

HENRY HUDSON PAC MEETING

Date & Time: February 12th, 2014. Meeting started at 6:30 pm.

Location: Henry Hudson School Library.

In attendance: Parents (approximately 14), Principal Mr. Adams. Please note, a full list of attendees is available from the PAC Chair upon request. For privacy reasons the full list is not posted in the minutes.

1. Minutes

- a. A motion to approve minutes from the January 2014 PAC meeting was motioned by Jerry and passed by Victoria. The minutes are posted on the website.

2. PAC Chair Report

- a. Rob thanked the Secretaries for running the January meeting. Jo chaired the meeting and Robyn took very detailed notes accounting the upcoming traffic pattern and parking changes around York Ave.
- b. Please note that there is information on the PAC board (outside the library).
- c. Highlights include raised crosswalks and 4-way stops at York and Cornwall; all starting around March break.

3. Principal's Report

- a. Wish list committee:
 - i. Principal Adams recommends there is a wish list committee made up of 1 teacher and 1 parent to strategically plan for technology.
 - ii. Brainstorming of ideas to get a narrowed down, costed out, prioritized list.
 - iii. Teacher/parent involvement working within PAC budget for useful technology in the classroom.
 - iv. Q: Does the teacher have access to costing?
 - v. A: Sometimes these will be guestimates initially, but as the ideas narrow, the costs will get more detailed.
 - vi. Q: Are we getting benefit out of the smart boards/projectors we currently have in the classrooms?
 - vii. A: Yes. They are often used and teachers are incorporating them into their lesson plans. We are still six short of having one in each classroom.
 - viii. We can be ready for May budget by starting the committee now.
 - ix. Q: What type of parent should run the committee?
 - x. A: Likes a group process.
 - xi. Q: Is this committee also overseeing activities as well as technology?
 - xii. A: This is being overseen by Ms. Johnson in a similar process and was raised by Mme. Walls from the last PAC meeting.
 - xiii. Q: Can ideas come from the PAC?
 - xiv. A: Yes. For activities, looking at 2-3 per year.
 - xv. Q: What are the best ways to ideas to Ms. Johnson?
 - xvi. A: Pass them on to Principal Adams with costs and information regarding specific programs.
 - xvii. Q: Do these activities need to be a fit for all grade levels?
 - xviii. A: The PAC tries to have funds for activities applicable to the entire student body.
 - xix. The PAC desires to have Treasurer aware of planning from a budgeting perspective.
 - xx. Q: For the Wish List Committee, does the parent require a technology background?
 - xxi. A: No. Just organizing and collating data and good communication with PAC.
 - xxii. Q: Logistically, is this only for someone available during school hours?
 - xxiii. A: Yes.
 - xxiv. We can put out a request for ideas, a parent in email/newsletter and revisit this in March.
- b. Superstar Assemblies:

- i. First one is Friday February 27th at 2:15pm.
 - ii. Highlight one to two students per class who exemplify social responsibility.
 - iii. A certificate will be given to students at assembly.
 - iv. These assemblies are likely to be monthly to bi-monthly.
 - v. Mrs. Dixon promoted this idea.
- c. Carnival:
- i. On Wednesday March 5th.
 - ii. In morning, French carnival activities like sledding (ropes).
 - iii. Pancakes are served.
 - iv. In afternoon, there will be a dance music program, Vassi.
- d. Jump Rope for Heart
- i. Assembly to promote program on February 14th at 9:15am.
 - ii. Program to be run one month later on March 14th (last day before spring break).
- e. ProD day on February 21st.
- i. Social responsibility focus.
 - ii. In morning, PBS behaviour support systems.
 - iii. In afternoon, BOOT's, an Alberta system for working with students with behavioural learning needs.
- f. In-coming Kindergarten:
- i. Healthy English kindergarten enrollment this coming year with long wait list.
 - ii. Class size is also in negotiations.
 - iii. Some of the children on this list will filter into French Immersion and Montessori.
 - iv. Need to find space for all these children and as such, the computer lab will be eliminated.
 - v. There will be a lottery for English program as well as French Immersion.
 - vi. Q: Is it possible that the numbers are higher this year due to the registration system in place this year?
 - vii. A: Could explain some of it, but not likely all of it.
 - viii. It was also noted that Elsie Roy downtown is full in addition to many of the other local schools. Also that General Gordon and Ecole Bilingue are undergoing Earthquake upgrading.
 - ix. Q: When do portables come into play?
 - x. A: In general, in VSB there are an excess number of spaces. There are many schools in the board that could take students on wait lists. Schools where there are excess spaces are generally farther spread apart.
 - xi. Q: Why wasn't this taken into consideration by city planners?
 - xii. A: Building schools requires provincial funding but city planners are striving for family friendly spaces in our catchment attracting families.
 - xiii. The exact number of students is still a moving target but will impact everything the school does.
 - xiv. The current plan is to remove the computer lab to make more space. The computers would be distributed throughout the school.
 - xv. Music and art room have already been eliminated previously.
 - xvi. Looking at about 60 children being turned away from their neighbourhood school.
 - xvii. There are already lunch room issues and supervision aids, use of room.
 - xviii. Only graduating 17 grade 7s but picking up class loads full.
 - xix. Q: Anything happening at the district level?
 - xx. A: Principal Adams on the phone communicating frequently trying to work on the problem.
 - xxi. Q: Rough timeline until it's sorted out?
 - xxii. A: As quickly as we can.

