



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Hastings PAC – Thursday, Jan 23, 2020

7-830 pm, Hastings Staff Room

1. **Welcome and introductions** (7-7:15pm)
2. **Review of minutes from Friday Nov 22, 2019** (7:15-7:20am)
Motion to accept the minutes from November 22, 2019 meeting.

MSC

3. Reports/Updates

- a. Administration (7:20-7:40pm)

i. Principal Report - Vital Peeters

1. Grade 7 trip:

- plan is being set in place for next year - Camp Cheakamus is the location next year; no word yet from teachers to start this year's Gr 6's fundraising for next year; some fundraising might be done after the fact and families might be reimbursed; camp will cost a little less due to no ferry. More info to come shortly.
- Sets the tone for a connection between the French and English students;

2. French monies

- Had a talk with French teachers – use the leftover money raised for Quebec to go towards french programming for all students (not just French immersion)
- Spoke with the French immersion teachers; school receives \$50/student x 300 students that helps support French language learning; tricky to use money in a way that is equitable.

3. Tech needs assessment

- Have identified ipads as something that would be useful - with keyboard (about \$400 total);
- any classes without whiteboards will need to have one installed (about \$10,000);
- school to spend VSB \$ first, then ask PAC ~ \$46,000/ year
- looking at buying for each class starting with 6 ipads, projector and an apple TV;
- i-pads come in multiples of 6 because that's what fit in the power bar; but looking at the option of a tech tub (for charging and security).

- a. Tech toolkit money is over and above this and should be spent as it was raised specifically for tech;
- b. Certain number of existing ipads need to be replaced as they are old;
- c. Asked teachers to take photos of projects and kids using technology.

4. Staffing updates

- number of vacant positions – Ms Niki (grade 4/5): posted her position once she let them know, since before winter break; no applicants internal to VSB; should see interest once the report cards done; before Ms Niki left, they met with her to assess how to best support her class– Ms Kennedy (resource teacher) starts the morning with them every day; supporting with resources;

- Mr. Shaun (W/T/F music and PE prep; resource) position also vacant: working on filling the Friday soon.
- Mme Morgan is here temporarily covering for Mme Danielle on her leave.
- Support worker position: employee services in charge
- Not a reflection on Hastings, but the Vancouver teacher market.

5. District News

- Registration going quite well; no catchments for French (you can now go to any FI school you want).
- Now you can see when registering how many spots there are and how many filled.
- Only one French immersion class next year; now that they've removed the catchments, there is no weight given to the first choice (but Vital needs to check that for sure).
- If we don't have enough staffing, surplus. Number of classes in each grade is decided by admin.
- Question: how do you address the "bulge" when each year - intake more in grade 1; 2 more students allowed from K.

ii. Vice Principal Report - Susan Dent

1. Leadership in school

- Looking at programs: Peer Helpers (formally FIZZ / FOZZ) as it is more self-explanatory;
- 35 kids showed up for first meeting; grades 5-7;
- start figuring out the structure next week; Mr. Benson will be helping.
- Student group; Lots of interest in climate change

2. Upcoming school activities/events and student opportunities

- a. Jazz Band from Templeton performing for the grade 6&7.
- b. Bussing the entire school in this spring: Chan Theatre ("Root and Shoot")
- c. Ms Katelyn will start ukuleles next week.

b. PAC Chair Report - Jacqueline Shaben (7:40-7:50pm)

i. Highlights from past month

1. Speaker Lara Boyd on "The Learning Brain" : some takeaways:
 - a. Struggling is ok – developing new neural pathways; more meaningful change.
 - b. studying coupled with intense Exercise – 24hours later; needed the rest, exercise to move it to the long term memory.
 - c. Someone suggested recording and posting the speakers online.
 - d. Next speaker: Suzanne Ferrara: occupational therapists: Calm Kids / Calm Families – March 5th – 7pm.

ii. Great turnout at the last PAC meeting; this years focus is about making meaningful connections with other parents; staff, teachers, admin.

c. Treasurer Report – Yvonne Connors (7:50-8:00 pm)

- i. Currently in PAC accounts - Gaming: approx. \$18,000; Operating: approx. \$18,000
- ii. In the event of a surplus: parents to come up with ideas to spend the money;
- iii. HSBC Account

Motion to move the PAC bank accounts from HSBC to VanCity – MSC

4. Other Business (8-8:15 pm)

- a. Guest Speaker Series
- b. Class Reps
 - i. Building a strong community; role of the rep is to encourage involvement; attend meetings or read the minutes – relay that info to their parents.
 - ii. Whatsapp in the K classes working well – other grades possibly?
- c. Bingo Night – February 20, 2020
 - i. Callout early next week for volunteers and prizes.
 1. Action item (Marcie): Send Bingo night blurb and photos.
- d. School Grounds – starting to think about setting up Garden Committee
 - i. Mural going in when the weather gets dry and warmer;
 - ii. Approved to put the outdoor classroom / garden in in April – work party over a weekend; parents asked to help install.
- e. Parent Burger Bevvie night
 - i. Tentative April 18th or 25th
- f. Spring Fair Friday May 29, 2020
 - i. Action item (Marcie): Can send a blurb and pictures to Vital to post on school website.

5. New Business (8:15-8:30pm)

a/ follow up: Odette to speak about convo with Mr. Donnegan: having the finance committee has been great; the teachers appreciate the set up; Chris can attend a future meeting to speak to this.

Adjourn 8:39pm

Next meeting: Friday, February 21, @ 9am -1030am Family Room (Rm 121)

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