

Ecole Moody Middle School PAC Meeting Minutes for October 6th, 2014

Attendees: Lisa Tessier, Shari O'Neill, Trevor Kolkea, Tina Muma, Jennifer Peltier, Treena Banman, Roz Duchesneau, Camila Alvares, Anita Wilks, Connie Caldwell, Changmin Sun, Susan Mason.

Adoption of Agenda: (See attached agenda)

Motion: Shari

Second: Lisa

Motion carried- all in favour

Adoption of June minutes: (see attached minutes and amendments)

Amendments:

1. Date June 12th, 2014
2. Attendees: 8 other people's names withheld
3. DPAC had informed that it was acceptable to proceed and fill the positions in September. That is for unfilled positions.
4. Add no paper financials presented at May or June meeting.
5. Incorrect statement all members present can vote.
6. No contest for seats, all acclaimed, vote passed with no against.

Motion: Susan

Second: Tina

Motion carried- all in favour

School Update: Mr. Kolkea

-Learning differently this year, new french immersion

-Working towards forming new traditions, talking about how things have been done in the past and how things might look differently now with less students. Keeping in mind the great traditions and history of Moody Middle.

-Website has been changed. Now states Ecole Moody Middle School of the Arts. Working on forming this new identity. Staff are fully supporting the new school and model.

-Conversations taking place about how to support the new model of school of the arts.

-Young Actors Project, with Robert Randel. Using an expert to help integrate the arts. Helps to support the model of using community members to enrich the learning experience.

-Cori Caulfield from the Caulfield school of Dance will be attending the school in the next month to work with both the students and teachers. She will teach moves and teachers will reinforce the learning with Cori returning at a later date to further the learning.

-Neighbourhood Learning Centre Agreement with the Port Moody Art Museum and Art Society. In the new school, 2 spaces will be allocated for community space. This year 1

classroom will be used for this purpose. This space is located in C building. The artist will be required to organize two shows, for both their own work and students. In addition they will be required to give a certain number of hours of instructional time to support students and teachers.

-New Pod format. Now have 3 pods with 3 classes each. No longer 6/7 classes and a grade 8 pod, it now consists of 6/7 and 7/8 classes. All pods have the same learning goals and the change to the pod format has been well received.

-Thursday October 16th will be the open house, 7-8:30pm. Info on the website.

-Sister school from China visited last Thursday. It was a great experience and our students were great hosts.

-First newsletter has been published and sent home.

Treasurer Report: Tina Muma

-PAC has two bank accounts, a gaming account and an operational account.

-Currently there's about \$20 in gaming according the last statement received but there is an approximately \$15,000 gaming grant expected to be deposited if not already done so.

-Currently the operational account has \$1300.

-A conversation about cash donations was had. Also items can be purchased and donated directly to the school after making arrangements with Mr. Kolkea.

-Parents asked about additional payments options when paying for fundraisers and such. Currently PAC only accepts cash and cheques.

-A conversation about a hot lunch program and lunch lady. The cafeteria is still useable and there was 6 microwaves in there that are being used by students. The space is still used daily as a gathering/social space while kids eat. We are the smallest middle school by about 30-40 students making it possibly easier to implement a hot lunch program. Although those at the meeting would not personally purchase lunch lady if offered, we feel it is still an option for our school as there is no overhead and work required by us. Mr. Kolkea will have more information in regards to this topic after the principle meeting on Thursday. The hot lunch program would be a parent volunteer based system. It's important to keep in mind that volunteer availability may diminish over time. So simple meals with minimal need for prep and clean up with be the goal. (Mr. Kolkea's comments after the principle meeting to be added after Thursday). If approved will hold a hot lunch committee meeting, write something up and Karen will mass email the parents the meeting info, evenings work best.

Vote: Pending Mr. Kolkea's approval, we will organize a PAC hot lunch program and roll it in when possible.

Motion: Connie

Second: Lisa

Motion carried- All in favour

-Signing authority at the bank, as stated in the rules, chair (Susan Mason) and treasurer (Tina Muma) will be added, along with a third required person.

