

## Sullivan Elementary PAC General Meeting November 18, 2014

Meeting called to order by Ingrid at 9:02 a.m.

1. Review and pass minutes of October meeting. Karin 1<sup>st</sup>, Heidi 2<sup>nd</sup>.
2. Review agenda: Add Deck the Halls and Saleema Noon.
  - "Deck the halls" will be held Friday, November 28th. We need volunteers and helpers. Wear Christmas festive gear and be here by 1:00 p.m.
  - The Saleema Noon Sexual Health presentation was held last night. People felt that she was very approachable and had great content. She will be bringing another woman with her for December 3. Question of whether she is available for the 2 day presentation, but she is not. Parents are welcome to come to their child's classes for K/1 but need to check with teachers before coming. Will her detailed handout go to all parents? All parents should see what the detailed description is - this is available on her website. Up to parents to opt out for Dec 3. Lots of discussion as many parents feel nervous about the explicit nature of some of her content. This is about sparking a conversation. Another newsletter will be going out regarding Dec. 3. Comment is made that if parents want more information please come in to the office and get the detailed information.
3. A few quick notes:
  - Jessie Miller - Kelly  
Kelly went to hear his talk again last week and thinks it is good information. She discussed it with the staff at the last meeting and the staff suggests a conflict resolution workshop called "stand by me" instead. We will table the discussion of Jessie Miller for now and discuss this at next meeting.
  - Movie night October 23 made \$400. The next movie night will take place December 18 at 5:00 for pizza. Movie tba but will be Christmas themed.
4. Principals Update – Kelly
  - Technology update: Kelly thanks the PAC again for the PACS contribution. She went ahead and placed an order for the new laptops and iPads. She saved \$1600 because they went on sale. The teachers have a wish list which includes items such as table top lights, noise reduction headsets, listening headphones, installing a projector in the music portable etc. When priced out through the district the cost is approx. \$4700. Discussion on whether the PAC could help with this wish list. All in favour of paying of extra \$1000 from technology budget. Vote is also taken in favour of paying the full amount on their wish list which is approx. \$2500.

- As we know, our school is trying to go “paperless”. Every time we send something hard copy we take a step backwards with going paperless because parents think the important things will be sent home on paper. This week we sent home the grade 7 hot lunch on paper because this was an extra hot lunch not available on-line. Comment from parent that there have been discrepancies on details sent home such as time and dates. It's embarrassing to get our details wrong. We need to get the details correct the first time.
  - Friday emails are helpful! Shape of the week emails comes out first, extra info after.
  - Concerns about work orders brought out from last meeting, crew has filled holes, re-seeded the grass, widened the path, but the drain is school property, not the city.
  - Request had been made to change the crossing guard. She is not safe and now with construction going on across the street from the school for approximately the next 2 years. Kelly to follow up on this discussion.
  - Concern about visitors entering school grounds without getting permission. Suggestion for a visibility mirror or a door chime so Mrs. Sampson can see who is coming in the front door.
  - Feedback on shelving in gym, they were able to fit the new shelving in their budget so we will not get a bill.
  - RE: Plumbing in the school - Kelly put a call into the department to look at plumbing. Because our school is so old they would need to upgrade our entire plumbing system.
  - Christmas concert at the Bell Centre will be Wednesday Dec 10. Order forms will be sent out. No cap on number of tickets bought so families will be able to buy as many as they want. Rehearsal will be in the morning, with buses coming back for lunch.
5. Hand sanitizers were ordered but PAC has been asked not to put them in because the school does not want to take care of anything that needs to be maintained. Teachers can handle it themselves if they want a bottle on their desk. Also, purchase of a new stove fell through. We can continue looking on Craigslist for now. But we can wait and find one in the future.
  6. Diwali, vaisakhi celebrations - we are one of the only schools in the area that doesn't celebrate these festivals. Suggestion is made that we have a multi-cultural day. School and PAC could work together to make a day. Suggestion to schedule between January and March.
  7. Canuck raffle - Denise  
Denise has generously donated 4 tickets for a hockey game in January. Tickets are worth \$500. Suggestion to raffle them as a set of 4. Start selling tickets next week. Suggestion to do the “draw” at the assembly before Christmas break. PAC will sell raffle tickets in the cage before and after school. Cost? Suggestion is to make it \$2 a ticket. Advertise as “toonie Tuesday”. All In favour.

8. Communication - chalkboards were donated, one in front of the school, one by the cage for all parents to see. Good response to on-line advertising. Discussed using a magnetic paint, or a chalk that doesn't get rubbed off. Suggestion for magnetic strips that attach. Suggestions are welcome as this is a work in progress.
9. Buddy bench update - Celebration / commemoration will be held December 4 at 3:00 for all who wish to attend. Plaque has been ordered and will be attached. Balloons will be released.
10. Craft fair - thank you to Heather and Marle for a great job. It was a great fundraiser. So much stress over losing vendors and filling tables. Suggestion is made that next year if there is someone to help and learn the process of organizing this fair, it would be good to have another person who is "in the know". Ideas for fine tuning it for next year. Date has changed for next year for November 8th because November 1st is too close to Halloween. Suggestion made to change the time from 9-3 instead of 10-4 because between 3 and 4 p.m. is usually empty and quiet.
11. Christmas tree - Karin  
We have received the list from Kelly. Our school will be sponsoring 6 families with 24 people this Christmas. Karin read the letter that will be handed out to all parents. Suggestion made that if we request gift certificates, we would prefer 2 locations only such as Save on foods, and walmart to make it easier. Make sure class parents are aware of this. Karin to talk about it at Mondays assembly. We will keep track of who takes what ornament off the tree. We will need volunteers to help wrap.
  - Lots of concern that we as parents do not know who our class parent is. Karin to get the list from Kelly. Kelly suggests that we always cc her on emails.
12. Fundraising – Elaine
  - Soup fundraiser did really well. Made about \$360. People want to do it again. The logo guy donated all the bags. Thank you to everyone for making this a success.
  - Grade 7's will do the pointsetta fundraiser again. Can we set up on-line ordering? Grade 7's will have paper copy and put email copy for newsletter. Order due date is Friday the 28th. Make sure you have enough volunteers to help with pointsettas.
  - Another fundraising option is the cookie fundraiser. Most are not nut free. Retailers will not guarantee their product is nut free because it is made in a facility that uses nuts. These products would not be opened on school property, and given out off-property like we did last time with the Purdy's orders. Lots of discussion about what products we can order that are safe for children with nut allergies. When parents fill out a form at the beginning of the year they list their child's allergies. So every case is different. Every year Kelly defers to the parents and their children and we make decisions for each classroom based on each situation.
  - Suggestion that we send out a list for each individual classroom to send list of who has what allergy in each classroom.

- Kelly to look into this and talk with district before we make decision about cookie fundraiser. We do not be to vote on this until after Christmas since we are not doing this before Christmas.
- Suggestion to avoid any fundraisers on Wednesdays as it gets mixed up with popcorn day. Very confusing for teachers and the money gets mixed up.

13. Financial Update - Shareen (see attached budget).

14. Q and A

- Kelly asks if anyone finds the Bulletinboard at the bottom of the front stairs helpful? No. No one sees it. It doesn't get changed. Can we put something in the cage? Chalkboard paint on the wall? Kelly to look into it.
- Deck the halls - volunteers to meet at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. Kirsty 1<sup>st</sup>, Stacey 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Next meeting December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

