

Henry Hudson Elementary School PAC

Minutes of meeting of September 18, 2019

1. Meeting started at 6:35 pm with welcome and acknowledgement.
2. PAC exec present: Angela co-activities coordinator. Stella vice chair internal and events coordinator. Carly spirit committee. Melissa vice-chair and school representative at DPAC. Carrie co-activities coordinator. Laura seismic committee. Regina the new vice principal. Lynne the new principal. Marina hot lunch. Rob PAC chair. Dana treasurer.
3. Approval of June minutes: Melissa/Carly.
4. Activities: Activities are open for lunch and after school. These are not school board activities; they are arranged by PAC and very popular so sign up ASAP. PAC works with school administration for families that need financial assistance for activities: talk to the principal for assistance.
5. Seismic: Hudson is in project definition phase, which means options have been presented to Ministry of Education and we are waiting for decision on complete rebuild, retrofit existing building, or some combination.
6. Vice chair and DPAC: PAC 101 training session tomorrow night at DPAC for anyone who wants to know more about how PACs operate. Still looking for class reps for several positions. Minimal time requirement but important role for liaising between parents, teacher, PAC, and seismic committee. Div 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, F17 or F18K please contact Melissa and volunteer.
7. Events: Potential date for Winter Fair is in the works. In the meantime, PLEASE come join Stella, Carly, Claire, and Marina for events planning.
8. PAC executive elections will be next meeting. We have vacancies for secretary roles, we would like a co-treasurer, a co-chair, would like a community engagement coordinator. Come talk to any executive members afterwards because next month we have to do elections (almost always by acclimation).
9. Principal's report:
 - a. Thanks to PAC for welcome table on first day.
 - b. Full school, 401 children, possibly 1 or 2 more.
 - c. Two permanent teachers, Mr Dong (Gr 4/5) starting late September and Ms Headley (Gr 1) starting in January.
 - d. Newsletters coming every two weeks.
 - e. Four teachers participating in "Inquiry" project, studying how to improve student learning.
 - f. Orange shirt day coming up with a student-led assembly on Sept 30.
 - g. Principal has gone into every class to talk about being good Hudson citizens, safety, reflective thinkers, impact of our actions on others, the space, and the environment. Tattling is just getting someone in trouble; reporting is our duty when there is an impact on students and school environment.
 - h. There are extra books in a bookcase outside the library where the books are free.
10. Vice principal's report:
 - a. First cross-country practice last week with Ms Dawson and Mr Hunter.
 - b. This Friday is annual Terry Fox run in afternoon, parents are welcome to join in.

- c. Intermediate student leaders are starting up with lunchtime playground assignments and working with community programs coordinator. Also student leaders to lead assemblies.
11. Teachers' report: No teachers present this evening but they always have a spot on the agenda.
12. Treasurer's report: Dana reported on last year's financials and proposed draft budget for this year.
 - a. A parent wondered if federal funding for French Immersion could be used to help support budget.
 - b. We have heard that PACs need to help fund playgrounds after seismic upgrading. Should we allocate funds to help pay for that? Also, not all classrooms have projectors that could be moved and reinstalled in a new classroom.
 - c. Changes to draft budget: anticipating \$5000 income for fairs, increase arts & sports to \$8000, and add seismic savings account \$1000. Classroom down to \$4600.
 - d. Moved to adopt revised budget: Dave/Laura. Carried.
13. Traffic safety: Mme Bouchard hosted some people from City of Vancouver about traffic safety around our school. Cornwall is too fast and there is too literal signage to indicate it's a school zone. They will not put in a 30 km/h zone because Cornwall is considered an arterial. A parent nearly died June of 2018 and we are not giving up on trying to have reduced speed at our road. Police are going to do enforcement of speed and parking in October. The police constable responsible for our school will come to a later PAC meeting.
14. Sprit wear is on sale for another week. Now both black and red spirit wear is available. \$2 per item goes to the PAC.
15. Open discussion.
 - a. Rob passed around surveys about improving meeting attendance.
 - b. Parent: After school program no longer allowed to play on equipment because the woodchip levels are too low. How can it be that the kids are allowed to play on it during school but not in after school care? Can we get the woodchip level improved? Principal replied that she is in communication with after school care and has contacted VSB. The school's licence and after school licence regulations are just a little bit different. New woodchips have been ordered.
 - c. Parent: Changes in schedule have been made. Is there less time for recess now? Principal replied that staff here are amazing and often get kids moving during instructional time. Principal isn't sure how much the amount of time changed from last year; there's a sense among parents that it is 5 min less. But the new time is running well.
 - d. Parent: What is the situation with lead in water in our school? Custodian goes around and runs every water fountain. Principal replied that they would have tested last year, and she will investigate further about the results and what procedures we should have in place if necessary.
 - e. Parent: We've heard about syringes found on school grounds in the city. Are we making kids aware of what to do? Principal replied that no syringes have been found, at most a wrapper. The principal, custodian, and morning care keep an eye out every morning.
 - f. Parent: Lice was an issue in the school last year and one parent has been trying to check her kids' classmates. Principal's replied that she understand the frustration, but as the institution we have to follow VSB guidelines that we do not do lice checks at the school

level. Often each parent can catch it quickly, and teachers often notice. Parent wondering if we could have a permission form to get permission to look for lice? Years ago there was a committee of parents who checked each kid for lice privately. Principal will look into it further.

16. Next meeting is elections: ANYONE interested in stepping forward please approach us for more info.
17. Adjourn: 7:58 pm Josh/Shelley.

Submitted by

Dana, PAC Treasurer