

## Mountain Meadows Elementary - PAC Meeting – October 1, 2015

**Call to Order:** 7:05 PM

**In Attendance:** PRESIDENT - Angela Blackall, VICE PRESIDENT - Mark Robins, TREASURER - Heather Robins, DPAC - Nerissa Dashtgard and Terai Hicik, SECRETARY - Zoë Furby, Brooke Young, Twyla Yu, Rob Souchair, Cathy Billy, Jamie McMurray, Shannon Oliver, Daniela menses, Michael Kass, Jean Warneboldt, Kate McMeiken, Robin Funk, Claar Prinsen, Jen Mackie

### Principal's Report Kate McMeiken:

- Growth in school population – 9<sup>th</sup> Division – 204 students
- Space in classes to continue to grow
- Room 221 now grade 1 / 2 class Division 7
- Room 116 now Student Services/Sensory room giving students an alternate learning space – work in progress
- Every room in the school is now being utilized
- Staffing – Mrs. Bird and Mrs. Karim recalled to student services
- Mrs. Bigford Student Services
- Mr. Eng School Counsellor
- Div. 7 Mrs. Abdou temporary teacher until permanent teacher Mrs. Hethey arrives – exact time TBA
- 3 Educational Assistants Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Battista and Ms. Hunyadi
- Initerant Staff IBT – Aboriginal Education Youth Worker, Vision Resource Teacher, Orientation and Mobility Teacher, CAST Teachers
- School Goal and Action Plan for Learning (APL) focus on Social and Emotional Learning
- There are 3 Core beliefs supporting our APL:
  - Social Emotional Learning needs to be explicitly taught in order for students to be successful
  - Building students' capacity as self-aware and self-reflective learners is the first step in teaching independent problem-solving and resilience.
  - Without good social emotional health, children won't feel safe and be able to reach their individual learning potential.
- Reaching our APL will be a gradual process over many years / professional development / student leadership / closely related to school code of conduct
- Code of Conduct – **SPARK** – all about building community
  - Show Kindness
  - Play Safely
  - Act Responsibly

## Respect Eachother

### Keep Our Community in Mind

- October is Thankfulness Month – many themed projects throughout the school
- Events so far this school year – multicultural potluck lunch, Terry Fox Run, Flyin’ Bob Presentation
- Coming up – Hip Hop Oct. 2-9, South China Lion Dance (Feb.), Aché Brasil, Artist in Residence (possible mural or tile project for the students to add colour to the school), Alternate sport of some kind (wheelchair basketball was a hit last year)
- BC Government Educational Plan
- New BC Curriculum for K-9 to be fully implemented Fall 2016 – focus on student learning styles – range of kids – sensitive to learning differences – personalized learning – digital literacy – content is no longer the driver but instead the vehicle with a focus on core competencies
- Building Student Success
- There will be a revised reporting process – goal is for this to be clearer and more succinct – we are hoping to pilot this for the November reports – there will be an opportunity for parent feedback
- More information on the new curriculum is available at [www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca](http://www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca)

### President Report Angela Blackall:

- Angela spoke about how the PAC has been able to support the school through fundraising and enhancing the curriculum and also add to the community spirit at MME
- Discussion about possible fundraisers and schedule for upcoming year using school calendar provided by Kate McMeiken – hot lunch – movie nights – holiday market etc.
- Discussed focus on fundraising for a goal
- Munch a Lunch is our new software to be used for PAC fundraising activities. This software can be used for our hot lunch orders and much more. Kate McMeiken provided a demonstration of the software. It should be up and running within the coming days. The goal is to cut down on paper and make the process of collecting money and compiling orders easier and more efficient. For those parents and caregivers without access to a computer, paper forms will be made available.
- Looking for the following coordinators: After School Coordinator and Hot Lunch Coordinator
- There will be after school programs at MME – some will be run by the city of Port Moody (registration through the city) and others will be run by the PAC (registration through Munch a Lunch) – the After School

Coordinator will be responsible to source and vet potential program providers and act as a parent liaison if needed

- Brooke Young is our new Communications Coordinator and has designed a new PAC newsletter – the newsletter will include information about school events as well as a community page and other relevant communication
- New Fundraiser is through Cobs – Cinnamon Buns in a box (6) with a coupon for a free loaf of bread. Cost to purchase is \$10 with \$5 going directly to the PAC
- When shopping at Cobs in Suterbrook mention MME and 5% of your purchase will be donated to the PAC
- Library books are in need – particularly non-fiction and easy reader fiction books – Mr. Chase has also asked for Pod Chairs at a cost of 6 for \$659 (replacing old couches) as these would be more fun/relaxing and make the library more inviting
- Heather Robins has done a lot of artwork for the library to make it welcoming and fun
- Angela gave sincere thanks for the volunteers and encouraged others to get involved saying that the things the PAC does in the school are really enjoyed by the students and appreciated by the teachers

