**Brooksbank Elementary School PAC Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2015**

Commence: 7:03 PM

Attendees: 22

Regrets: Spencer Kelly, Vice Principal

**Chair Welcome and Update:** Catherine Stride

Valentine’s Day cards were sold again this year by Grade 6 parent, Elizabeth Cheng, for $2.00 per box, with proceeds split evenly between the Do Good Committee and The Kiwanis Lynn Valley Care Home. A total of $80.00 was raised.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Lisa Yahav

A big welcome to our new treasurer, Lisa!

In the Regular Account, we have $27, 890 and in the Gaming Account, we have $4, 830, plus our $10,000 Term Deposit. So far this year, our Gaming funds have paid for Saleema Noon’s presentation. Gaming funds must be allocated for school-wide activities.

**Principal’s Report:** Arlene Martin

The Ski Program (Grades 4-7) has been postponed yet another week due to a lack of snow on Seymour Mountain. At this point, February 17th is the estimated start date for lessons, but further details will be released once snow conditions are known. Volunteers will also be rescheduled. Hot lunch orders for the later sessions may also be given at this time. In the event that the program is cancelled, Seymour will be issuing a full refund to participants.

Kindergarten registration has been ongoing and Brooksbank numbers should be known by Spring Break.

Currently, Brooksbank has 388 students registered this year, with 6 new students added within the past few weeks.

**DPAC Report:** Alison Anderson

A full account of this month’s DPAC report will be given during the March PAC meeting.

**Guest Speaker – Saleema Noon Feedback:** Pat Link

It has been 4 years since Saleema’s last visit to Brooksbank. With such an overwhelmingly positive feedback from both parents and students about the presentation, the Brooksbank PAC would like to attempt to host the program every 2 years. Saleema spent one full evening giving a presentation to parents in the gymnasium offering an overview of what the program offers students, the subject matter for each grade level and also offered parents an opportunity to ask questions. She then led students, in individual grade groups over two days in discussions about human sexuality, body health and hygiene.

Marc Landry, an occupational therapist, is next in our series of speakers. He has proposed 3 consecutive 2-hour sessions, once per week, at a cost of $750. The focus of his lecture is sensory processing, brain development, particularly in boys vs. girls, stress management and self-regulation, a sensory diet and ideas on working at home and in the classroom.

These sessions could be offered to the family of schools in our neighbourhood. We could open admission up to other school parents, their staff and district staff. Mr. Landry would prefer that parents make the commitment to attend each of the three sessions to get the maximum information and impact.

Suggestions have been made to have tickets be sold for $5 per person, either at the door, via EventBrite or MunchALunch (Brooksbank families only).

**Scholastic Book Fair:** Catherine Stride

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the library from February 16th-19th, 2015. Volunteers will be required to fill a variety of shifts, both lunchtime and after school, as well as Wednesday, Feb. 18th at 8:30-8:45 am. There will also be a volunteer raffle and children’s draw on each day. Chandra Junck and Jody Stover have volunteered to run this year’s fair and you can be in touch with them if you’d like to help out, or you can find the sign-up sheets in the hallway this coming week. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Brooksbank library.

**Upcoming Fundraisers:** Catherine Stride

Purdy’s Easter Chocolate sale flyers will be in classroom mailboxes in the coming week. The deadline for orders is March 5th, and delivery will be March 26th, just in time for the Easter Holiday.

The annual Spring Plant Sale is coming up at the end of March. Flyers will be distributed with information on ordering hanging baskets, planters, herbs, veggies and flowers. The deadline for ordering is April 17th via PayPal and the delivery will take place at the school on May 2nd, time to be determined. Anyone with questions can contact Michelle Mullie.

The Brooksbank Parents Night Out event is scheduled for Friday, May 22, 2015. This is an off-site event; the venue has yet to be chosen. It will likely be a dinner & drink ticket event. Further details to come.

**Round Table**

Nicole Cooke raised a question regarding leftover/used books that the library no longer needs or wants. They are usually offered to staff members for their own classroom use, or are offered to local charity.

Megan/Catherine- The formation of a Brooksbank “Welcome Committee” is underway to welcome new families to the school and help to familiarize them with schedules, events and social opportunities.

Adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Next PAC Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 4th, 2015.