

HANDSWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (HPAC)
HANDSWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSSA)
MINUTES AGM MEETING
May 30, 2012

PRESENT:

HPAC/HSSAS Executive: Sandy Hancock, Kathy McGreenera, Caroline Ramsay, Gwen Groberman, Trish Brady, Vivienne Megas, Kim Moen, Katy MacLellan, Sylvia Sanchez

Administration: Mark James, Principal

HPAC/HSSA members in attendance: Zohereh Gharaei

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

2.- Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Caroline Ramsay and seconded by Kim Moen

3.- Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2011 AGM meeting: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2011 HPAC/HSSA AGM meeting was moved by Trish Brady and seconded by Vivienne Megas. The motion passed unanimously

4.- Chairperson's Report: by Sandra Hancock

It was a challenging year due to the job action, the teachers were less engaged in school activities, had issues with the report cards. But it was amazing to see how all: parents, teachers, students and administration stepped out to have a successful year in music, band, sports, academic, theatre, all areas were covered.

Highlights throughout the year:

- Had a fire in the dance studio
- The 50th Anniversary of the school, difficult to coordinate much
- September: combined the 8th grade parents tour around the school since the 'meet & greet' was cancelled (120 parents in attendance)
- October: we were mostly dealing with changes of the Job Action. The best way to contact the teachers was by email.
- November: at the DPAC Emergency Preparedness was reviewed, we had a Student Council rep (Treasurer Alex Moretti) who talked about the Harvest Project and the hampers to be made by grade 12th. From the principals report we learned about the "Khan Academy" and "Show Me", very helpful learning web sites. And we reviewed and approved the school wish list.
- January: Barry Forward – School Trustee joined us, he talked about the surplus of land within the district (12 schools are empty), the Balmoral changes to become an alternative school and the New Outdoor School (\$5 million renovation), and Handsworth is still in the waiting list for a re-build (after Argyle and Seymour Heights). Student Council (Jessica Crowsbes and Bailey Core) spoke about the No Regrets event, and requested the HPAC support and help. At the DPAC the IT resource survey was done. From the Principals Report, all computers (the HPAC funded 50% by the cheque drive) were in the school and the dance studio was back in use.
- February: from Family Services of the North Shore FSNS we had a speaker, with great reviews, who informed about services and support for students and families, demonstrated how to navigate their webpage. A Translink Report (by Demsi Rose) advocate for setting the bus system to/from Handsworth improved.

- April: Project Hands (by Shelley Stanhope), the cookbook fundraiser (book will go on sale during the fall) and the Career for Coaches Program which was very popular.
- May: the No Regrets Event, in conjunction with the plant sale and clothing drive.

5.- Report on the No Regrets Event – May 12th by Eric Warner

The planning without the teachers support was very difficult, the students struggled.

Though the event ran flawlessly, it was fun, busy and happy, very well managed. The day of the event they had a surplus of bands, the basketball tournament was much energized, the BBQ did not sale much, and the silent auction needed to be promoted/advertised more.

The painting is beautiful, by Rachel Walnut.

The event made +/- \$1,200.

Most likely future generations will continue with this event, the community is very involved with the support of Quinn Keast.

6. – Plant Sale Report by Trish Brady

Organizers thanked all the support and help from parents and Sam the custodian.

156 plants were ordered – HPAC made \$963

7. – Clothing Drive and Citizenship Fund by Sandy Hancock for Cheryl Leia

+/- 160 clothing bags were received \$498.00

Therese O'Connor – teacher, would like to incorporate the Citizenship grant to her grade 10 planning classes, not so sure how is she going to do it. One of the goals is to have students learn life skills through the management and application process.

Current funds available are \$3,500 (+2012 cash for clothes)

In 2012 (4) students applied for the funds for a total of \$1,065, previous years only (2) students had applied.

8.- Safe Grad by Sandra Hancock for Cheryl Leia

To be held on Saturday June 9 at 11:30pm, after the dinner dance at the Hyatt.

Extremely well organized and safe for the students.

9.- School Planning Report by Gween Groberman

School planning is done, goals are the same as last year.

10.- DPAC Report by Caroline Ramsay

The NVPAC met April 19, 2012 at the Leo Marshall Centre. A summary of the meeting can be found on the NVPAC blog. The highlights of the meeting are as follows:

Job Action: NVPAC Chair David Whitehead met with NVTA executive to get an update on the teachers' job action and to learn parents and students can expect in terms of the effect on extra-curricular activities, , outdoor school, grad, and report cards. No firm answers pending outcome of union vote.

