

PAC MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2015

Attendance: Leilani, Jocelyn, Christine O, Leni, Erika, Valerie, Ali, Becky, Corrinna, Diane, DeDe.

Meeting was called to order at ~6:30 pm.

Leilani invited Marcia to speak to the PAC regarding a possible Earth Day Waste Management Audit. Marcia said that she had her start at the Regional District in Waste Management and saw that there was an opportunity to reduce solid waste. She explained the waste reduction process as starting with an audit, which she says is often an educational experience for the company being audited. The school garbage would be sorted to determine what can be recycled, composted, etc. There would be recommendations regarding how we could reduce our garbage, we would then make some changes and after some time has passed, say a year, we would re-check to see if progress was made.

Leilani stated that Gaming money could be used for this as part of the student Enviro Club headed up by Mrs. McCauley. There would also be an assembly for kids regarding the audit and kids would be involved in various ways throughout the process.

The cost for Phase I would be \$1187 - see attached quote

Leilani felt that DT could create some publicity surrounding the audit as this would be the 1st one in the District.

A parent asked the question if the recommendations would be included in the first Phase. The answer was yes. Marcia would also be volunteering some of her time for the audit and the quote we received is at a considerable discount from her normal rate.

MOTION by Jocelyn that PAC use Gaming funds to fund Phase 1 of the proposed audit including recommendations, 2nd by Erika.

DISCUSSION:

Marcia left the meeting at this time.

A parent asked if this was a school wide event; the answer was yes. It was asked if it was just a one day sort; the answer was yes. It was confirmed that the students would be involved in the process as well. A parent asked if after the sort would the garbage be removed; the answer was yes. A parent suggested that it would be important to have parental involvement in the process, such as inviting them to the assembly where the recommendations are revealed so that they are more intimately involved in the process rather than just having their kids come home and telling their parents what they should or should not do anymore. DeDe said that after our approval of the audit, she would bring it to the staff to get staff buy in. She didn't want to

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bring it to the staff first in case PAC did not approve the costs. There was a question regarding if we would need to continue through the other phases of the process or if we could do it ourselves. It was thought we could revisit it at that time.

The above Motion by Jocelyn was CARRIED.

MOTION by Christine that the minutes from the December 10th, 2014 PAC meeting be accepted as presented, 2nd by Diane. CARRIED.

Leilani asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Ali asked that crazy carpets be added to New Business and Leilani added an update for the KM fundraiser.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Academic Report - This was the first week for FSAs for the Grade 4 and Grade 7 classes.

Athletics Report - Basketball season has started. DT has 4 teams, Tier 1 Boys and Girls and Tier 2 Boys and Girls. The teams are doing well during the first games of the season, Tier 1 Boys and Girls teams won their first games and the Tier 2 teams had a good showing and enjoyed playing. DeDe reported that the sliding hill has been really busy and is getting really fast. Not sure how much longer it will be open for sliding.

School Activities - The Leadership group is planning a Valentine's Dance during the lunch hour for the Grade 6 and 7s including candy grams. They would also plan another dance for Grades 4 and 5s at a different time. Some big plans being made, thinking about having a bake sale but not sure if this will happen yet. Also for future dates thinking of holding a Grade 6 and 7 dance, but inviting the Grade 6s and 7s from Arthur Stevenson and Westmount to help with student gelling once they all get to Westsyde Secondary. The Leadership Group was also thinking of planning a Teddy Bear picnic for the Grade 1, 2 and 3s sometime after the Valentine's dances.

The Grade 8 Leadership group from Westsyde Secondary is planning for a game day with the kindergarten students here at DT.

Joe Hicketts was at the school and took pictures with the classes. DeDe stated that he was an amazing public speaker and spoke well on work ethic and being a team player.

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DeDe also reported that the staff approved a play first lunch at the last staff meeting. She said the staff was not 100% sold on the idea, but the majority of teachers were in favour of the change. The school will make the switch to play first after Spring Break. DeDe indicated that some Pros to making the switch would be that when behavior problems come up from playing outside, they can be dealt with during the eating portion of lunch time rather than taking up class time as it happens now. DeDe said that the staff will evaluate by June to determine if the school will continue with play first lunches in the next school year. DeDe indicated that David Thompson did try play first lunches a few years ago but reverted back to the traditional lunch hour. A parent wondered how it would work with kids having to sit and eat prior to going back to class rather than running and playing prior to going back to class as it is now. She thought that kids might be more squirmy in class having had to sit and eat before getting back to class. Another parent asked about a primary and intermediate split lunch, where the primaries would go outside while the intermediates played and vice versa. DeDe said she hadn't thought of that before but that her first thought was that it may require more supervision as the kids would need inside supervision and outside supervision at the same time. DeDe said she was open to the suggestion and would think it over.

