

PAC Annual General Meeting
May 8, 2008

In Attendance: Dora Van der minne, Claudette Angers, Bettina Charpentier, Josie Young, Kirby Lew, Heather Marcotte, Lisa Bjornson, Tammy Van Hinte, Frances Hastings, Trish Alsop, Ross Powell, JR Westgate, Ruby Wong, Dena Samyan, Tony Wong

Regrets: Wanda Pierson, Sonya Scaglione

Traffic and Safety: We have received a letter back from the city regarding our concerns about pedestrian safety when crossing Cliff Avenue at Adair and our suggestion of making Hycrest a one-way street during peak drop-off and pickup times. Regarding Cliff Avenue, the reply was that they had looked at the idea of a crosswalk there at an earlier time and it did not meet the requirements. They intend to do another study in the spring to verify the required level of control.

Their reply to a one-way street on Hycrest was that it would be too complicated to implement and enforce. As it is a traffic problem related to the school, their suggestion was to request in a newsletter that parents treat it as a one-way street during these times, though this would not be enforceable. Claudette has left a message with the City to request a sidewalk on Highcrest. One suggestion to address our traffic concerns was to post a giant sign with three key traffic phrases. Another was to have the city put in imbedded cones in certain areas. Also we will invite the City to come to the school to witness the traffic to see if they have any suggestions.

Millennium March: A record breaking \$10,464 was raised this year. Many thanks to Josie, Trish and everyone else who made this event such a success. Tax receipts will go out next month.

It has been suggested that the name of this event be changed for following years as the Millennium has long passed us by. Two suggestions so far have been “The Participation March” and “The Fitness March”. It was suggested that the kids could vote on changing the name. Claudette will present this idea at the next staff meeting to get teacher feedback.

The walk has historically been held in March. It was decided that it will now be held in April to increase the likelihood of good weather.

Budget: Bettina Charpentier presented. We received the PAC grant from the Burnaby School District in April. It was \$182.26. We also received the GST rebate(\$329.69). After June 30/08 PAC will no longer receive this GST rebate. This years GST rebate came out the District funds after they were informed that we are not eligible for this rebate.

Shopfunds raised \$174.10 in April. The total money raised by shopfunds this year is \$1841.39. We donated \$200.00 to the Burnaby Dry Grad and \$939.68 was spent on soft seating for the library. PAC has purchased ShopFunds gift cards to use as door prizes for the Pub Night. There was some discussion around the possibility of the Teacher’s Luncheon being funded fully by the PAC next year as a regular budget item. This item will be carried forward for the next PAC to decide.

The PAC agreed to increase field trip money for teachers as buses are now more expensive due to increased gas prices.

Projects For 2008/2009 Year: Ideas for projects to support at Sperling next year was discussed at the last Executive Meeting. Some ideas brought forward were new computers for the computer lab, classrooms and library. A printer for the library, as well as a Smart Board was also mentioned. Other suggestions were requested. Someone suggested putting some work into the music room and the learning assistance room were also suggested. Computer software is also an option. An outdoor classroom was mentioned. This would involve picnic tables. Purchasing a lap top for the PAC to use (especially for doing minutes) was also discussed but Claudette offered the use of the school laptop if PAC used their own memory stick to transfer files. The PAC ordered a memory stick through the school. Claudette has some suggestions, but she would like to get feedback from the teachers before presenting them to PAC. Claudette will present a proposal at the PAC June meeting.

Principal's Report: Claudette Angers spoke about doing a presentation on the FSA test results in the upcoming school year.

Placement of children for next year is not known at this time. Decisions will be made in the first week of school. It is possible to make special requests by filling out the form in the newsletter and the school will do their best to meet your request.

The school plan for next year is currently being worked out. There will be a reading literacy goal. It is hoped that the plan will be finalized by the end of next week. It is a living document that continues to be revised.

There will be an earthquake preparation drill tomorrow. The kids will practice the duck and cover drill and then they will go outside. The school now has an earthquake committee.

Kindergarten orientation for parents will be on May 29/08.

Claudette will be attending a medical client workshop for a program that will provide free medical alert bracelets and cards to all children in the school who need them. The workshop is May 12 and then information will be sent home to parents about the program.