- xxiii. There may not be a labour agreement and class size negotiation running scenarios based on both.
 - xxiv. Rob will collect questions on this subject such that parents can be informed as their will be many questions.
 - xxv. Q: Should this tension be directed at getting people motivated to speak to their MLA.
 - xxvi. A: Generally a good idea to write letters regarding your concerns.
4. Teacher's Report
 - a. Started conversation for progress for PAC budget.
 5. Secretary Report
 - a. Reclaimed PAC board outside library. Information is being posted there until website is up.
 - b. Rob has photos of kids at Centennial.
 6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Received \$4500 rebate from VSB on playground.
 - b. Already repaid GICs ahead of time plus \$500 to pay-it-forward.
 - c. Gymnastics might have been under budget, but still confirming with deposit (~\$300) but Hip Hop well over budget.
 - d. These costs come directly out of gaming grants as these funds need to support extra-curricular activities. We got a smaller gaming grant than last year.
 - e. Q: what was the break out numbers for term 1 for hot lunch?
 - f. A: \$10462 revenue as of Dec 31st.
 - g. Q: there was discussion of adding orbiter onto playground with extra funds?
 - h. A: found out to be cost prohibitive to do after the fact that we didn't know about. It needs to be welded.
 - i. Daycare looking at greening up schools grounds and adding plants and shrubs.
 - j. It was noted that there is a grant available to plan local species.
 - k. Should PAC, HOOSC and gardening team work together on holistic plan taking into consideration of earthquake reno impacts.
 7. SPC Report
 - a. There will be a meeting on Friday with a focus on Social Responsibility.
 8. Hot Lunch
 - a. Going well.
 - b. Term 3 forms out soon.
 9. By law committee update
 - a. Draft complete and has been forwarded to Principal Adams.
 - b. Will be sent to parents for wide comment via weekly email updates (send via Jo).
 - c. Bylaws should be presented at next meeting:
 - i. Bylaws are about 90% the bylaws that were found.
 - ii. Bylaws augmented with a few items from other PACs that the committee was looking for.
 - iii. Some points differ from current practice.
 10. Community Garden Project
 - a. VSB approval and received cheque from Lululemon for ~\$9K.
 - b. Beds are built outside.
 - c. Spring is coming, so looking at light table for in-house growing of seeds.
 - d. Q: Does cheque need to be all spent this year?
 - e. A: No, but it will clear out this year with expected plans so far.
 11. Choir Update
 - a. 18 juniors, 20 seniors
 - b. Moved joint choir Wizard of Oz to third term.
 - c. Space made on VSB website for choir info.
 12. Grade 7 Grad Update

- a. Bake sale on Feb 28th for fund raising.
13. Rainy Day Club
- a. Still in progress but hasn't rained much recently.
14. French Immersion Trip
- a. Alan notes that the trip has not worked out this year.
 - b. Others schools do a pay-it-forward program for grad trips.
 - c. Also happened here when English track had wilderness trek.
 - d. Motion presented for putting forth pay-it-forward program. For Alan; Seconder Jerry. Majority passed.
 - e. Will do a call out for parent volunteers but already some interest.
 - f. Note that Feb 14th bake sale is for Child Run not grads.
15. New Business
- a. Sport Jersey replacement.
 - i. It was brought up that someone was going to look into what was required to start replacing sports jerseys.
 - ii. It will be confirmed in minutes the plan.
16. Next meeting date:
- a. Tuesday Mar 11th at 6:30pm.
17. Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mitch was seconded by Andrew at 7:47pm. Motion passed.
18. Future meeting dates:
- a. Tues Mar 11
 - b. Wed April 9
 - c. Tues May 13
 - d. Wed June 11