

March 17, 2011

Attention Kilmer Parents! As you are all members of the PAC, please come out to the April 11th meeting to vote on funding and the proposal for a mobile computer lab.

There has been much consideration and discussion during the last few months with Mr. Collins and the PAC regarding upgrading the existing lab and purchasing a Mobile Learning Lab.

The proposal that I am presenting is to purchase two mobile laptop labs for Kilmer Elementary School.

What and When and Cost?

This is a proposal to purchase mobile laptop labs, one lab in December 2011 and the second in December 2012. Following the strict guidelines the district has in place as to where and how the equipment can be purchased it has been narrowed down to the following:

1. Mobile Mac Lab with 30 MacBooks and a cart at a cost of \$36,375
2. 30 Pre-owned Dell Notebook and a cart at a cost of \$14,470
3. 30 Brand new Dell Netbooks and a cart at a cost of \$16,372

***there was also discussion on upgrading the current PC lab; however on a go forward basis the school is not deeming it necessary at this time.

These numbers are estimates and include the cost of shipping but does not include tax.

Who?

The laptops will be purchased for the use of all students at Kilmer Elementary School although the focus would be mainly on the students at the intermediate level and the primary students would continue to use the PC lab.

Why?

The current computer lab is old, and the process of bringing students into a computer lab is dated. The 21st Century learning curve is here and the laptops will be used as an educational tool to guide them into this direction.

The kids currently attending Kilmer will be graduating high school in seven to twelve years from now in the years 2018 – 2023 and entering the work force then or after several years of post-secondary education. We all know how much can change technologically in twelve years – just think about 1999 – there were no iPods, face to face phoning or texting.

The money part

The PAC will be setting its budget in late May and will be looking at how much funds they currently have. Once that is determined then we can look at the different accounts we have such as:

1. Grants
2. Donations
3. Gaming allocation
4. KPAC reserve account or partial
5. Specific fundraising events

How?

We will organize fundraising events that are fun and geared to bring in significant funds to finance this project. These fundraising events are to be organized by the Laptops for Learning Committee and to be separate from the General Fundraising Committee and specific to the laptop labs; although the groups should work together to ensure that there is no overlap.) Some ideas are as follows but it would be open to discussion and input:

1. Directory at start of school year
2. Tree chipping
3. Two discos
4. Trivia night
5. Bingo night
6. Movie night
7. Bowling night

Conclusion

I propose that we have 2 votes at the April 11, 2011 PAC Meeting.

1. Vote whether or not to purchase and fundraise for the computer lab.
2. Vote whether or not to allocate funds in excess over 2010-2011 budget to the computer lab.

I am amenable to adjustments to this proposal and the following suggested course of action to be taken.

I understand from the former Playground fundraising committee that an immense amount of time and energy was expended in the endeavor. I don't make light of the advice I have been given from the committee in regards to the workload and the general feeling of fundraising exhaustion from the parents, but I am passionate in wanting to support the kids of Kilmer in enriching their education with laptops.

Thank you for your anticipated support in this future endeavor! The road ahead will have its challenges and rewards. I know you can do this Kilmer, look at the awesome playground you have to show for your efforts! If you have the time, financial or

connections to support this project please contact me, Livian Smith (New Kindergarten parent).

Please direct any inquiries or questions to me Livian Smith liviansmith@shaw.ca 604-781-4967 or to Remi Collins rcollins@sd43.bc.ca 604-941-3401.