PAC Meeting, February 6

Chair: Naomi Taussig. Minutes: Holly Salmon

22 parents attending + Darren Mitzel, Principal

Guest speaker: Darren Mitzel

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of minutes. Motion: Nicole 2nd: Kara
3. Principal’s report ---Darren Mitzel
   1. VSB 2015-2016, 2016-2017 proposed calendar in the works. Info + link will be in an upcoming newsletter for parent feedback.
   2. Lunch program. Survey will be sent out to parents about changes to lunch program. 17 other schools potentially losing lunch program. Increased cost per month would possibly be $44 a month. Vulnerable kids would still be provided bag lunches.
      1. Q: How many kids to keep it? Possibly 120.
      2. Q: How will this be decided? Survey to parents.
      3. Program will be “all in”. No part-time, partial month payment option.
      4. Livingstone is way down on the list as far as vulnerability of population. Top 12 schools will still receive hot lunch subsidy.
      5. Letters will go home from Mr Mitzel for families with payments still outstanding
   3. Kindergarten registration. 62 registered.
      1. Feb 16 is when invitations for choice programs.
      2. Probably not accepting any cross-boundary kids.
      3. 13 divisions for next year.
      4. Q: long-term plan? Use numbers from VSB for planning possible enrollment numbers.
      5. Q: Siblings? Younger does need to be in-catchment. Siblings get priority on out of catchment waiting list.
   4. Acceptance Dance 2 weeks away, Feb 18. 7 divisions, 160+ students. Working on dance.
      1. Q: parental tickets? Sent home with teachers.
      2. Q: Which classes? Div 1-6 + Ms. Liu’s class.
      3. Feb 25 at school will have video and other activities for classes not participating. Also offer from Hamber students for presentation
   5. Valentine’s dance. Primary before recess, afternoon intermediate. Afternoon walk to Brock for Ballet performance.
   6. Fiber Optic update. Process expedited.
   7. Q: How are you? How was your first month? Participated in Ignite session with 5-minute talks. Goal to share more cross-district. Would love parents to be able to attend.
4. Treasurer’s Report (Nicole Oliver)
   1. Regular acct: $7085.16; Gaming acct: $2651.89. See separate Treasure’s report.
   2. Nicole must submit report in June about gaming funds spent. Changes to what we can spend it on. Reviewing new parameters and adjusting and bringing recommendations to overall spending.
   3. Outstanding Items that have been approved but not spent: Music vests ($2000) + Saleema Noon leaving $4900 + $1100 gaming
   4. Would like to develop policies for teacher requests to standardize what we pay for. Send ideas to Nicole in the box in the office. She will bring some recommendations forward to PAC for policy for equitable spending for next year.
   5. Q: Do we give same amount to teachers each year? No. We have had principal present amount from teachers as whole list. But changes in administration, etc. necessary changes in way we do it.
   6. Tabled discussion to add as agenda item on future meeting.
   7. Motion to approve: Makeesha. 2nd. Stephanie
   8. Thanks to Nicole for past work with popcorn fundraising.
5. Communications report
   1. Shift from PAC as primary communication to weekly school newsletter from Mr. Mitzel to include a message from the PAC
   2. New website. Transferred content over. Looks good on mobile.
   3. Ultimate goal: PAC as point of connection between families and what is going on in school. “Telling stories” as focus of communication. Makeesha posting on PAC blog.
   4. PAC emails: weekly email with published blog posts
   5. Email info to Makeesha to put up. Send stories from parents and kids.
   6. Q: Weebly.com not accessible from work computer. Domain change is in the works. Once we have our domain is hosted should resolve.
6. Financial Requests –General
   1. Ms. Cassie: flour babies. $99. Curriculum based.
      1. Motion to approve.
      2. Discussion: annual gr 7 project - do we usually pay for this? Believe so, but request should precede purchase. Suggestion to approve with communication that purchase needs to be approved by PAC first.
      3. Passed by majority vote.
7. PAC subcommittee
   1. Multicultural night. Naomi: chair. Jodi is distributing letter to local businesses for donations for raffle. Let her know of any ideas for prizes.
      1. Get tickets when letter comes out. Everyone needs a ticket and we sell out.
      2. Q: Can we sell tickets ahead of time? If so, need volunteer to coordinate.
   2. Recycling: Need more volunteers!!!
      * 1. Even just one hour to sort cans and bottles
        2. Any day, any time during school hours.
   3. Afterschool
      1. No byte camp this spring
      2. Mad Science is running.
      3. Contact Melissa with any suggestions. Can put in PAC box or email to PAC email.
8. Green Earth Organics
   1. Order information went out in newsletter.
   2. Will deliver to school on Thursdays.
   3. Q: options for parents unable to pick up? Home delivery for smaller % 2nd drop off location.
9. Guest Speaker: Mr. Mitzel. “INQUIRY”
   1. Encouraging teachers to move toward more individualized programming and projects with individual results.
   2. Shift to 21st century learning
   3. Video: Waterbottle light
   4. Proposing Genius Hour to teachers.
   5. Video: Three Act Math Activity, “Sugar packets by Dan Meyer”
   6. Goal is engaging kids in creative learning, learning to fail, problem-solvi*n*g