

PAC Executive Meeting Minutes **April 10, 2008**

Attendance: Dora Van der Minne, Claudette Angers, Bettina Charpentier, Wanda Pierson, Josie Young, Stephen Meighan, Lisa Bjornson, Trish Alsop, Renee Loboza, Micheline Kamber, Tammy Van Hinte

Regrets: Ross Powell, JR Westgate, Tony Wong, Pat Ratcliffe

Teacher's Luncheon: The teacher's appreciation luncheon will be held on May 9th. Trish Alsop is organizing the luncheon and a notice will go home to parents soon.

Volunteer Tea: The volunteer tea will be held on June 6, 2008.

PAC Executive Positions for 2008/2009: A number of positions are vacant for next year. These include Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Fundraising Coordinator, Hot Lunch Coordinator, one DPAC position, and one SPC position. Elections for these positions will take place May 8, at the General Meeting. The people vacating these positions do so officially at end of day on June 30th, 2008. A write up will be sent home to advertise for these positions. A link to the PAC website will be included so that parents can view the job descriptions. One or two reminders will also go home to follow-up the initial notice. Nominations will go to the Trish Alsop via email at gtalsop@shaw.ca

Millennium March: The donation envelopes and letters went home with students today. Pledge forms and money must be returned to school by Thursday, April 24th. Four or five volunteers are needed on the morning of April 24th to help count money.

The March takes place from 1PM-3PM on Friday, April 25th. There are at least 15 volunteers needed for traffic control. That would put a parent at every corner, intersection and alley way. Notices will go home to request volunteers. Josie Young is the contact person for Millennium March inquiries.

ShopFunds: Lisa Bjornson spoke about Shop Funds. There were approximately 26 orders this month. There was a draw for a \$50.00 gift card for IGA. After the gift card was accounted for, there was \$173.00 in profit from this order period. There is a considerable amount of work going into the Shop Funds Fundraiser and Lisa requested feedback on the future of Shop Funds. The feedback given was that this has been a successful fundraiser and that it is important to remember that this is only the first year it has been introduced. Discussion surrounded how to get more people involved in Shop Funds. Madame Angers said she would add Shop Funds to the school calendar that goes home to parents. Also posters and doing up a bulletin board with void cards were considered good options for promoting the program.

Budget: Bettina Charpentier reviewed the budget. There is \$13 100 left to come out of the budget this year. This will leave enough money to forward to PAC for next year. \$3400.00 was put back into the cost of field trips. This money had been held back this year to ensure that there would be enough money to cover the cost of the library upgrade. When the library came in under budget, the field trip money was reallocated. Madame Angers said the teachers were very appreciative of this money for their student outings.

The Gaming grant application needs to be submitted by June 30, 2008. Bettina stated that she will submit the application, but needed two PAC executive members to volunteer to be contact persons. Stephen Meighan and Tammy Van Hinte volunteered for this role.

Library Update: The library looks great. There are still a few things to be completed. The tables and chairs were received, but some were damaged during the shipping. Half of the furniture was returned and we are still waiting for the replacements. The south wall book shelves still needs to be built. As well, the computer outlets need to be rewired to reach their new location.

BceSIS: This is a new software program that the Ministry of Education has implemented throughout BC to manage student data in a more efficient manner and standardize student data across the province. The program has many features including report card templates, webpages for communication with parents, etc. Some of these features may be implemented in the future in Burnaby. At this time we are looking at managing student data. Pilots regarding report card templates may be implemented in September 2008. Sperling is on this system now. All student records are kept through BceSis and can therefore be transferred electronically when students move to other schools (only if the receiving school also uses BceSIS). Confidentiality and security of student information has been given high priority in the implementation of this program. The long term goal is to have all staff use BceSIS and reduce the paper input required at this time. This is not happening at this point. At Sperling, only the secretary is inputting data. Madame Angers and the head teachers can access the program.

Storage For PAC Supplies: There are two drawers under the PA system in the school office that contain PAC minutes. These minutes are very old and someone needs to clean out this drawer and shred those files that extend beyond 7 years. As well, there is a shelf in the staff room that has PAC supplies.

Principal's Report: Claudette Angers spoke about the Ministry of Education Healthy Schools initiative and how the Act Now BC physical fitness component will require all schools to offer 30 minutes of phys-ed each school day. At this time, students are receiving 90 minutes of phys-ed each week. One more hour will be added to the curriculum beginning in September 2008. To meet the requirements, the students will receive one hour less academic instruction each week. Anyone wanting to know more about this can visit:

http://www.actnowbc.ca/EN/actnow_bc_for_students/actnow_bc_for_students/

Individual students who participated in the FSA testing received their results and completed booklet at the end of March. The overall scores for 2008 are not yet available. As well, the school results have not been tabulated. Claudette was planning on giving a presentation on the FSA results, however this presentation would only reflect the 2007 results if it were given this year. Perhaps the presentation could be given in the fall when 2008 FSA results are available? A final decision about the best time to offer the presentation will be made at a later date.

The grade 5 and 6 choir and the grade 7 band students performed for the student population this week during school hours. They also performed for their parents in the evening. It was a lot of fun.

The school plan update will be a focus at the upcoming Pro-D day on Monday April 14. A literacy goal will be explored based on the needs of the students in this school. As well, social responsibility and the healthy schools initiative will be given attention.

The organization of the school will shift in the fall as the student population is growing. There will be the addition of a French immersion class at the intermediate level. This will mean there will be one more teacher on staff.

The second lunch bell was moved from 12:10 to 12:15 to give the children more time to eat their lunch after parents expressed concern about uneaten lunches coming home. Feedback was given by PAC parents that this has resulted in their children eating more at lunch time and it was decided that the bell would remain at 12:15pm.

The Kurzweil program is a reading aid program for children not yet reading independently. It will be in multiple locations throughout the school. One teacher will be sent to a training session for the program.

Traffic Safety: Traffic safety continues to be a concern particularly on Highcrest. Discussion surrounded how to address these concerns. It was suggested that we invite the City of Burnaby representatives to a meeting to discuss traffic safety in June. As well, a traffic safety handout was circulated for feedback. It was decided that the handout would be printed on coloured paper and sent home with students. Having teachers talk to the children about traffic safety was also mentioned.

Future School Updates: Meeting members brainstormed about possible updates for the 2008-2009 school year. Some ideas mentioned were a Smart Board for the library, a printer for the library, 30 computers for the computer lab, 1 or 2 computers for each classroom, and 4-6 computers for the library.