Library - As Lorin is away at a conference this week, DeDe reported that Battle of the Books preparation is under way in the library.

Field Trips - DeDe reported that 3 classes have been snowshoeing recently. Curling is being taught by Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Brennan and a few classes will be going curling in the near future. The Sun Peaks ski trips are beginning next week Tuesday and Wednesday.

Housekeeping - DeDe reported and demonstrated that the 2 under the desk spin bikes PAC purchased were being utilized in the classrooms and that Mr. Martin was happy with the results. The bikes are very quiet, almost noiseless, however, the one issue that they are having is that the kids' knees are hitting the desks as they cycle. They are working to problem solve this issue.

Behaviour Support Team - DeDe reported that the group was supposed to have met on one of the snow days earlier in the year and as February is approaching it was decided that they would just focus on the behavior matrix this year and that the den group idea they were working on was going to be tabled until the next school year. DeDe also reported that they are gathering lots of good data regarding behavior issues and noted that at her last school the behavior data that was collected showed that a play first lunch would be beneficial in limiting some behavior problems.

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Misc - DeDe also reported that 3 staff members were attending the Hi-tech High conference in San Diego. Mr. Toews, Mrs. Brennan and Mrs. Stumpf were attending and sending back pictures and feedback from their experiences there.

Mr. Martin and Mrs. Carr are getting involved in Aboriginal Math.

DeDe reported that there had been a Westsyde Family Meeting (meeting between all the schools in Westsyde) and that they had agreed on a common goal for each school's School Improvement Plan. The goal is "Collaboration" and will possibly be an additional goal to our current goals. The idea is that collaborating with each other will help in the transition from Grade 7 to Grade 8.

DeDe also reported that the staff had a fitbit challenge going on!

Teacher Liaison:

Ali reported that Faun was asked about presenting a request for funds this meeting as Faun had asked previously to be added to the agenda, but she said that she will wait until next year to ask. Faun also let Ali know that she had a receipt for reimbursement for a PAC approved purchase of white boards and a class set of markers.

Ali also reported that at the staff meeting there was a request for funds at a school wide level. The request was to change the current \$200 per class bus budget to a \$200 per class bus/entry fee budget with the additional request to bump up the allotment to a higher amount. (See attached)

This opened up discussion regarding how much money we have left in Gaming. Although Leni reported that we have \$18,400 in the bank currently this does not account for money that has already been committed to such as the buses for skating and the salmon run, etc. Quick calculations indicate that PAC has approx. \$7500 in non-committed funds. There was a question about what our long term plans were for the Gaming money such as increasing playground equipment in the front playground area. There was also discussion as to how much to bump up the allocation too and if we do bump it up this year will we create a precedent that we will then have to commit to each year. If we doubled the request to \$400 per classroom, that would commit \$6400 per year of our Gaming money. Since we get ~\$7500 per year, that would account for a substantial portion of the Gaming funds.

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MOTION by Ali that PAC change the bus allotment to a bus and entry fee allotment and to increase the allotted amount to \$300 per classroom for the 2014-2015 school year to be revisited in 2015-2016. 2nd by Christine. **CARRIED.**

Ali also presented information regarding the bronze medal presentation from the Olympic Committee for Dillon Armstrong. The presentation will be at the TCC on February 15th from 12:45 pm to 4 pm...open to public space permitting. There is also an evening celebration with tickets for the dinner being \$35. Dinner is at 7pm, cocktails at 6pm.

DPAC REPORT:

Valerie presented information regarding Learn Now BC which is an online school operated through the Ministry of Education. PACs are able to set up an account with FREE collaborate service. This includes 20 minute sessions of tutoring for students. This service is geared more towards secondary students with the primary focus being graduation, but elementary students are still welcome on the site. There is also an option to have PAC meetings online which would allow for more access from parents who are unable to attend a PAC meeting in person.

TREASURER'S REPORT (see attached):

As reported earlier, PAC has \$18,453 sitting in the Gaming account, however, quite a bit of that money is already committed funds. The General account is sitting around \$15,000, with almost all fundraisers having been paid. There was a question as to why Purdys fundraiser seemed to only break even, but Christine reported that we received a cheque from Purdys in the mail for ~\$2155 that was sent to Gail directly instead of the school and that will be deposited in our account. Leni reported that with all of our fundraising, not including this next round of hot lunches, PAC will dip slightly into our cash reserves to cover our expenditures for this year. Most fundraisers, with the exception of the soup/spaghetti/chili days which broke even, raised the expected amount of money, see attached report.

COMMITTEES:

Fundraiser updates - Ordering for the next set of hot lunches is going on now. A parent commented that perhaps Marcia should not do the Waste Audit on a hot lunch day because of the increased garbage.