There will not be a parent/volunteer tea this year. Instead there will be a parent appreciation breakfast from 7:30am to 9:00am on Friday June 6/08. There will be child minding for preschoolers and supervision on the playground. It will be a go green theme.

Pac Executive 2008/2009: The official start for the new PAC Executive is July 1st, 2008. Our desire is to make it a smooth transition over the next month and a half for those who will be filling the vacated positions. For those who are new, please feel free to ask questions and/or contact the person whose position you will be filling.

The following are newly filled PAC positions:

Chairperson: Lisa Bjornson

Vice-Chairperson: Heather Marcotte

Treasurer: Sandy Lew and Carole Chan

District PAC Representative (2 of 2): Ross Blackwell

Parent Donation Program Coordinator: Phyllis Watts

Pub Night Coordinators: Lora Scodeller, Carole and Evan Chan, Phyllis Watts

Hot Lunch Coordinator: Frances Hastings

Fruit and Veggie Program Coordinators: Micheline Kamber, Steve Meighan

Family Gym Night Coordinator: Heather Marcotte

Skating Party Coordinators: Sue Todd, Phyllis Watts

Teacher Appreciation Lunch Coordinators: Marla Eist, Phyllis Watts

Opening Day Coffee Coordinator: Danielle Vezina

There are still many positions that need to be filled such as School Planning Committee (1 person), Fruit and Veggie Program Helpers, School Directory Helper (to coordinate with Tony Wong), Millennium March Coordinator, Walking Sidewalk Team Members and a Speakers and Presenters Coordinator.

Sperling PAC Chair Annual Report: Dora Van der minne and Sonya Scaglione submitted the Chair's Annual Report. Please find it attached below.

Sperling PAC Chair Annual Report

This has been a busy and successful year for the Sperling PAC. Our major project this year was the renovation of the school library. There are still some bookshelves that need to be built for the south wall and computer outlets that need to be rewired to reach their new locations but the library is looking great. Many thanks to Pat Ratcliffe, Mme Vesna Kanjer, and Mme Angers as well as all the volunteers who helped with this big project.

Along with the regular projects that PAC supports every year, we also put funding toward the purchase of the Kurzweil Program, which is a computer program designed to aid dyslexic children with learning. Thanks to Micheline Kamber for pursuing this.

The main two fundraisers again this year were the Parent Donation Program and the Millennium March which were very successful. Many thanks to Josie Young and Trish Alsop and all the other volunteers who made these events happen.

A new fundraiser this year has been the ShopFund\$ Program. It has been well received and we look forward to even more participation by parents next year. Thank you to Lisa Bjornson and Renee Loboza and their group of volunteers for all the work they have done in getting and keeping ShopFund\$ going.

The Annual Skating Party was another greatly enjoyed event. Thanks to Trish Alsop for organizing this.

Traffic and Safety issues continue to be a challenge. There was correspondence with the city regarding a variety of issues. The response to the PAC's request for snow and ice removal around the school was that the city cannot make this a priority as it would divert resources away from other areas. The Pac also made a request for a crosswalk or some other measure of control across Cliff Avenue at Adair. The city said a previous review of this area did not warrant a crosswalk but that they will do another study at this location in the spring to verify the level of control needed. The PAC proposed that Hycrest be made a one way street during peak school traffic times but the city has said that this would be too complicated and difficult to enforce and that because the issues are due to school traffic, we could suggest to parents that they treat it as a one way. The Walking Sidewalk continues to be successful and we hope that parents will

continue to be aware of children's safety at all times. Thank you to Alice Yuan and all the volunteers who do their best to protect our kids.

The website and the school directory continue to be a success thanks to Tony Wong. Thank you to Kirk Rockwell for his efforts on the PAC Newsletter which is always full of information. Because of PAC Going Green, the newsletter is available on the PAC website at our new address of sperlingpac.com.

We look forward to the Pub Night Social in June, organized by Lora Scodeller. We also look forward to another successful year for the Sperling PAC during the 2008/2009 school year.

Respectfully Submitted by Dora Van Der Minne and Sonya Scaglione