

**HANDSWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOL
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (HPAC)
HANDSWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSSA)
MINUTES MEETING NOVEMBER 21, 2011**

Present:

HPAC/HSSA Executive: Sandra Hancock, Kathy McGreenera, Caroline Ramsay, Cheryl Leia, Kim Moen, Vivienne Megas, Sylvia Sanchez

Administration: Mark James – Principal

HPAC / HSSA Members in Attendance: Deb Burian, Mike McGraw, Lori Nubes, Harriet Tracy,

1.- Welcome, Introductions and call to order at 7:08pm from Sandra Hancock, HPAC – Chair

2.- Approval of Agenda was made by Deb Burian, seconded by Cheryl Leia, motion passed unanimously

3.- Approval of Minutes from October meeting was made by Vivienne Megas, seconded by Kim Moen, motion passed unanimously

4.- Upcoming Events:

Term 1 Ends: November 29, 2011

Term 2 Begins: November 30, 2011

Hands Up IV @ Centennial Theatre: November 30, 2011

Sweet Music Concert: December 8, 2011

Report Cards distribution: December 14, 2011

December 16th – last day of school – Christmas break

January 3rd - Back to school

January 16th - PRO Day, school closed

January 25th - Grade 9 Immunization Clinic

January 27th – PRO Day, school closed

5.- District PAC Report: NVPAC Meeting was held, October 20, 2011 at the Leo Marshall Curriculum Center @ 7:00 pm (by Vivienne Megas)

- Presentation on Emergency Preparedness and Management, Bernadette Woit – coordinator of the North Shore Emergency Planning. There are a number of programs people can sign up – free to the public. Information available on their website: <http://www.nesemo.org>
- Also mentioned that (2) Emergency Preparedness Manuals are kept at the schools, and usually at the principal's office. Each school should have their protocol and procedures in dealing with an emergency situation. For questions Bernadette can be reached at: bwoit@shaw.ca
- Water bottles have 2 years shelf limit – check for expiration dates.
- Parents were asking who was to be responsible for comfort kits (teachers or parents)
- Parents expressed concerns about the job action. There was inconsistency/discrepancies among schools, like: parent-teacher interviews, Remembrance Day assembly. Suggested by Cindy Gerlach that parents should send concerns to NVPAC and BCCPAC, so a letter can be sent to Superintendent John Lewis and all concerning parties.
- There are (3) public Standing Committees: Finance and Facilities, Education and Programs, and Towards the Future of Schools. NVPAC needs more parents to serve on district committees.

District PAC Report: NVPAC Meeting was held, November 17, 2011 at the Leo Marshall Centre (by Caroline Ramsay)

- The NVPAC Blog; northvanpac.org, is a great source of information for parents.

- NVPAC needs (2) new members due to the recent election of two Handsworth parents: Cyndi Gerlach, NVPAC Chair, and Mike McGraw Past Chair as School Trustees
- Budget was passed
- Reminder about funding for PACS for speakers, Food Safe Certification, and BCCPAC membership dues
- New grants available for Emergency Preparedness for PACS

6.- Music Report by Deb Burian:

- December 8: concert with (4) jazz bands, (4) concert bands and (3) strings bands. Each band to perform (2) songs. A bake sale is held before and after the concert @ Handsworth's gym. Tickets \$10/each.

7.- Student Council Report by Alex Moretti (treasurer)

- Halloween Event, was fun and very scary
- Christmas, planning breakfast with Santa on December 16. Tickets \$2/each, students to bring in cans and non-perishable goods for the Harvest Project. Grade 12 will be making the hampers.
- 2012 Events, still in planning stages.
- For the 50th anniversary, it is not considered yet and will support anything going on.
- Student council is formed by: (20) students, a rep for each year, 6 executive positions, this year a majority of 8th - 10th graders, and (2) head teachers.
- Elections are held in spring for the following year.

8.- Safe Grad Report Sandra Hancock reported that Grouse Mountain is not willing to host the safe grad this year; other alternative locations are being reviewed by the Committee.

9.- Development Fund Report by Cheryl Leia

- Fund has \$3,700, started 3 years ago, open to any grade student to support, develop and promote leadership skills. Students may apply for up to \$300/each, it is not based on school grades. Students must fill out an application. Goal is to create awareness of the fund so students apply for it. Mark James to contact counsels and planning teachers to provide information. Cheryl Leia provided a list of programs that apply and will be forwarded to teachers.

10.- Kim Moen and Holly Robertson acclaimed members at large of HPAC

11.- Treasurers Report by Kathy McGrenera

2011/2012 expense budget presented, see attached.

Approved by Sheryl Leia seconded by Harriet Tracey, motion passed unanimously

12.- Principals Report

- Some good webpages which students can log into to review their lessons: 'Khan Academy', 'Show Me'. It was suggested to have a section in the school webpage for parents
 - School Fees for 2012/2013, no changes from previous year. Attached list of expect fees.
 - Fees for advanced placement, are the fees for taking the exams.
 - Clarified that profit from the Entertainment books sold at school goes to the teachers to add on items for their programs.
 - Clarified General School Fees: where the money goes: Courses will still happen if fees were not paid, we pay more for better opportunities.

14.- Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm

Next Meeting January 23, 2012