Spring Fundraisers - Christine reported that Body Crave (naturals soaps and beauty supplies) was not ready with a brochure/order form this year but had offered an online only fundraiser. Christine felt that we should have something for people to see in order to have a successful

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fundraiser and felt we should postpone the Body Crave fundraiser until a brochure becomes available.

Christine also suggested that a parent had requested a flower/plant fundraiser. A few ideas regarding Jameson Creek Greenhouses, a greenhouse in Knutsford or DeVries may be viable options. Leilani said she would look into DeVries and Jocelyn said she would check into Jameson Creek.

Jocelyn also suggested selling reusable snack bags as a fundraiser that could also tie into the Waste Audit, to promote litterless lunches and if we placed a DT logo on the bags, school pride. Jocelyn also suggested sending out an email asking for fundraising ideas or people to sit on a fundraising committee. Jocelyn also reported finding a gift card fundraiser company and said she would give that information to Leilani to look into it further.

OLD BUSINESS:

Request for Funds - New High jump mat - The mat is here and the track and field club rented a truck and delivered it for us at no extra charge! The teachers are happy with the size and quality of the mat.

New Playground Equipment - No report

Yoga Mats - Leilani said that we have a total of 10 yoga mats that were donated to the school, and that they were in her vehicle. She requested that PAC purchase several more yoga mats as she found some low cost yoga mats from Halfmoon yoga, which cost \$18.62 each. A parent asked about the possibility of purchasing cheaper yoga mats from Walmart, however, Leilani said she didn't want to support Walmart and preferred to support BC businesses.

MOTION by Corrinna that PAC spend up to \$300 to purchase yoga mats for DPA at the school, 2nd by Jocelyn. CARRIED.

PAC ski trip sponsoring - Ali reported that there were a number of students not going on the ski trip because of financial reasons and that these families were offered funding, however, the families refused the offer. There was another question regarding why the ski trip is to Sun Peaks and not Harper. Christine reported that this question was brought up at a previous PAC meeting and that the answer was that the teachers volunteered their time to organize the ski trips and as they organized it, the destination was at their discretion.

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School Dances - Leilani reported that the tentative school dance scheduled for March 7th was cancelled as they felt they could not organize it at this time. She did say that instead of a dance, Jocelyn and Leilani were thinking of possibly putting on a Movie Night in April sometime.

Shelves in PAC room - Christine was unable to get measurements yet. No report.

Karate instruction via Gaming money - Erika reported that Naomi helped out at the first Karate lesson and collected the money from the parents. She thanked Naomi for her help. She reported that there are 16 students participating in the class and they have already held 2 classes out of 4. Erika indicated that several primary students were currently on a wait list showing interest for a primary karate class. Erika said she would approach Glen about a possible primary day and that it would depend on his availability. Mrs. Thompson also asked about bringing Glen in for some phys. Ed classes. Erika said that the kids seemed to enjoy the class so far and said that Glen was good with the kids being firm but not overbearing. Discussion then turned to payment for Glen's services. Erika reported that \$15 per child was collected from the parents for a total of \$240. She said the class was approx. 1 hr of instructional time with an official time of 1 hour and 15 minutes. It was suggested that a primary class be a little shorter, for example 45 minutes of instruction time with an official time of 1 hour. The question was raised regarding what to pay Glen, do we just give him the collected \$240 or does the PAC also contribute Gaming money to him as that was the idea behind setting up the classes. A question was raised as to what was said on the signup sheet as to PAC's financial involvement, and Erika reported that it said Co-sponsored by the DT PAC. Because the PAC arranged for use of the gymnasium and coordinated the event, the statement of co-sponsoring would still be valid if PAC did not contribute additional dollars to pay Glen. It was generally agreed to that PAC would not put in a financial contribution to the karate instructor but that the instructor would keep the \$240 collected from parents.

Fruit Program - No update on the fruit trays, DeDe will look into it.

NEW BUSINESS:

KM Fundraiser - Leilani reported that DT raised \$4020 for KM. There was an anonymous donation of \$1000 at the bake sale before the Christmas concert!

TRU Family Night of Science - Christine reported that DeDe had forwarded information to her regarding the Family Night of Science and presented the information and posted it on the Community bulletin board.

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Crazy Carpets - Ali reported that DT could use some more crazy carpets for the students to use on the sliding hill as there are not enough to go around currently and some of the crazy carpets we have are not in the best shape. Since it is getting to be the end of the season she thought we may be able to get some at a reduced price. A parent asked whether or not helmets were required for the children when sliding down the hill at school. DeDe responded that no it was not a requirement and had not been an issue at DT before in the past.

MOTION by Jocelyn that PAC spend up to \$200 to purchase more crazy carpets for the school, 2nd by Christine. **CARRIED.**

Next meeting Wednesday February 18, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

(Minutes recorded by: Christine Ony)