

## 10) DPAC and Advocacy Report

- DPAC is looking into VSB policy on dogs. There is no policy for dogs on the playground. They are drafting a policy but there is no timeline for completion.
- In the last couple years other schools are having the same issues. It appears that Vancouver park board has been working with the VSB. They have acknowledged there is a lack of space for off leash. They have requested to work with VSB to accommodate dogs on some playgrounds. There are pilot projects to test the relationship. What signage would work? And how would this work? Are they offering anything in return?
- If the Hudson PAC is concerned about dogs and playgrounds we can as a school make a delegation to the VSB to facilities to say, this is an issue and we want it to be a certain way. If we go this route, we need to canvas schools with the same issue. We need to make it a school board issue rather than a Henry Hudson Issue. Or we can make a formal request to ask VSB to create a policy as none exist right now. Or we can do nothing and see what happens.
- The slit drainage system is working and with the dogs digging up the dirt we have holes. Are there any concerns with the dogs ruining our drainage? So far, nothing is exposed, but moving forward problems will arise.
- Jennifer is spearheading the DPAC dog issue.

## 11) SPC report

Nothing to report

## 12) Committee Updates:

Traffic nothing

Seismic done

Hot lunch covered

Technology - the school can take used iPads. Let Ian know to be serviced by VSB technicians. If it's not serviced by VSB it is not useable.

Guest Speakers job fair in spring. If you or if anyone you know has an interesting job come see Victoria

Spirit committee - no update

Paws of empathy: 4 or 5 sessions have gone well and the aim is to have this as a program

**13) New Business**

Most people use smart phones to tell times. The school bell rings early. Can we check the clock?

**14) Next Meeting Wednesday January 16**

Please mark your calendars

**15) Adjourn (Melissa/Nicole)**



