

Centennial PAC Meeting Minutes Monday March 4th, 2013

In attendance: Debbie Bruce (member at large), Cinzia DeJesus, Evelyn Chursinoff, Coleen Bohlen (Grad Pens), Tamara Dean, Lorene Chung, Irma Rossetti, Susy Anselmo, Maria Parrotta, Cathy U, Deanne Serres, Lorie Shantz (Treasurer), Jacquie Hutchins (Chair), Mary Robertson (Secretary), Rob Zambrano (Principal), Diether Malakoff (Teacher), Shane Pope (Teacher)

Call to Order at 7:05pm

Welcome:

- Jacquie welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming.

Minutes:

- Coleen Bohlen motioned to accept the minutes dated January 21st, 2013, Debbie Bruce 2nd, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Lorie Shantz presented the treasurer's report for the period ending February 28th, 2013. Lorie reported that she has received the invoice for the Grad pens which is \$1431.38. She noted that the price for the water filter has gone up a bit. There are still a lot of items to be allocated, once they are allocated there will be just over \$1,700 left in account. The gaming account is in a minus state, some funds may have to come out of the parent donations account and there is also the possibility of some leftover funds from the wish list that come under budget. There are also leftover funds from the Volleyball uniforms, Rob, Lorie and Michelle will sit down and go over invoices and Lorie will report at next meeting.

DPAC:

- Sheri Ray sent her regrets and Jacquie presented the DPAC report, the report is attached at the end of the minutes.
- There will be a THOUGHTstream survey sent out to parents to collect ideas on identifying budget priorities from the parents' perspective. Jacquie encourages everyone to participate.
- Next DPAC meeting on April 3rd, 2013 at 7pm – Winslow Centre.

Administrator's Report:

- Rob thanked everyone for coming.
- There has been a good start to this semester. They front loaded course changes to alleviate changes after semester start.
- Into the Woods production was very well done and was a great success.
- Centennial basketball team qualified for playoffs
- 8 of the Centennial wrestlers qualified for the provincial. Taylor Mason came in 6th!
- Centennial curling team won the title of provincial champions.
- The Science 9 honours students entered a contest and 1 team got honourable mention, we also had 1 regional winner.
- The 1st to 2nd semester changeover was rushed and hurried; it was tough on everyone, staff *and* students. Next year there will be 4 days and there will be some changes made, staff and department heads are working on what this will look like.

- Term 4 ends on March 12th and the last day before spring break is Friday March 15th.
- Report cards will be sent out on April 9th
- Parent teacher interviews will take place on April 18th, and Rob encourages everyone to attend. Last session saw over 1,000 appointments scheduled. This is a good opportunity to touch bases face to face with your child's teachers. Although Rob recognizes that a lot of teachers communicate on a regular basis with parents.
 - One parent commented that it can be difficult when you have more than one child at the school and you have to choose which teacher to meet with.
 - Rob also recognizes that if you call late it can be difficult to get an appointment that fits your schedule.
- A pool table was donated by Deanne Serres and it has been a huge hit with all of the students. It is in the courtyard.
- Jessie Miller was in last month, he did a good job and his message was well received by a lot of kids. Next month Tad Milmine, an RCMP officer will speak to the grade 9's and 10's regarding anti bullying from an RCMP perspective.
- April 10th will be GTP interviews, this is very important for Grade 12's to complete.
- New school update – they are expecting to have the building permit finalized on April 15th, and then there is prep time and time for going to tender. It will most likely be summer before they break ground.
- On May 30th the Entrepreneurship group will put on a 'fun fair' as a community event.

Teacher's Report

- Mr. Malakoff and Mr. Pope spoke about the semester turnaround. All of the concerns expressed were present, along with a few others – the text book turnaround was very difficult, the IEP's didn't get out on time, and more kids failed due to the lack of time to help them through. Some thoughts that came out were that the students should really be catching up on their work throughout the semester, not relying on 1 week to catch up. Due to the lack of time the teachers did not have time to get into the deep issues of those kids suffering. This process was also very difficult for the kids with learning disabilities.
- There is a requirement for a 2nd teacher to assist in the Tech classes, and they are not eligible for the LIF funding. Peer tutoring is also an option for this, but this needs to be a strong peer tutor.
 - A parent asked if the tutorial blocks were used to help catch the student's up. Mr. Malakoff answered that yes, this is a step in the right direction, and most teachers will also spend time after school with kids who need a lot of intervention as the tutorial time may not be enough.
 - One parent commented that sometimes the Tutorial classes are full
 - One parent wondered how we could get kids to learn to balance their time
 - One parent asked if this was the first year for Tutorial, Rob explained that this is the 2nd year in this format. There used to be Tutorial classes available on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for about 25 to 30 minutes at the end of the day but the kids just considered this as an early dismissal.
 - Rob mentioned that they will be keeping the Tutorial sessions on Wednesday mornings, as they work better than Friday mornings
- Mr. Malakoff concluded their report in thanking the PAC for allowing him and Mr. Pope to attend and Mr. Malakoff mentioned that parents are welcome to contact him anytime if they have any questions that they would like presented to the teachers.