Vote: To add the secretary, Jennifer Peltier to the signing authority.

Motion: Lisa

Second: Susan

Motion carried- All in favour

Fundraising Report: Jen

-A conversation about the need for a fundraising coordinator vs. fundraising being taken care of as a group. At this time no one is interested in taking the position on. Can be asked at future meetings. For the time it will be a group effort.

-Camilla proposed a fundraising opportunity, quinoa pops. It is a case of 36 packages for \$25. Although the product was enjoyed, due to rules, no family can benefit from a PAC fundraiser, we are unable to entertain this opportunity at this time. Noted: Her child will not be at the school next year, so it may be an opportunity to partner then.

-Note was made that at the budget meeting we need to be aware that future gaming grants will not be as large due to the smaller school population.

-Noted that the new Moody will not be funded as a new school, it is funded as a school rebuild budget.

BUDGET MEETING DATE was set for Monday October 22, 2014

Additional Items:

-SPC was not voted on in June. SPC requires 3 parents to take part, one must be a PAC executive. The purpose of SPC is to work with the school on understanding school goals, learning goals and giving feedback. They will meet a couple times a year.

-A vote was taken, it was advised that it was to be done by secret ballot, everyone declined as only three people volunteered. So a vote was taken by show of hands.

Vote: For Susan, Shari and Roz to form this year's SPC.

Motion: Lisa

Second: Connie

Motion carried- All in favour

Round Table:

-Concerns were voiced about the lost of buses. Lisa had heard that there was a surplus after the strike and enquired as to why they could not use that money to bring the buses back. It's over a 3.4km or more for some students walking to school. Some parts of the walk are dangerous, such as snake hill, wooded trails and busy roads.

-Although it may appear that there is a surplus there is not. Having to take into account all those \$40/day payments that have to be made. Hence there is no additional funding

being given to our district. In the big picture it was believed that public transit could fill the gap.

-Parents asked about a private system where parents pay for the bus. There was talk at some point in Anmore about this option. Mr. Kolkea was not sure how something like that would work or what it would look like.

-Parents inquired whose responsibility it was for the kids getting to and from school safely. Students travel to and from school happens once they leave home and once they return there. If there was a problem with them getting to and from school safely, such as a student acting dangerously at the public bus stop, the school could help facilitate a solution.

-Parents should continue to contact translink with concerns or bussing issues in their area.

-Parents concerns include, missed buses, buses not showing up and buses going by because they are already full.

-The school is working hard at addressing safety concerns as they arise.

-It was suggest that Craig Hodge, a Coquitlam City Council member could be contacted as he has been dealing with similar bussing issues.

-Another suggestion was parent arranged carpooling. It would be difficult for the school to help facilitate this due to legal concerns and logistics.

-Mr. Kolkea is emailing me the official response regarding buses (to be added when received).

Mr. Kolkea's response:

I can/will collect information from parents, so that I can share this with our transportation manager at SD43. She is in communication with Translink and Coast Mountain with regards to concerns throughout our area schools. She was instrumental in the additional bus being added to one of the routes in the Port Moody area for the school year start up. Also, I have already communicated with her regularly about route concerns. My hope is that the transit system will work for those who need to use it.

The second piece for all parents, is to express your concerns with the bus company as it is a community service. I appreciate being aware of the local concerns that impact our students, especially since we are using a new transportation model for 2014 and beyond. Calling or using the website to express your thoughts, worries and questions is a very important step for this community service. Here is the link to our transportation memo we have on the École Moody website http://www.sd43.bc.ca/middle/moody/Publications/TransLink_Transportation%20memo%20Sep%202014.pdf

I should clarify that I cannot be considered the bus contact (as I have been for the past 2 years) nor the individual who will be able to guarantee changes, or improvements as this is now a public service and no longer a school board service. As you know, I am

dedicated to supporting our school community and will continue to stay engaged with this concern. Please let me know if you have any troubles contacting the transit company.

Meeting adjourned: 9:00pm