

Kwayquitlum Middle PAC Meeting
Thurs. Sept. 8, 2011

PAC President – Karen Sandwith

- Would like to welcome all the new parents to the Kway PAC
- We are very happy to have all the support and interest of the new parents at the PAC meeting, it is great to see!
- We have \$50,000 school playground grant for Kway this year
- We are 1 out of 4 schools in District 43 that was chosen to receive this money
- We as a PAC and as a school can discuss and decide what to build or put in at Kway with these allocated funds. – We could set up a committee.
- We need a PAC Vice President for Kway.
- Stacey Plesko has agreed to fill the position and was voted in by all parents present.
- We need a Kway PAC Treasurer because Jose Grice is unable to continue this position due to time commitments.
- Tina Almeida has agreed to fill this position and was voted in by all the parents present. Jose will provide her with all the information she needs to take over the job.
- We need a French Immersion Parent to fill the CPF Representative. –No one at the meeting agreed to fill this so a memo will be sent out to all French Immersion Parents to see if this position can be filled. The volunteer must attend one meeting a month and report to PAC about what information was shared.
- We need 3 people to fill the School Planning Council.
- Angela Plagemann, Karen Sandwith, and David Costin have all agreed to fill these positions on this council.
- We would like an events coordinator for to organize events like the pancake breakfast, and the movie nights. No one volunteered tonight so we will try to get someone next time.

Treasurer – Jose Grice

- We have 2,664.66 in the account right now and with the \$30 PAC Donation cheques from each family that we collect in September we will hopefully be up to around \$5500.
- The PAC really appreciates the \$30 Donations from each family as it saves everyone a lot of time and effort.
- No parent wants to do the fundraising committee and this way we don't have to have a fundraiser committee and waste a lot of time trying to get the necessary funds to cover our general expenditures.

Parent Education – Bonnie Woinoski

- We had Saleema Noon do a Sex Education presentation for the Grade 6 and 7's last year and a parent presentation as well.
- We had SHARE from Family & Community Services speak to our Grade 8's and parents on Drug Education last year.
- This year we are planning on getting Jesse Miller to come and speak to our grade 6 and 7's about internet safety and awareness.
- We also plan on having a parent education night on Internet Safety and Awareness this year.
- We will try and see if we can get Rob McGirr to come and speak to the grade 8's and the parents on Drug Awareness this year.
- Christine Potter Smith will coordinate with Bonnie and hopefully we'll get all these presentations set up for the year ahead.
- David Costin is a member of the Southside Community of Schools in which Kway is a part of because our students feed into Riverside Secondary School.
- He will be updating us with parent education presentations that will be available to Kway parents throughout the year ahead. The topics include things like, bullying, internet safety and awareness, etc.

Principal's Report – Andrew Graham & Christine Potter-Smith

- Andrew is very happy to working at Kway
- He loves the lay-out of the school and has always wanted to work here
- Andrew has been working in School District 43 for 12 years and 10 years in Quebec.
- He has worked at Pitt, River, Minnekada and at Maillard Middle Schools before.
- He loves how welcoming our school and all the teachers have been
- He is pleased to see such a terrific show of support at our PAC Meeting
- There are 592 students at Kway this year with 3 more coming, so we will have a total of 595 students.
- 495 students are English students, and 82 are French students, & 15 international students.
- 26 students are from the MACC – Middle Aged Clustered Class Program
- This is a gifted education class, it is a pilot project, & its their first year at Kway
- This class has been placed in the Thunderbirds Pod.
- Louise Malfaesi is the gifted program coordinator for District 43
- If a parent or child is interested in being in this program they can apply next year in the Spring (Feb.- March) to be in the program.
- Kway is large enough to house up to 700 students so there is room for this gifted program to expand.
- By next year we will have another class of gifted grade 6 students, and the 7's will move on, and the following year a grade 8 class of gifted students.
- Kway is very excited to offer this program. There are only 2 other middle schools in district 43 who offer this program.
- There are other programs like Middle Magnets, and Oydessy of the Mind, and Extra Curricular Trips and Opportunities for our regular students at Kway to be enriched and stretched farther as well.

- All Middle schools in District 43 pay an athletic fee and Kway students who join at least one athletic club pay as well.
- Every year Kway must pay a \$750 athletic fee which covers the cost for the rental of the pool for the swim meet in Swim Club, the rental of the track for the Track and Field meet, and many, many other costs associated with athletic clubs.
- We appreciate your payment for the athletic fees as that really helps to offset these costs.
- With the Job Action we may not get report cards if it continues during report card time
- However students progress will still be documented on work, and marked.
- Teachers are still marking assignments & tests.
- Parents can verbally ask for their child's progress.
- The Kway Open House will be cancelled on Wed. Sept 14th, if the Job Action continues.
- Athletics is not on the table at this time, so the Athletic clubs are still being offered. Mr. Robertson is recruiting teachers to volunteer for the various clubs throughout the year.
- Music is separate and not affected by the Job Action – Band and Choir are considered as classes and so they will continue as normal.
- Leadership program will still continue as well.
- Teachers are doing everything they can to not have the job action affect the students.
- Parents are not allowed to fill in for the teachers or help out with extra duties but may offer to assist as they would in any other year.
- The pancake breakfast will still go ahead and the parents and principals will do all the work to make it happen for our students!
- We need volunteers so please come help if you can from 7:15am to 9:00am, Sept. 13th, Sept 14th, Sept 15th or Sept 16th!
- It is a great way to connect with new parents, principals, and students and be a part of the school! Hope to see you there!
- This Fall we will look forward to Cross Country Running Club, Swim Club, Volleyball, Field Hockey, and the Middle School Triathlon.
- Next week Kway will start announcing meetings about the various clubs that will be available so students need to be listening and paying attention so they don't miss out on great opportunities!
- We want students to learn to manage their schedules, and try new activities and take risks.
- Unlike Secondary school, there are no tryouts in Middle School, so anyone who wants to be a part of a team or participate in a club can join! It is a great chance to try new things!
- Meeting ended at 8:30pm.
- Hope to see everyone at the Thursday, October 6th PAC meeting at 7pm in the library! Come out and get involved in your child's school and find out what's happening!

Bonnie Woinoski – Kway PAC Secretary

