

**BLUERIDGE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING – MINUTES
Wednesday September 30th, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: Nicole Dent, Kris McLean-Rohani, Ralph Stringer, Janet Stringer, Brooke Tupper, Jennifer Dickson, Georgina O’Flynn, Karina Wood, Marina Moroney, Jayce Allen, Heather Gall, Colleen Mah, Sanaz Kashani, Leyla Johnson, Maya Butterfield, Jennifer Dickson, Louise Birch, Christian Terblanche, Erin Primas and Kathy Kee.

REGRETS: Jennifer Bigwood, Margaret Chesko, Terri Thompson

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: 7:35

Agenda Approved – Kris Rohani & Jennifer Dickson

TREASURER REPORT:

- 2015/2016 Draft Budget was presented.
- Nicole explained how a budget was created and who was involved in the process.
- Question- why was the bank balance presented at the May 2015 BPAC meeting different than the opening balance for this year? Answer...because expenses were still outstanding from the end of May to the end of June. Items such as hot lunch in June, teacher’s fund and library resources still hadn’t been paid.
- Question- why is the opening balance of \$36,566.00 so high? Answer...due to higher than budgeted results from several fundraisers in previous years that were carried over as well as lower than budgeted expenses in historical costs.
- Nicole has been discussing with Kathy Kee the prospect of determining what large capital expenditure these funds will be held for. Leaning towards Technology.
- Discussion around how best to maximize this large amount of funds while waiting. Result is that until a decision has been made regarding what the expenditure will be for, we can’t lock in the funds. Finance Committee will discuss going forward.
- Discussed the Emergency Prep cost line item. H. Gall indicated that this year all bin food supplies need to be replaced and the budgeted amount would not be sufficient. She did not have an estimate or historical cost info. The last time it was replaced was 2010 – Nicole recalled that the cost for this extraordinary expense was divided equally by the number of students enrolled that year and parents were asked to submit payment. These items last for 5 years and it was felt in 2010 that this was the best way to approach the expense. Heather will follow up and look into current costs further and Nicole will find the old invoice for historical cost info.
- Budget vote was called by Ralph and accepted unanimously.

UPDATES:

OLD BUSINESS:

Welcome BBQ:

- Well received with everyone enjoying the event, especially the meet-the-teacher aspect. Most felt that the 30 minute window for teacher meeting was perfect amount of time.
- Comments regarding the long line up for (45minutes) getting food.

- Stong's has verbally agreed to come back next year and bring a second BBQ to help ease the wait.
- All receipts for expenses not yet received but early estimates show a net receipt of over \$1,000.00.
- Thank you to all the Grade 5 parents who helped plan and coordinate the event.

Newcomer's Tea:

- Tea was held on September 25th, 2015 and hosted by Grade 2 parents.
- Approximately 12 families attended.

Hot Lunch:

- The Hot Lunch program is up and open for business.
- Question if the grade 7 children will provide food delivery to the classes again this year? Miss Primas asked about responsibilities and has agreed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Popcorn Mondays:

- Volunteers are required.
- Will be starting on Monday October 5th, 2015, Popcorn is \$1.00/bag.

Family Photo Night:

- This Grade 6 allocated event is currently booked for October 7th and 8th in the evenings.
- Online sign-up with approximately 20 families signed up already.

Blueridge Gear:

- Sale of Blueridge Gear will be happening this year. Jennifer Bigwood will update at the October BPAC meeting.

Cookies & Pies:

- Fundraiser dates have been set for starting with forms going home on November 2, 2015, due back by November 13, 2015 and delivery of December 1, 2015 – pick up after school.
- Kindergarten Parents will be approached to help with the distribution of forms and collecting the orders and sorting the items when delivered.

Card Project:

- In full swing for this years' Christmas/Winter theme. All teachers have been given their packages. Artwork pick up will be October 13th.

Class Reps.:

- The sign-up sheets went up and have been all filled in except for Grade 6.
- If anyone has any questions they should contact Jennifer Bigwood.
- Kathy Kee reiterated the importance of not giving out the class list info to people to use other than for school-related activities and a reminder to always BCC when emailing to respect privacy.

BPAC Pink Forms:

- Forms were done online this year and everything seems to have gone well with very few issues.
- Any concerns will be addressed for next year.

- Class lists have already been sent to class reps for all the families who have submitted their information. It will be updated periodically and sent to class reps as needed.

Directory:

- Ads are likely to be less in number this year.
- The Directory will be rushed out as soon as the Pink Forms come in.

Jesse Miller:

- Is a social media speaker that BPAC brings in every second year to speak to Grades 4-7.
- This year he is booked for November 24th, 2015 in the afternoon for grade 4-5 and then grade 6-7.
- The parent event will be on November 24th as well at 6:30pm in the school library.
- Nicole commented that his talks are very, very relevant and if anyone has never attended one they should because his information is always current and different from his previous presentation.
- One parent asked if the parent night was open to any parent even if their kids weren't in Grade 4 yet. Answer is absolutely! Anyone is welcome.

EcoKids Club:

- Over the summer the EcoKids delivered Kale, peas, tomatoes and garlic to the edible garden project.
- Recently delivered 50lbs of potatoes as well.
- 2 class presentations have been given to the Grade 1's to give information about what they do.
- This year Karina is running a Fall session (6 wks) and a Spring session (6 wks) on Wednesdays.
- She is looking to Grade 3's to take a leadership role with the younger grades in helping with planting.
- The club would like to do both a fall clean up and a spring clean up this year.

PRINCIPAL/VP REPORT:

1. School Start Up

- Very busy start up with 48 new Kindergarten children and 14 divisions
- Students are settling into the classrooms, routines and expectations
- Front Entrance is coming together: new grass, plants, and benches. Bike racks and a planter by the main doors to come.
- Excellent turn out for the Meet the Teacher and Welcome Back BBQ, thank you for providing dinner for staff.

2. School Plan Goals

- To improve the reading and writing proficiency of students identified as being at risk of low achievement.
- To improve the social-emotional well-being of students who are experiencing difficulties with self-regulation or anxiety.

3. Student Progress – Intakes and Interviews

- parents are encouraged to keep the lines of communication open with their child's teacher(s)
- if you would like to email staff their email addresses are on our school web-site under Staff Info. First initial last name@sd44.ca
- Early dismissals for interviews Tuesday October 20 and Thursday October 22, 2015, sign up will begin on Tuesday October 13, 2015

4. Extra-curricular
 - Mountain Bike Club – Mrs. Bates, Ms. Primas and Ms. Delleney as well as parent volunteers
 - Cross County – Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Armstrong, Ms. Primas, Mrs. Madill
 - Basketball Gr. 7 – Mr. Davis and Ms. O'Brien
5. Calendar
 - We have 2 calendars out right now. One is the standard school calendar which is sent out in June of the previous year. We also have a “live” calendar that is updated regularly on the web-site. We will send home a detailed calendar for events in the October newsletter.
6. Emergency Drills and security
 - We will be having 6 fire drills, 2 Lockdown Drills, and 2 Earthquake drills
 - If you are in the building during school hours, please sign in at the office and receive a visitor's tag.
7. Photos– Monday October 5, Retakes Thursday November 5, 2015
8. Web-site – Please remember to check our web-site as we update it regularly.
9. Staff Collaboration Days
 - The district is continuing to have staff collaboration time across the district. Today, our first one, gave staff an opportunity to work with one another on supporting staff needs in the classroom.
 - In October we will be having our Speech and Language Pathologist, Stephanie Chamut, work on the Incredible Flexible You and Be a Social Thinking Detective. Thank you to the BPAC for purchasing 2 kits of the Incredible Flexible You
10. Terry Fox Run –This year's Terry Fox run was a very successful event run by Mrs. Bates and Ms. Primas and their Grade 7s. As a school we raised \$675.70. Thank you Blueridge .
11. Assistant Superintendent – Pius Ryan is our FOS Assistant Superintendent. He has come for a tour and visit of the school and anticipates stopping by throughout the year. Joanne Robertson is our FOS Director of Instruction and Barry Forward is our school Trustee. All have been invited to come to our school at any time.
12. Food Drive – We will be having a food drive from October 5-9th.
13. QueBola Magic – Thank you to the BPAC for sponsoring our first performance last Friday. Well received by students and staff.
14. Curriculum Implementation Day – We spent the morning at Windsor School on Aboriginal Education and the indigenizing of the curriculum. We had a wonderful presentation by Brad Baker and Jessica W. from the NVSD Aboriginal Education Department about the First Nations people in North Vancouver and a bit of their history. Staff then returned to the school to review the new curriculum for 2016-2017 which will be in full implementation next year. This included the First People's Principles of Learning.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Parent Jennifer Dickson has volunteered to be an Executive Member-at-large. She wasn't available at the May general meeting during elections so needs to be voted in.
- General meeting vote was called to elect Jennifer to the BPAC Exec. Carried. Welcome Jennifer.

- Volunteers are needed for Call-back. Brooke Tupper the Call-back co-ordinator is looking for new people to help out. Ralph will send out a call via email network.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:00 (motion by Jennifer, Kris seconded)

NEXT BPAC GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 28th AT 7:30PM