

PAC Executive meeting
November 20, 2008

In Attendance: Claudette Angers Sawyer, Heather Marcotte, Wanda Pierson, Tammy Van Hinte, Leanne Johnson, Kirk Rockwell, Steve Meighen, Dena Domijan, Tony Wong, Bettina Charpentier, Carole Chan, Sandy Lew

Regrets: Lisa Bjornson

Heather Marcotte opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

Tony Wong moved to accept the October 16, 2008 minutes.

Steve Meighan seconded.

Motion passed.

Principal's Report: Claudette thanked Dena Domijan for presenting the principal's report in the October PAC meeting.

There needs to be a meeting to make the final decisions about the outdoor furniture.

The Fruit and Veggie program fridge arrived and it was installed today.

Soup and Stories was not well attended this year. Forty two tickets were sold and only 16 of those were for children. The remaining tickets were for their parents. Vesna makes homemade soup for this event. Next year attempts could be made to promote Soup and Stories more by printing it in the newsletter and posting it on the website.

Shopfunds numbers dropped in November. The teachers have provided feedback that 2 days notice is not enough before requiring the forms returned. Maybe they could be sent home on a Monday and returned on the Friday.

There has been a high response for the Christmas craft this year.

The French Bookfair had limited success.

The report cards will be sent home using a staggered system during the week of December 8th. They will be sent home on different days throughout the week. This reduces the stress of having all report cards going home on one day.

Volleyball has come to an end.

Basketball begins in January.

In District news, there is an initiative toward early learning. The hope is that early learning initiatives will reduce the need for intervention in intermediate years. It is possible that there will be full time kindergarten offered in September 2009. We are lacking in capacity to offer this at this time so the logistics will need to be addressed. One possibility is that full time kindergarten could be phased in.

There will be 18 computers arriving shortly from the District. There will also be some duplex printers.

The school has applied for a grant for four more computers.

There will be 30 computers in the lab and at least one per classroom, special needs resource room, etc. New software has also been purchased.

Last year we purchased the Kurzweil program, but the computers do not have enough capacity to properly run the program. Once the new computers are up and running there will be a Kurzweil workshop.

The school will not be purchasing booster seats as there are many issues associated with this purchase, some of which are storage, maintainance and liability. Parents will need to provide booster seats for field trips. Most of the younger grades use buses so boosters will not be necessary in most cases.

The smartboard will be connected this summer. We are ready to order the computers for the library.

The School District will pay for the new playground surface. It will be completed in the summer of 2009.

Walking Sidewalk: This program is at risk of being cancelled. Alice is no longer able to coordinate this program so we need a new volunteer to step up. This will be advertised in the school newsletter and the PAC website. Wanda stated that safety was a big concern before the walking sidewalk program began. Parents felt that it was only a matter of time before a child was accidently hit by a car. The program addressed this concern and it is worrisome to imagine that we may end up in this situation again.

Open Gym Night: The attendance is up. There was discussion around running the program from October to June. Maybe parents are more likely to bring their children once the cold weather sets in.

Class Reps: There are still some classes without a class rep. Teachers have posted notices in their windows if they are needing a rep.

Fun Foods: Frances sent out a survey about the new fun foods. There were 97 responses. The majority thought that the soup and salad were not good value for the price. Frances is attempting to meet the new requirements to offer "choose most" food items and offer food the children enjoy with prices the parents appreciate. This is a challenging task.

Pac Website: If you have something you would like posted on the website, send it to Tony.

Financials: The parent donation program has brought in \$810.00 to date. The estimated total of this program is \$4000.00. The remaining amount will show up on next months financial statement.

There was a cheque written for \$225.00 for the French Fine Arts Presentation that should have come out of the gaming account. This will be corrected.

We budgeted \$8000.00 for the playground resurfacing. Now that the resurfacing grant was approved, we need to consider where this money will be allocated.

**Tony Wong moved to accept the budget.
Bettina Charpentier seconded.**

Motion passed.

DPAC: Steve explained that the District may offer a presentation by Steve Dotto on safety and the internet. Steve needs to know how many parents would be interested in attending. Steve also spoke about a manual called “volunteers and the law” that may be good to have on hand. Steve will see if he can order this handbook.

Open Discussion: Some dogs have been seen on the playground. Reminders may be helpful to ensure that dogs stay off school grounds.

Earthquake preparedness was discussed. Ross continues to work on the earthquake kits. There has not been a Earthquake drill in quite some time. A drill will be planned for the spring when weather is better.

The PAC Newsletter deadline for entries is Thursday November 27th. If you have something you want included please email it to Kirk Rockwell.

Some parents have expressed concern over children playing near the forest and chasing balls onto the street. Claudette stated that the children are playing in groups in the back field and the children report instances where a child enters the forest. The children are reminded not to run onto the street for balls.

Meeting ajourned.