



P.A.C. Meeting 4 Minutes, April 25th 2016

1. Welcome from P.A.C. Co-Chairs - Victoria Stephens

- The meeting started at 19:07.
- Victoria Stephens welcomed everyone. Attendance: 14 parents, two administrators (Margaret, Nancy), renewal project manager Jay Hiscox, and district principal Chris Atkinson.
- The minutes from the February 29th meeting were adopted.
- There will be another PAC Meeting this year on Monday June 20th.

2. VSB Update – Chris Atkinson and Jay Hiscox

- Jay showed photos of the new school. The outside is nearly finished, and weather-tightness has been achieved. The interior gym mechanical systems are in place, ready for the basketball hoops. The library and level two commons are ready to fit out. Level three cubbies are being installed. Flooring is installed. The interior is finished in calming neutral tones. The next milestones are start of landscaping, interior electrical finishes and mechanical services, and interior millwork. The school move is planned for August.
- VSB is reviewing four proposals that were received for retention of the yellow school house, with a deadline of May 10th. This will not impede building occupancy or school start in September. However, the future state of the south east corner of the site is unknown. If the school house stays, that corner will need redesigning, including the parking, which was one reason for moving or removing the building. This redesign will take time. Even if the school house is demolished, works in that corner may not be finished by September. VSB is working with the City to avoid impeding building occupancy or school start. The City is being helpful.
- Q: Jane asked about the north west heritage corner. A: The City asked why VSB is creating the north west heritage corner and not saving the yellow school house. So the heritage corner is on hold until the school house decision is made. Stay tuned for the May 10th decision.
- Q: Beth asked if the school house is renovated, will that be to heritage standards? A: That is for the City to decide.
- Q: Margaret asked, what if the population of the school keeps rising? A: We don't know, the plan was built on the school house not staying. The new building is designed to include the Montessori school previously occupying the yellow school house.
- Discussion ensued.
- Q: Are the toilets automatic or manual flush? A: Handle flush, hand driers, urinals in boys washrooms.
- Beth and Frank reported on the playground. The four mature cedars have been installed. An underground irrigation system was installed, and needs to be hooked up to a water source for summer. Our second priority is the granite tables. The spinner was purchased while it was on sale, and is stored for installation in July. The Orbis climbing frame is next. Beth noted we don't have enough money yet for the Orbis. Jay and Chris replied it was okay to pay for the Orbis before the tables.

3. Principal's update – Margaret Davidson



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- **Long Range Facilities Plan** - Margaret mentioned the Ministry wants VSB to achieve fuller occupancy of schools.
 - **Strategic Plan** - Phase one was the survey. For phase two, Margaret is liaising with Vicky, Promita and Nancy to discuss four themes. All admins are meeting with PAC chairs, coming up with their two most important themes, and delving deeper into those. The booklet for the plan is online at VSB. The survey is online too.
 - **BC Education Plan** - Margaret is taking three parents to Magee Secondary.
 - **School Website** – VSB wants to have every school website structured similarly, and separate from PAC websites. Margaret and Heidi Leung are updating VSB's Gordon site, and hoping to go live at the end of May. It will have links to the PAC website. Duplicate material needs to be removed from the PAC site.
 - Q: Will the school site also have a link to the PIE website? A: Yes.
 - **School Calendar for 2016/17** - Margaret handed round a draft calendar, and explained what staff have been doing this year on Professional Development days, which included working with Shelley Moore. Next year, Margaret will be looking for a similar theme: making sure all kids are successful, and hopefully working with Shelley again.
 - **School Opening Celebration** - to be determined.
 - Q: How is the school name change process going? A: It has been postponed due to the Quebec visits. Another meeting is needed.
 - **Margaret is retiring at Christmas** - Please send in suggested requirements for her successor. Karen said they need to be community-minded, able to foster and build relationships. Margaret said the kids said: someone who listens, someone who is kind, safe and fair, and will let them go to Broadway lunch.
- 4. Playground Fundraising - Suzan, Birte, Julie and Sheila**
- **Bike-a-thon** - Suzan said the date is May 29th from 2pm till 5pm. Everything is on the website. Thanks to Jane for helping to reactivate it. The website is ready for sign up and sponsorship. So far, 17 students have signed up, and eight have been sponsored. Last year, 50 or 60 students took part. A signup notice has been printed to go home. We need volunteers. Rachel is running the snow cones again.
 - **Silent Auction** - good items have been donated - \$3000 worth.
 - **Raffle** - 2000 tickets to be sold at \$5 each. First prize is a shopping trip on West Broadway worth \$1000, including lunch, dinner, spa and shopping. Second prize to be announced. Third prize of \$50 Spud organic grocery delivery. More prizes to be announced.
 - Nancy said we should budget \$500 for gym rental from 2pm to 6pm, which includes the janitor's services, and noted we may not get the bill till September.
 - The deadline for ordering plants is May 13th.
 - 4 Cats art studio are coming. Everyone will have fun, even without biking.
 - There will be a prize for the class with the highest percentage participation.
 - Sheila reported that she and Promita attended a West Broadway Business Development Association meeting. White Spot offered help, and they met with realtors. We are receiving space in their newsletter, for which Paula has made an advert. We are hoping for a table at Greek day. Note we have a Facebook group for playground fundraising.
- 5. Playground update - Beth and Frank**
- Covered during VSB update above.



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6. Other PAC activities - Promita

- **Main Sports Day on Thursday May 19th** - Promita said freezies are to be distributed by PAC volunteers. We need to borrow freezer space. Jane noted that unfrozen freezies need a week to freeze properly. We need volunteers for freezies and face painting.
- **Annex sports day is separate, on May 25th.**
- **Teacher's Appreciation Lunch on Thursday June 9th** - Promita said volunteers and food are needed.
- **Kindergarten welcome on Wednesday June 1st** – An invitation to the Bike-a-thon will be given beforehand.
- PAC attended the VSB 2016/17 Budget Proposals meeting – Promita and Vicky attended. More parent involvement is needed.
- PAC attended the VSB Board Meeting to discuss the Yellow School House.

7. DPAC Update - Vicky per Erin

- Vicky noted that Erin Arnold, our DPAC Liaison, is attending the PAN (Parent Advocacy Network) today. Erin reported by e-mail that DPAC needs more parent activists. Erin has applied for the Evergreen grant on PAC's behalf.
- There will be a DPAC Update on June 20th.

8. Motions & Votes

- **Vote on Motion from Last Meeting** - To move up to \$40K to Playground Committee. Passed unanimously.
- **Vote on Motion from Last Meeting** - To pay \$4000 for classroom funds. Passed unanimously.
- **Motion for Next Meeting** - To fund up to \$13,800 for Safeway grocery card purchase to enable cash card fundraising giving 8% return for 2016/2017. Proposed by Jane. Seconded by Suzan. Vote next meeting.

9. Other Business

- School technology was discussed. Margaret mentioned we need more electronics carts for the new school, so that we have one per floor. The cost is about \$1500 for the cart, projector, Apple TV and speakers. Also we may need new laptops for teachers.
- Margaret reported there have been problems with the current smart boards, which are very expensive to fix. Frank agreed to go through the minutes to determine how much in total PAC contributed to smart boards. [Kevin also checked the accounts. The answer from both sources is \$15K across school years 2010/11, 2011/12, and 2012/13.]
- Margaret reported there will be an extra third kindergarten class next year, with a lottery for places for students from outside our catchment.
- Jane asked Margaret how much the Spirit of Math workbooks are used. Margaret to consider.

The meeting ended at 20:54.

Monday, April 25th, 2016
