

Parents' Meeting Notes

Monday, October 16, 2017

6:15 pm Snacks and Greetings

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Lord Nelson Elementary School – Library

Child-minding available

PAC Executive

Kate Newstead (KN), Co-Chair; Angela Wong-Moon (AWM), Co-Chair; Lisa Osoba (LO), Vice-Chair;

Laura McGowan (LM), Treasurer (absent); Courtney Hall (CH), Secretary (absent)

Representatives

Daniel Knibbs (DK), Principal, Rosemary Thomas (RT), Vice Principal, Rachel Lloyd, Kindergarten teacher

Members at Large: David Fleming, Yvonne McIntosh, Stephanie Moffat, Karl Murray, Leanne Coughlin, Matt Ellis, Kelly Carter, Cathy Yang, Sandra Heusel, Claudette Lauzon, Helen Gabor, Bonnie Leong, Karen King, Kevin Tarasoff

Guests: Brian and Michelle from Foodie Kids (hot lunch provider)

1. Welcome and Introductions (AWM/KN)
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes: (Sandra Heusel approved; Kate Newstead seconded both)
3. Presentation re: hot lunches (Brian and Michelle)

Foodie Kids presented their voluntary hot lunch program. They have been operating for 5 years. Michelle coordinated lunch at her kids' school for 5 years before that and wanted to offer something with more variety and cultural diversity. They are an all-in-one service – everything is divided by class and distributed to kids either in the classes or the lunchroom. Everything is made from scratch daily. They provide online software for schools - parents register and place orders online – can be placed every day, every week or every month – very flexible. The company can accept the payment or the PAC can. Right now there is no minimum number of kids for them to operate in a school. They serve Nootka, Lord Beaconsfield and Queen Vic so are in the area anyway. They have schools with anywhere from 15 to 400 students using the service. Queen Vic rounds the prices up to make a small amount of money. PAC can choose whether to offer just one or two options per day, or a broader range of options. Parents have up to the Weds the week before the lunch to make any changes. At Queen Vic they have one parent volunteer present at lunchtime to oversee distribution. Each bag is labelled. Can be delivered to classrooms or lunchroom. Grade 7s could help but would DK/RT and PAC agree we would need a parent volunteer there to oversee for 15-20 mins every day. If there is a mix-up, the teachers can't deal with

that on their break time. Packaging is all disposable; some packages are compostable through Green City.

Could do a trial period, and could be just one day a week at first. Kate identified that the PAC and administration would need to do a lot of homework to figure out whether or not this is feasible, not least figuring out whether we could recruit enough parent volunteers. Thanked Brian and Michelle for their presentation.

4. New Build Report (DK)

Crew just finished pouring skim coat over the floors; walls are going up; rain is slowing things down a bit because can't do masonry work in the rain, but no major problems. Hoping for some improvement in the weather. They are working on interior walls in the meantime.

5. Financial Report (KN for LM)

\$8800 Gaming Grant was received. \$2100 made from Donald's Gift Card sale and another \$2100 from Costume sale.

6. Upcoming Dates/Fundraising (KM/AWM)

Movie Night Oct 27: volunteers still needed. May not happen if more volunteers don't sign up!

Monster Mash Oct 31: Walter has stepped up to run it this year –more volunteers also needed to help lead the kids in dance.

Family Photos Nov 4: Alastair Bird doing photos. Can still put name on list even if spots are all full in case Alastair can squeeze a few folks in.

Card Project fundraiser: kids have finished their projects and soon you will get a sample card with your child's artwork, then you can order more online. Feedback from Ms Lloyd: project was very well-organized; one week more than we had this year to get them done would be ideal (3 weeks total would be perfect).

Purdy's and Poinsettias: Purdy's orders should come out early Nov. – deadline will be Nov 30.

Parent Info Nov. 22: two different topics: Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity; Self-Regulation

Potential for Donald's gift certificates again in December – there was general agreement it wouldn't be too overwhelming to parents to offer it again in December so Courtney will set that up.

Movie Night Dec 8: Polar Express is proposed – general agreement that is a good choice.

Pancake Breakfast around mid-Dec: need to confirm with Lions because a lot of their dates are full. Does not necessarily need to be a Friday.

Crowdfunding: video being shot on Sunday – pro videographer and editor have stepped up and Leah and Yolanda have done a lot of work writing a script and getting it organized. Should be launched in January or so.

Potential Science Fair in new year (possibly early February): if any parents work in the science field and can help organize, let us know. Trying to also bring some activities into the classroom.

Feedback on PAC news emails: very positive. Keep using the new format.

7. Admin Report (DK/RT)

- Trout Lake District Meet coming up on Thurs (Oct 19).
- Soccer team is moving toward potential finals/zone finals soon.
- GymSense is ending this week – kids loved it.
- Will be a girls' and boys' senior volleyball team this year.
- Staffing: Steven Azdrubale has been hired for Div. 3. Almost all the gaps have been filled now. Primary autism teacher just began today – recruited from Toronto area and has lots of experience. Mr. Wightman took a position in Coquitlam so there is a posting up for his resource position but no interest yet. Getting some support from the district to fill in the gap; Ms Thomas and Ms Lirenman helping as well to get the IEPs done this month.
- Foundation Skills Assessment: happening end of Oct/beginning of Nov this year.
- WE Day: coming up this Wednesday. 15 kids in Grade 7 are going. Kids will be coming back and sharing their experience with the rest of the kids. Last year a group of kids who had gone to WE Day organized the Garden Park cleanup afterward.
- MDI - Middle Years Development Instrument – research project from UBC: will be coming home with an information package if in Grade 4 or 7 – parents can opt out of having their kids participate if they like. Kids answer questions about daily habits, connection with community, literacy, and so on, online at school. Will release results of the research in about January.
- Winter concert: all the kids will be in it at once this year, likely at Templeton's auditorium. Looking like it's a go. Will take place over 2 days – odd divisions one day, even divisions another. Dec 19 and 20 are tentatively booked.
- Student Learning Grant from province: about \$14,000 – was meant to offset the cost for parents fundraising in schools – has to be spent by Jan 1. DK would like to earmark the money for technology for moving into new building – ie. interactive projectors and Apple TVs in classrooms, etc. Teachers and DK agree it would make sense for us to use for this purpose but need PAC approval for this. This would only fund a portion of the 20 classrooms and the PAC would still need to contribute some additional funds to this. DK estimates \$40,000 or so will be the cost to equip all 20 classrooms (this does not include iPad carts, laptops, etc).
- Safe arrival program: we have one again – process has been streamlined. If there is a child away on the classroom attendance list and no email/call has been received from the parent, the school will phone the first contact on the list for that child.
- PD Day this Friday – Oct 20
- Goal setting conferences Oct 25 and 26 – 2pm dismissal
- Walkathon Oct 27 – Templeton – rain or shine but if bucketing, will be held one week later.
- Goh Ballet Performance Nov 7
- Remembrance Day Assembly Nov 9
- New Report Cards: Vancouver is piloting new report card system. New curriculum requires new reporting. January and June report cards only. Will not have letter grades. Grade 3 teachers only are taking on the pilot for this year. Will also be shifting to 3 meetings with parents per year. Focus is on formative rather than summative assessment. Will need to be a lot of communication among staff moving forward to make sure everyone is doing the same thing so it's not confusing for parents. We will seek feedback from parents as well.

Meeting adjourned.