

Brooksbank Elementary School PAC Meeting Minutes – March 5th, 2014

Commence: 5:34 PM

Attendees: 15

Chair Update: Catherine Stride

Welcome, Scholastic Book Fair Update. A total of \$1207.87 has been raised for the school library. A big thank you to the many volunteers who gave their time to help make it such a success. The location of the checkout was made the flow much easier, it was less crowded. The winning “golden tickets” were also very popular.

Treasurer Update: Lisa Stirling

We have a total of \$21,584.00 in the regular account and \$3,339.00 in the Gaming account. The proceeds from the Spring Plant Sale and the Parents Event will be the next big deposits.

Principal's Report

Ski & Board Program

- 73 participants
- excellent experience
- positive response from students, staff and parents
- plan to run again next year, similar format

School Planning

- Review and revision well underway
- Thank you to SPC (Jacquie Engel, Pat Link and Rose Vlaar, and to Tracey White for bringing forward additional recommendations) and staff for their input
- Will maintain current 2 goals, with revisions to strategies, and have identified a third goal area – assessment
- Feedback is welcome and can be forwarded to any member of the SPC.

Code of Conduct

- Team of staff members attended a 2 day workshop on Positive Behaviour Support
- Encouraged a review of our code of conduct
- Review and revision
- “Compassion in thought, speech and action”
- Not a distancing from current code of conduct, but rather a reframing with more positive and warm language that captures the efforts we make to increase the sense of belonging within our classrooms, school and community



- Still addresses an expectation of respect, responsibility and safety, but the language change carries an expectation of the consideration of others
- For the past 3 years, we have been approaching situations of conflict / behavior from a perspective of encouraging students to consider how their actions have impacted an others' sense of belonging
- Explicit teaching will center around understanding 'compassion'

Apple Trees: Evergreen has donated a total of 6 young apple trees to be planted along the walkway at the front entrance of the school.

A reminder that parent use of the Staff Parking Lot is strictly prohibited. It is a safety issue as well as a courtesy issue towards staff members needing to park in the morning.

Guest Speaker: Cheryl Wahl of Sutherland Secondary School's PAC presented information on the annual Sutherland Gala. Invitations are offered to each of the feeder schools, and create a greater sense of community to have parents from local elementary schools attend. This year's event is called the "Starry Nights Gala" and tickets are selling for \$45.00/each until March 31st, when the price will be raised to \$50.00/ticket. Tickets include admission and appetizers provided by North Shore Culinary School and a live band. There will be a cash bar available. Each feeder school offers a raffle basket as well, which the Grade 7 classes organize. Feeder schools also receive a percentage of the ticket sales from the event. Tickets can be purchased online at www.sutherlandnetwork.org

Vice Principal's Report

Triple Ball has come to an end. The focus of this particular form of play was more on skill development.

Track and Field for Grades 4-7 will be starting soon. Details to come.

PAC Parents Night- Catherine Stride

The format for the Parents Night will be a silent/live auction, dinner provided by Vera's Burgers, a cash bar, games and a Disco dance. The PAC is currently awaiting final word from the NVSD for the all-clear.

Spring Plant Sale- Lisa Stirling

Order forms will go out on Monday, March 10th and are due back by April 24th. Delivery is set for Saturday, May 3rd, just in time for Mother's Day. Orders will be available online and information on ordering will be available through class reps. Plants are provided by DeVry Nurseries, who stock Main Street USA at Disneyland. On the offer are a variety of hanging baskets, including strawberries, planters and herbs.



Purdy's Chocolates- Sara Symonds

Orders forms will be distributed after the March Break. Ordering will be available online.

Questions can be directed to Sara Symonds.

Earth Day: Nicole Cooke

April 22, 2014. A rough plan is to include Grades 2-6 and will require 8-12 parent volunteers. If more than 20 volunteers are able to help, the activities can be offered to the Grade 1's as well. The Grade 7's are choosing to opt out of this program, to focus on curriculum work.

Ideas for stations include an Energy Scavenger Hunt, chalk drawings, murals, and games. There will be 3 sessions throughout the day. A suggestion has been to have a "Dining in the Dark" theme for the lunch period, with class and hall lights turned off. Volunteers will be requested through individual class reps and each division will require a minimum of 3 parents and one teacher.

Round Table:

Erin H: Raised some concern over the fallen trees in the lower ravine behind the school, some of which have partially covered the walking path. Mrs. Martin has offered to have the District look into the matter.

Robin, a new Brooksbank parent (welcome Robin): Had some concerns regarding the Health Board's lice statistics.

He also inquired about the lunchtime routine, in particular, why children go out to play instead of eating first, and how this may affect both the children's eating time and time to adequately wash hands.

Mrs. Martin explained that after careful consideration, the NVSD decided that the children would benefit more by playing first, to get rid of excess energy as well as increase their appetites, so that when it is time to go inside, they are more likely to eat more of their lunches and are also more able to focus on the afternoon's schedule. As for hand washing, teachers in kindergarten classes ask children to wash hands before meals, however, the school staff depends on proper hand washing reminders to come from parents, as there simply isn't enough time to monitor so many children's hand washing habits.

Adjourn: 6:35 PM

Next PAC Meeting Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 7 PM