

PAC Executive Meeting June 12, 2008

Attendance: Dora Van der minne, Lisa Bjornson, Bettina Charpentier, Claudette Angers, Wanda Pierson, Heather Marcotte, Sonya Scaglione, Micheline Kamber, Sonya Yanko, Trish Alsop, Tammy Van Hinte, Tony Wong

Lisa Borjonson opened the meeting. The May General PAC meeting minutes were accepted by Tammy Van Hinte and Micheline Kamber seconded.

Announcements:

The Skating Party has been booked for Thursday, December 18, 2008, from 3:30 to 5:30 PM at Kensington Arena. Sue Todd and Phyllis Watts will be looking after the arrangements for this event.

Our librarian has an old piece of furniture that holds the old cards from the library books. She would like to keep it, but it is a bit worn. Does anyone refinish furniture or know of someone who could do it inexpensively? If so, please contact Pat Ratcliffe.

There are still PAC positions available that need to be filled. They are: SPC(1 position), Millennium March Coordinator, Fruit and Veggie Program helpers, School Directory Helper, Walking Sidewalk Team Members, and a Speakers and Presenters Coordinator. If you are willing to help with this or know of someone who would be, please contact Lisa.

Burnaby Park and Recreation Programs: Cassie Gibeau brought brochures on the programs being offered this summer. Cassie answered questions and asked for programming requests for the programs that will be offered at Sperling in September. Cooking, volleyball and badminton were suggested.

Playground Possibilities: Sonya Yanko explained her concerns with playground safety in regards to the gravel stone. Sonya would like to see the rock replaced by foam pads. Sonya stated that this foam would greatly increase the safety of our children and that PAC could apply to receive a playground grant to assist with costs. The application is due between September and November 2008. This issue will be brought to the August PAC budget meeting.

Teacher's Wish List: Suzanne Brunet and Geneen Lazar presented the teacher's wishlist. The first priority would be to complete the library with the following:

- South wall shelving unit including 2 bulletin boards
- PA needs to be moved
- Ceiling beams painted in each of 5 colours
- Remove screen on ceiling when smart board arrives
- Install ventilation in small work space off main library
- Order smart board and installation with in-focus projector
- New printer
- New computer for teacher librarian with greater capacity to accommodate a library of 22000 books

- 4 new computers to create a working station for students
- Tables and 4 task chairs
- Small computer table for computer catalogue

Second, the teachers would appreciate an increase in the consumable budget. The consumables are items that the teachers purchase to run their classrooms. Some examples are, stickers, Mother's Day and Father's Day craft items, borders for bulletin boards, etc. The teachers currently receive \$50.00 from PAC each year and \$50.00 from the school. This amount is insufficient and teachers spend their own money to make up the difference.

Third, the teachers are interested in creating an outdoor classroom. This classroom would be located near the playground equipment, under the large trees. It would be an outdoor space with tables that the students could work at during in class time. Students could also enjoy the space during recess. Suzanne and Geneen showed a slideshow of outdoor classrooms at other schools. It could also be a green space with garden areas. The teachers are currently waiting for price quotes for the tables.

Teacher's Luncheon Report: Trish Alsop reported that \$389.00 was raised from parent donations for the teacher's appreciation luncheon. There was \$66.00 left after the food was purchased. Trish noticed that there were not enough forks in the teachers staff room and requested that some of the left over money be used to purchase forks for the teachers. PAC executive members agreed to this plan and Trish agreed to complete this task.

Pub Night Report: Sonya Scaglione reported that the Pub Night was a success. The PAC made \$50.00 from the event although it was not intended to be a fundraiser. It was agreed that in the future the Pub Night could be called a "parent/teacher social" to ensure teachers feel welcome to attend.

Opening Day Coffee Concern: Sonya Scaglione brought up a concern about the opening day coffee. Now that Kindergarten is a gradual entry program, Kindergarten parents are not present on the first day of school, so they miss the Coffee. Sonya learned from another school that they hold a special coffee for the parents of the Kindergarten kids. It was agreed that we will hold two kindergarten coffees on Monday September 8 to include both the am and the pm class parents. This will go ahead provided the volunteers are willing to accept the additional work involved.

Fruit and Veggie Program: Micheline Kamber announced that Sperling was accepted for the Fruit and Veggie Program starting in September. Fruit and Vegetables will be delivered two days each week. The program will need more volunteers. There is \$250.00 that can be spent on the foodsafe course for any volunteers who are willing to help out with the program.

School Supplies: The school supplies will be sent home on June 20. Mr Snow will organize the Smartpacks in the gym. A sticker will be created to go in the agendas that day so parents are informed that the Smartpacks have arrived for their child.

Budget: Bettina Charpentier stated that Pat Ratcliffe would like to be able to purchase the sports equipment for the classrooms over the summer so it will be available for the kids to use right away in September. There is \$50.00 left in the budget for the sportsbags.

There were some residual donations from the Millennium March received in May(\$226.38). Shopfunds has raised \$2366.00 to date.

Principal's Report: Claudette Angers reported that the computer refresh program will result in Sperling receiving 18 new desktop computers in October or November.

The year end events include the talent show(June 23), awards meeting(June 4), the fairwell assembly(June 26), reading club(June 16), Band and choir(June 16).

Claudette wanted PAC to know that the teachers appreciated the field trip money that was allocated late this year.

Claudette met with Mr. Lanbert from the City of Burnaby to discuss our traffic and safety concerns. Mr Lambert stated that a sidewalk on Highcrest would increase taxes to the residents in the neighbourhood. He suggested that the best strategy is to educate the kids about the importance of following the traffic and safety rules.

The school plan is finalized. The literacy goal involves encouraging the children to make connections to themselves and the world when reading.

Claudette stated it has been a wonderful year.