

Como Lake Middle School PAC

General Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2011

Attendees: Maria Parrotta, Karen Testani, Judy Maunsell, Lina DiPalma, Cinzia DeJesus, Jamie McCulloch, Angela Killins, Cheryl Robillard, Lara Barley, Amy Mah, Sheila Ferguson, Jacquie Hutchins, Audrey Woosnam, Tamara Dean, Bruce Carabine, Darren Stewart, Ken Christensen, Gen McMahon.

I. Meeting called to order by Jacquie Hutchins at 7:05pm

II. Approval and adoption of prior meeting minutes: Maria made a motion to approve minutes of May 18, 2011. Jamie 2nd. All were in favour and the motion was passed.

III. Chairpersons report - Jacquie Hutchins

- i) Jacquie is hoping to set up a PAC newsletter for parents. It would include items such as parent tips (ie; parking etc.) and go out approximately every 2 months.
- ii) Jacquie initiated a few questions were asked regarding teacher job action. It has so far had little impact on students and parents. Teacher union rep Ken Christensen was here to answer questions for parents.
- iii) BC Premier Christy Clark has named Como Lake as a needy school and granted us \$50,000 for playground equipment. Darren would like to start a committee of parents, staff, and students to help decide on the equipment. Many parents volunteered.

IV. Treasurer's report - Audrey Woosnam

- i) Grant money is in and \$8,060 has been given to Como Lake
- ii) General account has about \$2600 available and gaming account is sitting at \$4500, plus the \$8000 grant
- iii) Next meeting will include budget planning for this school year
- iv) Audrey is looking for support next year as several parents are leaving at the end of the year.

V. Fundraising report - Jamie McCulloch

- i) 2 parents have volunteered to help with fundraising this year
- ii) Many fundraising incentives have already been planned; including QSP magazine sales, family photo night Friday October 28, 2011, and the unwrapped shopping night at Coquitlam centre. This information will be included in PAC newsletter. Plant sales will occur in the spring. PNE group sales may also be a part of it.
- iii) Due to job action, teachers may not take part in fundraising efforts.

VI. DPAC report - vacant

- i) Website is not working. Jacquie was unable to access and has no information.
- ii) BCCPAC sent out information on playgrounds
- iii) We need to pay yearly dues, but no information has come about that

VII. Administration report

- i) Genevieve McMahon presented an initiative regarding community garden. Footprints is a local organization to help schools fundraise to create gardens. A few sites have been discussed as potential gardens. Ideas were discussed regarding maintenance and usage, including working with Share and the local church. Parents were interested in supporting this. See Footprintseducation.org for information on the group.
- ii) Como Lake's current population is approximately 347 students. The delay in organization the first week was due to new registrants and reorganizing classes. Como Lake is considered a mini school and teachers are part of a learning team understanding how to run a mini school.
- iii) Meet the teacher night is not happening due to job action, but administration will be available to parents at that time. They will present the same information as to students
- iv) A few new staff members including band, library, counselor, student services, morning custodian, and a few classroom teachers.
- v) CAST (Coquitlam Autism Support Team) needing space and will be using the far portable near the field. They will be using a PADS dog to support student reading.
- vi) Vandal watch report - School space is well used so vandalism has not been a problem
- vii) School wide read book this year is RULES.
- viii) Pro d September 23 - staff is still working on school goals.

ix) SPC needs to meet regarding class composition and school goals.

8. Unfinished Business

i) Remaining meeting dates for the year are as follows:

Oct 19, Nov 23, Feb 15, April 4, May 23

ii) DPAC rep election - deferred to next meeting

9. New Business

i) Parent education - Jacquie is interested in starting up parent education nights - information for parents regarding their children (topics such as drug alcohol awareness, children of the street education, technology/internet) in conjunction with a few other schools

10. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm