

## PAC MEETING NOTES 28th Feb 2012

1. Romy discussed the teacher strike options:
  - a. 48hrs notice required to Strike - currently no bargaining at table. A vote on 29th will be to legalise a legal wild cat strike. (300 teachers will be laid off this year for third year running the education board is in deficit.)
  - b. NDP is fleshing out a bill: - providing a mediator for Teachers, taking class size limits off of grade 4 & 5 kids (would mean 30+ kids per class), the politicians passing the bills aren't aware of specific issues, terminology etc. Class averages have been removed K, 1, 2, 3 sizes no longer matter. Currently max of 3 special needs kids per class have also been removed. They are proposing financial benefits for teachers willing to take special needs (but no money is in budget to fund this). Teachers only allowed in class rooms, therefore no more Librarians, TLA's etc.

Unions feel the bill is interfering with the process and salary is rarely discussed. Ideas are being proposed that remove rights the teachers currently have. Unions feel that parental pressure and support is the only support they can get to prevent these changes occurring. They are very concerned about the future of education in BC and the impact on kids. The Unions fear the public is being misinformed, so threatening Strike to get things discussed in Legislature.

Suggested letter bombardment to MLA's and to newspapers to emphasize the issues not being discussed.

Parents discussed options to request a meeting with Kristy Clarke and invite the media to discuss the points not being raised to the public.

### **Suggested Actions**

- Paste points on the Gordon website, with a form letter for people to use. An email will be sent to all parents to inform them of the letter writing.
- Hand written letters would be best - table will be set up on Thursday to help people write letters at drop off and at end of school. Boxes will be placed to collect Apples from students to take to her office.
- Care2.com is a website which could be used for petitions.
- Set up a Facebook site Gordon4kids
- Contact Kits High school to tag along with any activities they may be doing - Raleys etc.

2. Next PAC meeting to be Japan inspired with Sushi being provided for parents and kids to try. Meeting to start at 6.30pm.
3. Suggestion to set up Gordon as an Online PAYee account with Vancity, which would allow parents to transfer money online. Anyone using a credit union would be able to use this facility.
4. Motion raised for PAC to pay for Party Works \$1000k +HST for bouncy castle etc for Spring Fling. PASSED

5. Motion raised for Photo cubes (up to 10 people) per picture. 4 Poses and photo arrives in 30secs cost \$4. Request \$400 for 2 cubes. PASSED
6. Direct Drive - raises \$6k, request support to do it next year.
7. Motion for French immersion request to blast grade 7 parents re: grocery cards and funds to flow to french immersion for 1 year, reloadables to come back to PAC funds. Seconded Gerado. The concern is that the email should go to English Grade 7 parents. Margaret will speak to the Grade 7 English parents. Voted PASSED
8. Motion raised for PAC to legitimise the Safety & Preparedness Committee as a sub committee of PAC. Natalie has created a Health & safety club with Grade 6 & 7 and tallying injuries as they occur and come up with recommendations for actions.
9. Survey done across school for preference for Sushi or Pizza, results were equal for either. To be launched after spring break (Tues, Weds & Thurs).