

Minutes
Sperling PAC Executive Meeting
November 19, 2004
1pm – 3:00 pm

Regrets: Luba Banuke, Pat Ratcliffe

Announcements

The PAC thanks JR Westgate, Karen Hum and Yvonne Chand for their work on the Entertainment Book Project.

Thanks to Karen Hum for setting up the account at Kensington Plaza Recycle Depot for Sperling School. The proceeds for this account will go towards assisting our foster child. Please be sure to take your recycling to the depot and let them know you are from Sperling School.

The Student Directory is typed, duplicated and delivered. I would like to extend my thanks to Luba Banuke, Iva and Vaclav Vincalek and Pat Ratcliffe for their assistance.

The PAC Classroom Parent Rep list is attached. We have representatives from all classes except Mme Altman. If anyone knows of someone who might like to fill this spot, please let Wanda know.

The Grade 5 First Aid day was November 17, 2004.

The next Hot Lunch will be Friday December 3, 2004.

Christmas crafts will be December 6, 8 and 10th. Veronica Tsang will be needing volunteers to assist.

Susan McIntyre from Burnaby Parks and Rec has provided a draft of the programs at Sperling for the New Year. The babysitter's course (Jan. 21-?), basketball (Jan. 21-Feb. 18), sports zone (Jan. 26-Feb 23), Valentine chocolates and crafts (English and French-Feb 10), Easter Eggstravaganza (English and French, March 16), and drawing and cartooning (Feb-May depending on grade level) will be available. The drawing and cartooning programs will be 5 weeks in length. Program length has been adjusted because of the Trestle equipment coming during the month of March. Sue is also working on having a sports program for us in French, but that is not finalized at the moment. The flyers will be available before December break and she suggests registering in December as programs do fill up. Susan also offered to send a leader to do face painting at our community event, for no charge.

Western Society for Children with BD is offering a parent support group in conjunction with the New Westminster Family Place. The parent support group meets every Wednesday from 6:30 – 8:30pm at New Westminster Family Place to support

parents and families with children 12 and under who have diverse learning needs. Information and the registration form is posted on the bulletin board.

There is an updated volunteer driver authorization form. The new element is an agreement to not operate any wireless communication device while operating the vehicle.

Coreen Moroziuk has agreed to be the treasurer for CPF. She and Karen Dalla-Tina will represent Sperling at CPF.

Achieve BC: Math for Families--Supporting Math at Home can be accessed on the Achieve BC website (www.AchieveBC.ca). I have one copy of the booklet in hard copy that will be circulated at the meeting.

For Discussion

Community Event – Karen Hum

The community event will be either May 27 or June 3. We will have Dominos Pizza do the food. We will make \$1.00 on each pizza slice. We will be responsible for beverages and possibly chips. There will be the carnival games and passports will be pre-sold. A raffle may be held and tickets will only be sold on the evening of the event. Raffle prizes will be solicited from the community. There was discussion about whether classes or divisions might also put baskets together. No decision was reached at this meeting regarding that possibility.

Parent Donation Project – Karen Hum

Approximately \$4500 has been collected. Ms. Millar's class won the pizza lunch.

Sports Boxes – JR Westgate

The teacher surveys have been returned and shopping will be done sometime during the month.

Computers – JR Westgate

The cost of computers has risen substantially to \$1289 per computer. This is the cost of one complete unit. It was suggested that when if purchasing computers, PAC replace the lab computers with the updated units and move the white lab computers into the classroom. Printers range in cost from \$142 to \$800. There is a website techwarehouse.com/burnaby that contains information. At this time, computers will be placed lower on the priority list.

Computer programs –The FI population is 10% of the total Burnaby school population; consequently there is no district standard for software in the FI program. Also, the Burnaby district does not fund software for the FI program.

JR will draft a letter to teachers to discuss the possibility of arranging a meeting with the representative in North Vancouver who deals with French educational software.

There is also a “technology refurbish and update plan” that Luba may complete an application for funding to defray some costs.

JR and Carolyn will also look for other funding sources.

Budget – Bettina Charpentier

Gaming funds of \$7,160 have arrived in our bank account.

The finances were reviewed. We need to set some priorities. JR suggested it is important to bring projects to completion.

Teachers are requesting an increase in the amount of money we provide for them to purchase classroom supplies from \$25.00 to \$50.00. Teachers are using their own funds to purchase materials such as stickers, cooking supplies and arts and crafts supplies. The primary teachers in particular are indicating a need for increased funds.

It was agreed that \$425.00 will be given to Luba to provide each teacher with another \$25.00 for classroom supplies. This brings the total to \$50.00 per classroom teacher this year. This amount will be reviewed next year.

It was agreed that PAC will fund the French Social Studies texts.

It was agreed that PAC will complete the music room project. JR will ask Ms. Daum for a list of equipment and supplies for the next executive meeting in December.

Information from Luba Banuke regarding the math manipulative kits was circulated. The teachers will be gathering information about what manipulative objects are presently in the school.

Intermediate Playground – Wanda Pierson

Twenty-one surveys regarding PAC projects have now been returned. There were 10 affirmative responses from updating school computers, updating computer software and an intermediate playground. JR and Maureen Mah are going to be looking at the feasibility, safety, costs, etc. of this project.

Writing Workshop – Wanda Pierson & Karen Dalla-Tina

Bev Rempel offers Excellence in Writing seminars and workshops across Canada. It may be possible to have her come to Sperling and offer workshops for some of our students. Tentative dates would be Feb 4, 7, 8, 9 & 10 or Feb 25, 26, 28 and March 1, 2, & 3. Wanda will ask Luba to approach the teachers to determine if there is any interest in participating in this event. Karen will contact Bev and try to ascertain actual costs.

Parking and Safety Committee – Carolyn Sluis

Carolyn has received posters and flyers from ICBC. The information has come in a variety of languages and Carolyn will be posting and distributing the information. Officer Kilpatrick has been coming frequently and is very supportive of the various parking and safety initiatives.

The orientation for parents involved in the walking sidewalk will be Nov. 29, at 0915. Notices about the walking sidewalk will be going out to parents, and Sperling's neighbors. Carolyn will contact Burnaby Engineering about having "no U-turn" signs posted.

Web Report – Tony Wong

Tony is trying to put a counter on the website so that it will be possible to assess use of the site. Iva and Tony confer on new information before Tony posts to the website. The privacy policy was accepted as distributed. Tony asks that all information for posting be sent to him electronically to avoid retyping. Any information on coloured paper from the school, Wanda will duplicate on white paper and send home for Tony to scan in the documents.

Karen Dalla-Tina will send CPF information to Tony for posting.

CPF – Wanda Pierson

The draft proposal from Matt Hassen related to the long term plan for FI in Burnaby was distributed. This will be discussed in detail at the general PAC meeting November 23, 2004.

Burnaby Children's Fund – Wanda Pierson

Helen Stolte from the Burnaby Children's Fund is requesting donations from parents. A notice will be placed in the newsletter.