Parent Survey: NVPAC has drafted a parent satisfaction survey, looking for input/feedback

Notice of AGM/Call for NVPAC Volunteers: May 15

Report on Parent as Career Coaches Seminar: well received sold-out district-wide event for parents. Plans are in the works for more of the same.

The NVPAC AGM was held on May 15 2012 at the Leo Marshall Centre. Election results may be found on the NVPAC blog. David Whitehead returns as Chair and Handsworth's Vivienne Megas is the new Program Facilitator – so look out for some interesting speakers and workshops coming to NVPAC next year! Parent Education will be a focus for NVPAC next year following on the success of the Parent as Career Coach Event. The NVPAC also has plans for conducting a Parent Satisfaction survey and working on a district-wide look at PAC supported IT in schools.

I encourage all HPAC members to follow the NVPAC blog <http://blog.northvanpac.org> regularly for updates of interest to all North Van school district parents. Recent posts discuss what's happening around the surplus land issue.

11.- BCCPAC Spring Conference Report by Vivienne Megas
See attached report.

12. – Music Report by Sandy Hancock for Debbie Burian
Confirmed band trips for next year are the Whistler Music Festival May 2-5 with Junior & Intermediate Jazz Bands and Intermediate Concert Band attending. Several other potential trips are in the planning stage.

Bottle drive dates are set for Saturday, October 13th and Saturday, April 6th.

Our continuing fundraiser will be for uniform replacement. Through fundraising this year and the next two years we hope to raise \$8500 -\$9000 to update the uniforms of all the concert, jazz and strings groups. We have raised \$1500 so far this year. We will formally request money from HPAC in the fall – approximately \$3500 over 2 years to help with this effort. (See attached information sheet)

MPAC expects to end this school year on budget. They will have their final finance meeting of the year on June 1st and their AGM on June 5th

13.- Treasurer Report by Kathy MaGrenara

Treasurer presented financial statement for the year so far (attached statement). We have a healthy balance of \$15,599.12 in our General Account, \$3,134 in the designated Citizenship Fund account, and \$2,997.56 remaining to disperse from the Gaming Grant.

An audit by the Gaming branch resulted in an explanation that gaming funds are to be used exclusively for extracurricular purposes. We will therefore alter our method of budgeting and spending gaming funds towards extracurricular activities.

14.- Election of Directors.-

TBC who will chair next meetings

Secretary – Sylvia Sanchez

Treasurer – Kathy McGrenera

Directors – Nominations: Gween Groberman, Vivienne Megas, Katy McLellan, Trish Bishop, Zohereh Gharaei, Holly Robertson. Nominated by Sandra Hancock, seconded by Sylvia Sanchez.
Motion carried unanimously

15.- Teachers Luncheon . – June 27

Will be run as previous years. Food, money donations and volunteering for set up, clean up and serve; has been requested.

16.- June Social.- on June 11th, in library at 7:00pm, will be inviting grade 7 parents from feeder schools, contact graduating parents, past board members, athletics. We will serve some refreshments. Welcome new parents, thank leaving members.

17.- Administration Report by Mark James

- Vice Principal Jeff Hasenauer will be moved to Carson Graham and from same secondary Renne Hislop will be the new Vice Principal at Handsworth, at end of school year.

- Overall it was a challenging year, no report cards, more work for the teachers due to the job action, they had to contact parents by email, no staff meeting held.

- Awards ceremony will take place during the day

- Grad Ceremony will look different this year, teachers will be in attendance but not participating.
- CHOICES Program, new to the school district this year will change its model (4% of North Van students participate in alternate programs). As of September 2012 the CHOICES program will be based in the school, teachers who identify students with social or emotional issues will refer the students to the program. It is a school based resourced team, a full teacher in Handsworth will be dedicated to the program, along with a youth worker. All sets of variations will be setup to help them thrive, as well as different approaches, if it does not work then they will be referred to an alternate program.
- School calendar will be changed next year. No 15 min break after the second period and lunch time will be for an hour, it was the teachers' decision.
- As of September 2012, late start on Wednesdays once a month. Start time will be at 9:30am
- Compliments to the No Regrets event, students did an amazing job, school and community praise them.
- Students Elections got a bit out of hand, next year some guidelines will apply.
- Grad Kidnap Day, was no so good.
- Stressful time at school due to: the timetable is being built for next year, normal classes will be of (30) students. All students that apply for a transfer into Handsworth on time are in the school. Teachers are still negotiating for next year. 3 teachers will be on maternity leave next school year, and 2 will retire

18.- Next HPAC Meeting is our social on Monday June 10th at 7:00pm in the library.

19.- Meeting adjourned, Sandy Hancock moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sylvia Sanchez. The motion was passed unanimously.

No further business. Meeting adjourned at 9:17pm