

BME PAC Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2014

Location: Library

Attendance: Allie, Janelle, Janet, Raelene, Karen, Donna, Lacey, Rhonda, Bonnie-Lee, Cory, Dawn, Kerry, Diana, Margherita

- 1) Call to order at 6:03pm
- 2) Adopt Minutes and Agenda: Allie motioned to adopt the minutes from the last meeting and the agenda and Bonnie-Lee seconded it.
- 3) Introductions by Allie (Val is away tonight)
- 4) Officer's Reports:
 - a. Treasurer's Report by Allie (financial summary handout): Allie briefly explained the financial summary handout to the newcomers. The gaming fund that we received last year was spent on the electronic reader board, a field trip payment to the school to cover parent's costs for P.E. field trips (which we plan on doing again for future years) and a bursary for \$500 to a selected high school student (who has previously gone to BME).
 - b. Hot Lunch Report by Bonnie-Lee (Rachelle is away tonight): First hot lunch of the school year will be Monday, October 20th (Subway). Credits have now been applied to the accounts that had hot lunch orders for June of last year but missed out on receiving them due to the job action. Some new items have been added to the Yomato menu and they are peanut free!
 - c. Fundraising Report by Bonnie-Lee (Julee is away tonight): The Mabel's Labels fundraiser is still running until the end of October. A new Halloween fundraiser is starting soon. If you buy a costume from Halloween Alley they will donate 10% of the purchase to our school. Bring your receipts in to the office. Candice Johnson Photography will be taking family photos as another fundraiser on October 19th at Springfield Park. There are many more fundraisers coming up, so be ready for a newsletter detailing all of those, coming home next week.
 - d. COPAC Report by Cory: Cory briefly explained what COPAC is to the newcomers. We discussed the "Eye see, Eye learn" program. All BC Kindergarten students can get free eye exams and free prescription glasses through their optometrists. Cory talked about how in the near future grade 6 students may be going to middle school, which would make our elementary school, Kindergarten to Grade 5. Something that is already in the works and will be affecting our school probably in the next year or two.

5) Principal's Report by Janet Williams:

1. Thank you for providing the welcome back snack, and the parent volunteers who were able to support our kindergarten orientation, and our opening day events with energy and excitement as we welcomed the start of the school year.
2. This is my ninth year of being a principal and I continue to hold most important to have a school community where all students feel safe, valued and connected.
3. We have 417 students registered this year. And we have reorganized from our original plan in June – we now have three K's, K/1, 1/2, two 2's, 2/3, two 3's, two grade 4 classes, one 5, 5/6, and a grade 6's.
4. We have introduced Fine Arts specialist teacher – Ms. Detjen to our gr. 2 – 6 classes, being taught in the MPR on Tuesday and Thursday.
5. We have many leadership activities started already. And for the second year in a row, Black Mountain will be sending 8 of our students to the “Me to We Conference” in Vancouver this October. This conference will encourage our students to be active and involved citizens who take on a local and a global cause that they will bring back to the rest of our school population. Other leadership roles include a spirit team, kindergarten support, office monitors, lunch monitors, and a tech and assembly crew.
6. Being proactive with regard to technology use – and safety. I have hired a Safe Online Workshop to be held at our school for all intermediate students on Oct. 15th to learn about digital citizenship.
7. We continue to have our school goals at the forefront of our decisions and our plans for the year. And we will support our goals of collaboration and working as team – including introducing our students to the Learning Commons approach.
8. We will continue to have monthly assemblies planned for this school year which will focus on various healthy themes and our attributes of learning. Attributes of a 21st century student – our district's one goal "All learners will demonstrate being thinkers, learners, collaborators, contributors, innovators
9. Communication is very important in a school community – and it is a key part of my position. I want to ensure everyone has up to date, current information sent to them for mail outs, using our reader board, and our website.
10. I am excited about getting to know our newest students in our school community members, and working with all of our students to provide a great learning experience and environment for all our students.

- 6) Ongoing Business: Feedback about the Fun Fair: It went really well from a fundraising perspective (a fair that we put on at the end of May). The next Fun Fair will be on May 29th.
Welcome Back Snack Feedback: It was a success from our perspective. We only budgeted \$100 but we ended up spending around \$500. Allie motioned for the PAC to pay \$400 of the \$541 bill. Donna seconded it. (Janet paid the rest of the bill). All present are in favor. Parking Lot Feedback: Janet is taking notes of any and all complaints from parents and students and will keep revisiting the issues every week. Lacey commented on the amount of exhaust fumes that are being inhaled when vehicles are backing into the spots and pedestrians are walking by. Janet is requesting that any parents that are available to help supervise the parking lot, are always welcome to help patrol. Janet welcomes all comments parents have about the new parking lot

design. The grassy area that used to have a walking path through it can now be used for extra parking for parents. Eventually the grass will become flattened down and parking there will become easier. If parents want to help out please get a safety vest from Janet and some parking lot design flyers to hand out to other parents in the parking lot in the mornings. Anyone who is willing to help with this matter please talk to Janet. Janet is collecting all comments and feedback about the new parking lot design and then at the next PAC meeting she will give us an update. Janet is going to talk to the school bus drivers and ask them to block the upper lot entrance so that parents don't park in the staff parking lot.

- 7) New Business: There will be a SOLOS Workshop on Wednesday, October 15th. The workshop will cost \$5 per person at the door. It will be at 7:00-9:00pm. The topic will be "Parenting in a Digital World". Everyone in the community is welcome. Childcare will be available.

Goals for the Year: \$25,000 was spent on technology last year. Here are some of our goals for this upcoming school year:

- 1) Support Fine Arts - buy some new instruments for the program.
- 2) Field Trips – pay for the cost of the PE field trips so parents don't have to pay each time.
- 3) Teacher's discretionary Fund – would the teachers like this? How much per teacher?
- 4) Exterior Grounds – Teacher Bev 's previous preschool area outside - what is happening with this area? Over the weekend this area was vandalized. The gates got pushed down so Janet is going to have the fence removed and the area will just become a part of the rest of the grass grounds. We discussed the possibility of getting more swings installed on the playground. It would have to go through the PAC. A formal letter would need to be sent to the district and a request for this equipment would need to be made. Currently, the playground is strictly for primary students during lunch time and recess. Intermediate students can use the playground in the morning before school and after school. We discussed about possibly getting some new equipment for the intermediate students to use. We voted tonight on which of these four goals were most important to us. Field Trips was #1 and Exterior Grounds was #2.

8) Discussion Items: Julee Richmond's Mom passed away recently and the PAC Executive is going to drop something off at Julee's house to let her know we are thinking of her. Cindy Charland, the Learning Assistant teacher, is away sick and her kids are missing her baking. If you are willing to donate some baked goods to the family you can drop them off at the office. There will be a family photo night fundraiser coming up soon. You pay a \$25 sitting fee up front and then you receive an 8 x 10 photo. Anything extra you want to order you can do so through Candice Johnson Photography. The \$25 gets donated to the PAC and then Candice will be donating the free 8 x 10. School picture day is on Friday October 3rd. Allie will look into the BC Gaming Fund as to how much money can be allocated to potential new playground equipment. World Teachers Day is October 5th and on October 6th the PAC will be providing a buffet breakfast for all teachers.

The next PAC meeting will be on Thursday, October 26th. We will be voting on the budget.

Minutes prepared by Janelle Schultz