

Trafalgar Elementary School PAC Meeting
Monday, Jan 13th, 2013
Minutes

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Attendance: Cheryl Gravkin, Sarah Kramer, Dorothy Goodison, Diana Bauer, Aimee Pollard, Jill Brumwell, Janice Johnson, Gord Lau, Karen Sadler, Nicole Mordant, Sheila Au, Lorie Srivasta.
- 3) Approval of Agenda: Approved by Nicole M, seconded by Karen S
- 4) Approval of general meeting minutes from Nov18th 2013: Approved by Nicole M, seconded by Gord L.

3) Reports:

a) School report: Vice Principal

- Four basketball teams this year, very exciting!
- French Immersion info night this Weds Jan 15 for kindergarten and grade 1 French. K registration has started online already.
- Grade 4 and 7 FSA assessments will occur this month. Parents should have received information already. Parents should contact classroom teachers if they have not received any information.
- Inuit Authors – Jan 14
- Green thumb theatre- Jan 21
- Talent show tryouts ongoing
- Chinese new year celebration – Feb 7
- New Staff Member – Caroline Letourneau (Mme. Vessali's class - grade 4/5 French), Emily Gow (Mme. Aimee's sub for her mat leave, grade 1 French)

b) PAC chair report :

Our community was deeply saddened to hear of Ms. Sandra Simmonds' untimely passing. Sandra was a previous VP at the school and leaves behind her husband and young baby boy. The PAC discussed a donation to her son Jayden's education fund. Motion to approve a \$500 donation to the VSB towards Ms. Simmond's family was made by Cheryl G, seconded by Karen S. All in favour. Motion passed.

New Actions

1) Request from Elly Werb for funds \$600 to cover a visit from author Naomi Steinberg. Ms. Steinberg comes highly recommended and is fluently bilingual. Potential visit in the spring. She has been involved in a number of community

programs, notably one in which the ancient salmon creeks of Vancouver are being rediscovered. She would prefer to come soon after Spring break and would interact with both French Immersion and English students. She charges \$600 for a day-long visit and has sent us an attachment about possible activities with the students. Mme. Elly feels that it'd be a worthwhile visit, especially for the earlier grades as Michael Kusugak's visit mid-January will focus more on the intermediates. This would be for FI and English primary grades for a day long visit. Motion to provide \$600 for this visit made by Cheryl G, seconded by Janice J. All in favour. Motion passed.

2) Request from Dorothy Goodison for the purchase of 15 cameras (to move from class to class, similar to the ipads) for our students to use for their photography and learning projects, a case to store them, a few tripods, batteries and sd cards, etc. ~\$2000 budget after all the research was done. A printer is available for \$129 (paper: 108 sheets plus ink cartridge for 50\$). This idea was discussed in detail at the meeting and was met with a positive response, but there were questions regarding the types of products, longevity, battery life, insurance, cost of supplies, etc. Photomural and photoclub were discussed as two possibilities where the cameras could be used. The issue of ongoing costs etc. was discussed in detail. Motion to approve a fund of up to \$2000 from the arts budget for the above supplies (holding off on the printers) was put forward by Cheryl. Seconded by Gord L. All in favour. Motion passed.

3) School photographers: There were some complaints about the school photos this year regarding the poses, choices and camera-readiness of the kids. Cheryl recommended we stay with the current provider after doing some research and meeting with Mountain West. A contract with Mountain West has already been signed and they do the panorama of the school which other providers don't necessarily do. Mountain West photographers are friendly and accommodating. They are willing to provide a third pose for no extra charge. It was recommended that more time be taken to prepare the kids for the photograph as this was the main issue. This request will be passed on to the photographers by Cheryl.

4) Hot lunch report- Gord Lau: Fall session coming to an end. Highly successful. New vendors were tried for variety. Experiences varied with the three new vendors. Deliveries straight to the classroom were favoured by teachers, but it can be disruptive to the class as the kids are very excited and distracted. Program was successful in terms of revenue. A new vendor will also be tried in the second half of the year. Things will be reviewed over the summer. Gluten-free options will be available. Staff will also be able to order food. If your child has food allergies, parents can contact Lorie S so the vendors can cross-reference the allergens with the food: lorie_srivastava@shaw.ca. Parent

volunteers are a huge asset. Huge thank you to Lorie S for all the research she has done (speaking to vendors, taste tests, feedback acquisition from students, organization).

Next ordering session will be next week (mid-Jan) and **the next two hot lunch days are Jan 17 and then Feb 7**. Emails in multiple languages will be sent out to remind parents to order online. No cash sales will occur. Orders can be managed online up to 1 week before hot lunch.

- 5) Treasurer's Report-Lorie Srivastava: Lorie has taken over from Steph Campbell. Thank you to Steph for all of her hard work. Cash balance \$96,000 at the moment. Playground allocation \$40,000. Thus approx. \$56,000 left for spending. Approximately \$45,000 in items for purchasing have been decided upon so far at PAC meetings. Motion was brought forth to approve budget by Cheryl G. Seconded by Karen S.
- 6) Scholastic book fair volunteers and coordinator needed. It's a fun job, being around these wonderful books, and a team is required to pull it off! Please volunteer soon, we need to know by February!! Please consider getting a group of friends together to volunteer each for a few hours. A main organizer/overseer is required.
- 7) **Feb 5th Trafalgar sponsored event "Raising children in a digital age" 7-9pm at Kits High.** See posters around school.
- 8) Next PAC meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 in the library.

Meeting adjourned: 8:40 pm