



**McGowan Park PAC  
Minutes October 1, 2015  
McGowan Park Elementary Library**

**Call to Order @ 6:40**

**In Attendance:** Nadine Hamilton, Gitte Nessman, Joanne Vorpahl, Joanne Etherington, Nichole Rae, Lisa Kronebusch, Sam Meredith, Lorri Murray

**Adoption of Previous Minutes:** Joanne Etherington motioned, Joanne Vorpahl seconded

**Correspondence of note:** Possible new fundraising options were discussed.

**Chairperson Report:** nothing to report at this time.

**Treasurer's Report: Nichole Rae**

The General account has a current balance of \$4,027.31 as of November 6, with outstanding commitments of \$4,285.00 approved by the PAC. Some of the committed expenditures not expected until spring, which will allow us sufficient time to fundraise and make up the small deficit. As the PAC is not in a position to commit to further funding from the General account at this time, a decision around funding for 2 programs not eligible for Gaming funds was deferred.

The annual gaming grant from BC Lotteries has now been received, bringing the Gaming account balance to \$7,360.79 as of November 6. Discussion occurred surrounding what activities can be covered by funds from the Gaming account (must be used to enhance student extracurricular opportunities). Future fundraisers were reviewed – hot lunches, possible family entertainment and movie nights, winter carnival, pie and plant sales.

To date this year, the PAC has funded the following programs, activities & equipment:

- Smartboards for two classrooms
- Floor Curling equipment for the school gym
- Come Read With Me packages for parents of kindergarten students
- A Welcome Back Barbecue in September
- Family Math Nights held in October
- Speed Control performance in November
- Hot lunches (PAC fundraisers) from Quizno's and Taco Del Mar

## **DPAC Report: Lisa Kronebusch**

Lisa attended the October DPAC meeting. Discussed at that meeting were:

- Is PAC receiving emails from DPAC?
- Possible fundraising for Stuart Wood Elementary by other district schools.
- Boogie the Bridge – Mini Boogie info will be coming to PAC chairs soon
- International Day of Code – 1 hour of time spent on computers by each class
- Askable Adult District Presentation – January or February for all parents at \$10 each.
- Internet Safety – Jesse Miller to present to parents on technology kids are using
- District report presented by Rob Schoen:
  - Info coming about why so many split grade classes
  - New BC Education Plan training for teachers = 2 more Pro D days (Jan/Feb)

Lisa intends to attend the November DPAC meeting and will report back with the juicy bits!

## **Principal's Report to PAC**

November 10, 2015

Hard to believe it is November!! In October we sailed through parent/teacher interviews, Come Read with Me, three extremely popular Family Math Nights, Halloween classroom activities, You Can Count on Me, and then hosted our fantastic Rock and Roll show last week! Wow! Some fantastic parent turn out at all of these events!

School communication at McGowan Park is now through both our school website and our facebook page. Mrs. Scollon and I are keeping those up to date as best we can! There will only be a newsletter sent home at the beginning and end of the year along with other little slips of information throughout the year as needed, along with synrevoice (phone) messages. All other information will be on our website and FB page. Parents are welcome to call the school at any time to clarify any information. All teachers continue to work hard to keep parents up to date through use of student agendas, blogs, and classroom newsletters. The TV in the front foyer also scrolls through upcoming dates of events.

**Thank you** for the funds committed at October's PAC meeting. Mr. S and I would like to request that some of the funds earmarked for the library from last year (\$2520) be used to purchase some library based chromebooks we recently found at an amazing deal, along with the upcoming library update purchases of shelving and seating.

### Important upcoming activities in November and December:

- School Spirit Club begins [school leadership program open to all students in grades 5-7]
- TRU Wolfpack partnerships around the school
- November 27 – Assembly by the Resource room students
- Innovative Teaching Partnerships begin with Sa-hali Secondary teachers & McGowan teachers

- Primary Christmas Concert – December 9
- New MyEdBC report cards go home – December 18

Funding Considerations:

Two lunchtime January activities that will be coordinated by teachers:

- \$500 Stacking Cups – Mrs. Hindle
- \$500 Lego Robotics Kit – Mrs. Underwood

C. Wickes, Principal

**Ongoing Business:**

- Hot Lunch Online Ordering – good feedback so far – parents asking for ability to pay for lunches electronically. Due to possibility of fraud and service charges associated with Pay Pal use this will not be an option. Cheques preferred, cash still accepted.
- New volunteers have come on board to run the winter carnival, host a movie night in the gym and assist with hot lunch distribution. More would be great!
- Communication – discussion surrounding establishing a PAC blog. Need to establish how to do it and who will update it.
- Funding Requests were reviewed. Nichole motioned to approve PAC funding requests for Art Club, Battle of the Books and Parloff Ribbons (all covered by Gaming funds). Joanne V seconded and the motion was unanimously carried. A re-evaluation of PAC funding of annual activities and amounts allotted for primary versus intermediate students will occur before further funding requests are considered.
- PAC voted to approve the requested use of committed library funding for ChromeBooks.

**New Business**

- Winter Carnival Committee - Bobby Gill, Theresa Sczebel and Andrea Kinnee have stepped in to coordinate Winter Carnival – yay! Nadine to meet with them and get them going.
- Movie Nights – Sam Meredith has volunteered to run a movie night in the gym. Thank you Sam!
- PAC Lunches vs. Ms. O's lunches – PAC lunches go to general PAC account to support activities in the school. Ms. O's lunches go toward supporting sports teams and activities(referees, equipment etc.)
- Family Entertainment Night – Lots of good feedback on Speed Control concert evening. There is interest to have another family music night. Joanne E to gather information on possible band to perform Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday December 1st, 2015 at 6:30 in the library