**Claar Prinsen:**

- Still looking for class liaison's for the following classes: Triff/Karim (Robin Funk volunteered), Ziraldo, Abdu and Cronkhite (Claar could do this class herself)
- Schoolastic Bookfair to be held 1<sup>st</sup> week of November (2-4), Jamie and Brenda to help

**Treasurer Report:**

- Review of 2014/2015 Financials
- Discussion on projected budget for 2015/2016 with recommendations on how money could be allocated
- Suggestion that we do not vote on every single event that we hold at MME but rather approve a working budget based on projected costs/revenues for the year
- Buddy Benches – money has been allocated – we are waiting for installation
- Playground – still awaiting invoice but the money has been allocated
- Funds raised at the 2015 Just Dance have been allocated to spend on a stationary bike for the new Sensory Room, Pinnies for the students to use during gym class and for some improvements/supplements to the track team uniforms

- The Field Trip Grant is based on \$20 per student – teachers can use this money to fund school busses or pay for activities that enhance learning
- PAC Operations – there is a contingency of money set aside to run the PAC – included in this is the need to replace emergency food in the bunker as some items are nearing their expiry date
- The teacher fund was increased to include one more division
- Munch a Lunch cost \$210 for the first year – it will cost up to \$300 for subsequent years but there may be a discount if we sign up early
- Discussion about offering babysitting during PAC meetings in hopes that more people could attend – it was also suggested that a local teen could volunteer their time to babysit as this would be good to build their leadership/work experience

Robin Funk raised a Motion:

“Motion to allocate up to \$300 in the budget to provide babysitting at PAC meetings if needed, only if a student volunteer could not be found.”

Seconded by Jen Mackie

Motion Carried

- Discussion about allocation of \$1000 for the new classroom as we do not know what the new teacher will need. Twyla Yu raised concerns that the PAC should not be paying for things the province should be paying for. Kate McMeiken said there was not a smart board in that classroom. It was agreed to further evaluate needs before making any decision. The intention is that whatever this money is spent on that the item(s) stay at MME.

Robin Funk raised a Motion:

“Motion to approve the budget as presented with an amended line to include babysitting.”

Seconded by Brooke Young

Motion Carried

### **Zoë Furby:**

- Michelle Rainone is the mother of a Kindergarten student at MME. She is a qualified Zumba instructor and has offered to volunteer her time to do a Zumba fundraiser for the PAC. Discussion followed and the date Friday November 6<sup>th</sup> was chosen 7:00 pm. Babysitting could be available in the library. Brooke Young will include this in the PAC newsletter.
- Children of the Street Society – we started in 2014 a system if alternating years of having Saleema Noon (body science) and Children of the Street Society visit MME. COTS is a not for profit organization started in the Tri-Cities by the parent of a child who was lured by a predator on line. The session we had in 2014 included a parent information session open to all parents and caregivers and a student workshop for grade 4/5 students. There is not cost for the sessions but COTS does appreciate any honorarium we could provide. There was a request to find out if younger children could attend. Zoë will contact COTS to find out about this and will work with Kate McMeiken on setting some dates.
- Spirit Wear – Zoë will be working on a new Spirit Wear order in early November. She will also be looking to work with the Grade 5 Grad committee so that the orders for Grad Hoodies and Spirit Wear can be combined. This will all be done through Munch a Lunch.
- Track Jerseys – the existing track jerseys are in good condition but many of them are too large for the kids. There was great discussion about what to do about this. Zoë Furby will explore options and re-present at the next meeting. Jamie McMurray also offered to help.

### **DPAC Report Terai Hicic and Nerissa Dashtgard:**

- Overview of recent DPAC Meeting
- There was a PAC 101 information session – how to run a meeting etc.
- DPAC want to do an outreach program where we could invite a member of the DPAC to one of our MME PAC meetings
- There will be a brainstorming session about things that can be incorporated into schools on October 20<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 at the school board building on Winslow in Coquitlam
- Fundraising suggestion that parents could donate cash to the school and get a tax receipt for the donation – then the school would need to pass these funds on to the PAC – some schools already do this
- Reminder to use BCC in email communications as the new Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation is in place
- Notification that the School Planning Committee has been eliminated in schools as it was not as productive as hoped

**Discussion on PAC Constitution and Bylaws led by Mark Robins:**

- Mark provided notice of the intent to amend the current constitution and bylaws
- This is to be voted on at the next PAC meeting

Section XI

2. Any elected member of the PAC may serve for as many years as he or she is elected, but may not hold any one position for more than two consecutive years

Proposed: All elected members of the PAC must resign at the end of the school year. He or she may stand for re-election for the upcoming school year.

Section XII

1. Three parent representatives, who are not employees of any school district,...

Proposed: to Strike this section as the School Planning Committee has been eliminated

**Closing Remarks:**

- Next PAC meeting to be held Thursday November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm
- The following meeting will be Friday December 11<sup>th</sup> after Hot Lunch 12:15 pm
- The Holiday Market will be on December 17<sup>th</sup>
- The Holiday Concert will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>
- Further dates to be published on the School website and in the PAC Newsletter

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:22 pm**