



Hastings Community School Parent Advisory Council – [www.hastingspac.ca](http://www.hastingspac.ca)  
Minutes - Meeting 7pm Tuesday April 8th, 2014

Members Present: See sign in sheet

Staff Present: Donna Emeno and Janis Myers

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

## 2. Review of minutes from February 26, 2015

*Motion: To approve minutes from February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015.*

*M/S/C*

## 3. Hastings Administration Report

### Donna Emeno – Principal

- The VSB budget is out. Donna has a copy of it in its entirety if you want to see it. The cuts have been kept out of the classroom. The focus has been on revenue generating, raising band fees and closing some schools that have empty classrooms.
- The Big One at 2 emergency evacuation drill. May 7<sup>th</sup>. This time we will be practicing the student release to see how it works. Parents should have an emergency designate on the release form. You cannot ask someone on the day to pick up your child; if they are not named as an official emergency contact, the staff will not release your child. There will be a large student release table on the field, as well as by division. A map of where the divisions will be lined up, will be sent out with the notice
- Evening at Laura Secord, Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup> with Dr. Urs Revary on brain development'. It is hosted by the association Vancouver Principals and vice principals.
- Beginning of May we will have staffing decisions made and parent requests for classroom placements will be available around the end of May.

### Janis Myers- Vice Principal

- The Draft of the Calendar put out by the VSB. At our next Pro- D the staff will discuss dates and topics of next year's Pro-Ds. Final version will go home in May.
- Proposed School Fees. \$25 for school supplies, agendas \$7, performing arts fee \$15, grade 7 camp \$250, grade 7 Quebec trip \$1000, Band \$50 (not including the instrument rental).

## 4. President's Report- Janeen Patchell

- Due to a glitch with the school synvoice system the April newsletters went out to only 11 families. We sent out a message through the PAC classroom reps. The newsletter is available on the Hastings website.
- Parent Ed nights. Two guest speakers delivering Askable Adult work shops. The first is on April 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 to 8 Jessica Wollen is directing her talk to parents of K-3. Clayton Boehler is giving a talk for parents on Monday April 20<sup>th</sup> of children aged 4-7. Reservations can be made on Eventbrite and childminding is available. We are offering these talks to Hastings and Tillicum families. If the evenings don't fill up we will extend the offer to other schools.
- Burger and Bevvie night. Adult only event, no child minding. \$20 for a burger and beverage, karaoke, dancing and other fun.
- Spring Fair. Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> 2:30 – 5:30. Lots of fun of activities – cake walk, games, pony ride perennial fair, food etc. Janeen sent around sign up sheets for volunteers. Please consider donating perennials from your garden, if you are dividing them up.
- Treats in the classroom. Does the school have any sort of blanket policy about treats in the school and given at school. Is there a way to develop a policy. Sara Leckie described her children's experience with regard to sweets at school for celebrations and as classroom favours.

The VSB has a healthy school policy. Efreem expressed his frustration with the food and sweets given to his child at school. Sarah Johns mentioned her experience at Tillicum was the polar opposite to her experience at Hastings. Donna responded by saying it would be necessary to get the teachers involved. She will bring it up at the staff meeting tomorrow as to what message the school is sending out and what the school policy should be. Teachers who reward with candy should be addressed and encouraged to stop. Reframing the celebrations may be a solution or finding another item to reward with.

**Motion: The PAC is in favour of working with the staff and administration to develop a school wide policy regarding how food is used in the classroom for celebration and rewards.** **M/S/C**

Sara Leckie is happy to coordinate a committee to start discussion.

- The REM class will be moved to Hastings from Strathcona. A REM class is for 7-15 remedial students with behaviour problems. It was clearly stated that the school was chosen because of it's size and that it has two administrators. The class is very heavily staffed with a high student to teacher ratio. The sensory room will likely be the room chosen to house this class. Donna was told that program would not likely be relocated back to Strathcona after the renovations are done.
- Community Small grants- we received both - \$1500 for the Spring Fair and \$1500 for Art for the Sky. We will undertake the Art for the Sky in Sept. Diana B will be sending the artist a deposit.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report – Diana Bennett**

- Funding requests by teachers. \$200- Science afternoon project for any interested intermediate classes to do science experiments. \$340 to charter a bus for the Salmon release and \$2200 for a theatre project for all grade 4/5 class.

**Motion: To fund the projects as requested except we would like to offer up to \$500 for the science afternoons and up to \$1500 for the grade 4/5 theatre project, we would like to include up to \$100 for bike to school week** **M/S/C**

- We will like to order some new skipping ropes (7' and 12'-14' length) and hulu hoops. Janis will look into ordering through a school supplier.

#### **6. Other Business**

- **The Multicultural Breakfast.** Jen Westoby. April 23<sup>nd</sup> on Earth Day. A google doc was sent out by class reps and it is on the website. Drop off food at 7:45 – 8:00. Bring some breakfast food item that might reflect your heritage.
- **Earth Week-** Salvation Army Clothing drive, the truck is coming on the 28<sup>th</sup> so please bring bags to close to that date if possible as the school has very little storage room. Frances Pollock will be organizing some lunch time activities.
- **Book Sale** - drop books off for earth week to front foyer.
- **Skipping Ropes and Hula-hoops** – Donna said that the equipment will be available to kids year round. They will be available on a sign out basis through the Fiz leaders.

#### **7. DPAC news-** Rally Families Against Cuts to Public Education. This Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup>

Reminder of the next meeting Tuesday May 5th, 2015

**Motion: To adjourn at 8:45 p.m.**

**M/S/C**