New Business

After Grad Committee update

- Coleen Bohlen reported that they had a very good meeting and there was a good turnout.
- There are plans for a plant sale in May, in time for Mother's Day and the FORD drive one event will be in mid-May or June 1st, they are awaiting confirmation from FORD.
- The theme this year will be 'Summer Nights' a summer fun carnival.
 - One parent asked if the grade 12's help out at all, Coleen explained that it is only parents that are on the committee, but the students committee (VOX) are involved in choosing the theme.
 - There was discussion about whether grade 11 students could be involved, but it was noted that it may be difficult for young people to solicit donations
- There is a donation letter available on the Centennial website if you know someone who you may be able to ask for a donation. You can access it by following this link <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/centennial/Parents/PAC/After%20Grad%20Meeting%20Minutes/Dry%20After%20Grad%20forms%20and%20documents/2013%20donation%20request%20letter.pdf>
- There will be a Treasurer needed for next year, it was noted that Michelle in the office is so helpful that this position is not a daunting task.
- After Spring break Ms. Close will be going to grade 12 parents asking for donations
- There will also be volunteers needed in May for putting packages together and also for ticket sales.
- Susan Sorensen is doing a great job. It is a big job and really should be a shared position.

Grad Pens

- Coleen Bohlen reported that the grad pens are now ordered and she came under budget by \$270. The total for the pens was \$1431.58. Coleen brought a sample set and they were well received by those in attendance
- Grade 12 parents present the pens to the Grads during commencement, Coleen suggested when they are presented perhaps the parent can say 'The PAC congratulates you' just so the students know it is a gift from the PAC

Door Prizes:

- Mr. Pope won a tea light with a vanilla scented candle
- Debbie Bruce won 2 tea lights
- Mary Robertson won a planter

Next meeting is Monday May 13th at 7pm

Adjourn: Coleen Bohlen made a motion to adjourn, meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

DPAC Meeting Summary – **February 27, 2013**
Themes: as noted...

Cross Catchment Report

- Report will be available early April. (Parent notifications would be earlier.) There were about 3,000 applications out of a total of 30,000 students! This increased trend makes individual school enrollments more difficult to anticipate.

District Budget – Further Insight

- Enrollment was 223 less than anticipated, small number compared to the total, but reduced provincial funding by \$1.4M. For the previous 5 years, enrollment projections had been amazingly accurate. Reasons are not clear. Even in Surrey, enrollment is down for the first time in 8 years.
- Impact of PST is about \$0.5M; hydro, and employer contributions to MSP and pensions are higher; there were no funding increases to compensate. Impacts on next year's budget will be even higher.
- With about 92% of budget for salaries, and with a priority to avoid staff reductions, austerity measures will recoup only about \$5M of the anticipated \$7.5M deficit. Actual numbers won't be known until about August.
- Each school offered spending reduction contributions, helping to share the load accordingly to their abilities to do so.
- Parents might notice reductions in school supply provisions.

THOUGHTstream Parent Survey

- Schools will send e-Newsletters to parents, with a link to THOUGHTstream internet application program, to collect ideas. It will be higher level than a box-ticking questionnaire. This brainstorming stage should conclude by mid-March. Analysis will be done by THOUGHTstream. Participants will be anonymous. Results will be by school and by whole district.
- Draft questions are based on subjective school level experiences, as a way of identifying SD43 budget priorities from parents' perspectives.
- This may be a good way to engage parents who don't attend PAC meetings.
- It is anticipated that DPAC will present results to the School Board Trustees.

Next DPAC meeting – **April 3, 2013** Winslow Centre, 7:00 p.m. Children of the Street Society will present regarding their TTO2 (**Taking Care of Others**) workshop. **All parents welcomed.**