

**Minutes**  
**Sperling PAC Executive Meeting**  
**October 15, 2004**  
**1pm-3:00pm**

**Present:** Tony Wong, Carolyn Sluis, Bettina Charpentier, Karen Hum, JR Westgate, Iva Vincalek, Wanda Pierson, Luba Banuke, Yvonne Chand

A special thanks to JR Westgate, Karen Hum and Yvonne Chand for their work on the Entertainment book project

Many thanks to Tony Wong for his work on the Parent Web Page

**Chair's Report – Wanda Pierson**

Sports Boxes need to be restocked. We need to ask teachers what they would like to have in the boxes. Luba Banuke indicated that there were some issues with the equipment last year related to balls rolling down the street and children chasing after them. There is also a chronic problem of balls landing on the roof.

JR Westgate will send a note out to teachers next week asking them to identify their needs. All equipment will be marked with the room number using a permanent marker. This will facilitate equipment being returned to the appropriate room; also Luba will be able to address the balls on the roof with the correct group. The children have been instructed regarding safe play and not to chase balls down the street.

Computers were surveyed by Mrs. Karvelis. There are two French immersion classrooms with no computers. There are 4 networked printers in the school. It was suggested that new computers and software be purchased through the school board so that networking and maintenance would continue to be managed by the school district. The benefits of being linked with the school district include easy internet access and easy access to any software supplied by the school district. At present the school computer lab is adequate and there is no extra physical space for more computers.

Ken Kiewitz (664-8247) is the administrative liaison and Francine Giacomazza (663-8340) is the Program Consultant for Learning Technology. The school district is presently evaluating new software. The VISTA program has been discontinued.

At present, Sperling may only purchase individual diskettes for use unless we want to incur site license costs. The District is not going to purchase site licenses for French Immersion software because the FI program reflects only a small (~10%) of students in the district.

Presently Room 4 and Room 7 are both FI classrooms with no computers. It was suggested that we purchase 3 computers for each of these classes. We may need to purchase 9 computers to achieve the best financial arrangement. Extra computers could

be held for us, until we need them or have space for them. JR will follow with this project. She will also look into printer needs.

Wanda will put a note in the bulletin indicating that families may donate computer software no longer being used at home to the school.

Grade 7 parents will be surveyed about the CD-Yearbook. Wanda will send a note home next week.

Meeting dates were agreed upon.

Executive Meetings

Friday October 15	1-2:30pm
Friday November 19	1 – 2:30 pm
Friday December 17	1 – 2:30 pm
Tuesday January 11	6:30 - 8pm
Tuesday February 15	6:30 – 8pm
Friday March 11	1 – 2:30pm
Tuesday April 19	6:30 – 8pm
Friday May 13	1 – 2:30 pm

PAC General Meetings

Tuesday Nov 23	6:30-8pm
Tuesday January 18	6:30-8pm
Tuesday March 15	6:30-8pm
Tuesday May 17 AGM	6:30-8pm

**Vice-Chair's Report -- Iva Vincalek**

The Volunteer List has been sent out by email to the executive.

The Parent Directory is well underway. For next year we need to have more typists involved in this wonderful project. It was also suggested that families should indicate if they do not want to be identified. JR indicated that some PACs (Aubrey and Gilmore) complete the parent directory using the school program and everyone is included unless a family indicates it does not wish inclusion.

**Treasurer's Report – Bettina Charpentier**

Budget update supplied. Gaming funds are coming.

Twenty (20) surveys for Major Projects were completed and returned.

- 6—School team jerseys
- 9—Update/add to school computers and printers
- 10—Update/add to computer software
- 12—Music equipment

10—Intermediate playground (and 1 no)

The following suggestions were agreed to and will be brought forward at the next General PAC meeting, November 23, 2004:

6-9 computers, software and printers	10,000
Sports jerseys	1,500 (50 shirts @ \$30)
Music equipment	
▪ Risers ordered last year are coming at the end of October	
▪ Instrument upgrade and storage carts for music stands	2,500

The district will remove the cubby area and build lockable cabinets (we will pay for this, but it will be cheaper if the district does the work. We did not put a dollar figure on this. JR indicated that Bruce had estimates for this work. Wanda will check with Bruce next week)

School curricula support related to FI social studies texts and Math manipulatives for all students 10,000

Signs for Safety and Parking 450

**Principal's Report – Luba Banuke**

Teachers have identified needs related to math manipulatives and science equipment. Spectrum produces manipulative to match the curriculum from K-7 but it is expensive. This material is shared between all classes. Currently, the intermediate grades have greater needs than primary. This material can arrive quickly as the company is in the lower mainland.

Science materials have not been updated for 7 years. The new science curriculum has arrived and there are only 3 themes a year, but each theme is covered in greater depth. The library will also need texts to supplement science themes.

There is need for math texts.

There is a need for Social Studies texts in the new curriculum for FI. Presently, grades 3 and 6/7 are available.

Luba indicated that she would like to prepare a Parent handbook. She has discussed this with the staff and there is agreement and willingness to help construct this handbook. Luba is seeking information from parents regarding useful information to be included in the handbook. It was immediately suggested that information on parking and how to volunteer be included.

Luba and the staff are also working on a new mission statement for the school. Luba will involve the children and parents in this project.

In every newsletter reading strategies that parents can use at home will be published. At every PAC meeting, there will be a presentation related to reading in the classroom.

Luba asked what parents thought of a 45 minute lunch break and a 15 minute earlier dismissal, or a 15 minute recess in the afternoon. It seems that most misbehaviour happens in the last 15 minutes of the lunch period. Our large primary population has difficulty with the 1 hour of free time.

Parents suggested that students, particularly primary students, needed a longer time in the classroom for eating lunch. Concern was expressed regarding the timing of bells. It was also suggested that we might need to have some volunteers to run some structured games at lunch. Luba will check the timing of the bells.

#### **Fundraising – Karen Hum**

The Entertainment Book project raised 1125.00. We will also receive a digital camera for the school.

The Parent Donation letter will be coming out soon.

Karen is investigating having Dominos Pizza at the community event

#### **Parking and Safety Committee—Carolyn Sluis**

The recruitment of volunteers for the walking sidewalk is not going well. Carolyn asked that we speak with parents we know and ask them for their assistance.

It was agreed to allocate 450 to printing of signs related to the walking sidewalk.

Pat Ratcliffe has contacted BCAA and received some new safety vests.

#### **Web Report – Tony Wong**

Tony will maintain an independent PAC home page for Sperling School. All school district Logos have been removed. The site will contain copies of the executive and general minutes, as well as a copy of the budget. Excerpts from the newsletter will be included (any information related to specific children will not be included on the page). Tony will add a link to BCPAC and JR will construct a piece related to the mandate of Sperling PAC.