

**HANDSWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (HPAC)  
HANDSWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSSA)  
DRAFT MINUTES MEETING January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013**

**Present:**, Katy MacLellan, Caroline Ramsay, Holly Robertson, Kathy McGrenara, Sandy Hancock , Marian Dodd, Ermanno Rambelli, Shahnaz Darayan, Sylvia Sanchez

**Administration/Staff:** Mark James, Cary Hungle

**Members in Attendance:** Sherry Gant, Kathi Hagan, Karen Saunders, Lori Wheeler, Bruce Weng, Andrea Campell.

**Welcome, Introductions and call to order:** at 7:05pm by Katy MacLellan

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve by Marian Dodd, seconded by Lori Wheeler

**Approval of Minutes from November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012:** Motion to approve by Sylvia Sanchez, seconded by Sandy Hancock

**Welcome and introduction of new Vice Principal Cary Hungle.**

**Improv Club.-** Ben Christensen and Muni Gholamipour (team members)

The club is under the umbrella of the drama club; it is to improvise theatre.

September/October time to join the club.

Team is made by 8 members.

Goal is to make the Canadian Improv Games. In 2004 Handsworth won the nationals, 1<sup>st</sup> team in BC to accomplish. Last year they were 7<sup>th</sup> in BC.

Shows are sold out for the next few days.

Schedule is under the Handsworth Performing Arts webpage:

[http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/SchoolSites/Handsworth/Departments/Performing\\_Arts/Drama/Events\\_Performances\\_Schedules\\_Forms\\_and\\_More.aspx](http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/SchoolSites/Handsworth/Departments/Performing_Arts/Drama/Events_Performances_Schedules_Forms_and_More.aspx)

To support the program they fundraise thru bake sales, and planning to sell the new t-shirts.

Shows are very popular, quick, talented and very funny.

**Athletic Report.- Lori Wheeler and Andrea Campbell**

Last Athletic council meeting took place December 4<sup>th</sup>. There was no meeting in January. The next meeting will take place in February.

Decision to put boy's soccer grade 8/9 in as permanent sport at Handsworth was discussed.

Mark Callow, the coach of the team, shared his thoughts:

- Team was comprised of grade 9s and 10s only, as was the agreement
- Fun and positive experience
- Lots of kids trying out each year (approx 40 this year)
- 28 kids selected each year (max based on available jerseys)
- Good socialization between the 9s and 10s
- Team was competitive both year, making playoffs each time
- Mark would like to see the team to continue

Jay Prepchuck said he thought the junior boy's soccer team had not impacted football too much.

Over all a good experience and likely the soccer team will be approved as a permanent team at Handsworth.

Another issue that is being discussed was the heavy use of our grass field by both PE classes and teams, and the uniqueness of our field as one maintained by the district, but used primarily by the school. The condition of the field is particularly bad. This issue and solutions will be discussed in upcoming meetings

Track and Field volunteers are needed.

On the agenda for February's meeting:

- Proposal for a floorball team
- Proposal to have synchro swim team under the Handsworth Aquatic umbrella
- Will discuss if football spring training for grade 7s going into grade 8 means a full commitment to the team in the fall

**DPAC Report.** - Caroline Ramsay

The NVPAC met November 15, 2012 and January 17, 2013 at the new Education Services Building. Summaries of the meetings are posted on the NVPAC blog <http://blog.northvanpac.org>. Look also to the Blog for summaries of Board of Education meetings.

November Meeting - The highlight of the November meeting was a presentation by former BCCPAC President Ann Whiteaker on the role PACs play in student success and community building. Ann gave the group a quick history of parental involvement in public schools in our Province and gave us good grounding in the current legislated rights roles, and responsibilities of PACs today.

She was realistic about the challenges facing parent groups (particularly around fundraising) in the present environment of time- strapped families and financially- squeezed school districts, but was passionate and optimistic about the power of parental engagement to contribute to "school connectedness" a notion she defined as a situation where students believe that adults and peers in the school care about their learning as well as about them as individuals. And said that Students who feel connected to their school are more likely to:

- achieve better academic results
- have better attendance
- stay in school longer
- avoid risky behaviour.

She emphasized that PACS should work with school admin, staff, and students to create an environment where parents feel welcome and wanted in the school and to recognize all parental volunteer contributions as valuable.

School Calendar Dialogue - Of interest to parents may be the ongoing public consultation on the school calendar. A meeting is to be held Thursday Jan. 24 4-6pm at the Education Services Centre (show flyer for RSVP details and background to issue).

**SPC Report.**- Holly Robertson

School Planning Council, made by Principal, 2 parents and 2 students. Plan is available in the

school webpage. They are to begin the process of discussing the plan for next school year 2013/2014.

**Music Report.-** Sherry Grant

They had a very successful Sweet Music concert in December, being treated to new and traditional holiday favourites and some great baking. Fundraised approximately \$3,500 so the event was a great financial success, as well. All of the kids looked wonderful in their new uniforms –big thanks once again to HPAC for their support.

They are also very grateful to have received a generous donation of \$4,000 from one of the Strings families. This money will directly benefit the Handsworth Strings program.

Upcoming performances:

Feb. 12 – Jr. `Just Jazz Cellar` at Handsworth

Feb. 13 – Sr. `Just Jazz Cellar` at Handsworth

Feb. 21-22 – Kiwanis Jazz Festival at Capilano University

Mar. 5 – Wonderful Winds Band Concert at Highlands United Church

**Treasurers Report.** - Kathy McGreenera

\$18,000 from the gaming grants have been used:

-basketball score board \$5,000

-drama mirror and lights \$5,000

-photography backdrop and lights \$1,500

-soccer jerseys \$1,200

-energy supplies \$500

-scholarships \$1,500

-music uniform \$3,000

**Upcoming Events.-**

January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> - Drama Festival

January 23<sup>rd</sup> - Grade 9 Immunization Clinic

January 29<sup>th</sup> – Senior Formal

January 30<sup>th</sup> – Late Start – Pajamas Day

February 5<sup>th</sup> – Emergency Preparedness at Home and School Workshop with Bernadette Wolt – North Shore Schools Emergency Prep and Planning @ 7pm – Handsworth Library

February 8<sup>th</sup> – PRO Day, school closed

February 11<sup>th</sup> – Family Day, school closed

February 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> – Jazz Cellar Concerts

February 18<sup>th</sup> – next HPAC meeting, with guest speaker Jesse Miller: social media education and awareness

February 26<sup>th</sup> – 2013 North Vancouver French Film Festival: Students from Ross Road, Braemar, Sherwood Park, Larson, Cleveland, Dorothy Lynas, Boundary, Argyle, Windsor and Handsworth Schools will be converging on the Empire Theatres Esplanade to watch three very interesting French films.

**Spring Fundraising.-** Katy MacLellan

The plant sale and Queen Keast Event are going ahead on May 11<sup>th</sup>. More information and details to come soon.

**Administration Report. - Mark James**

-Learning grant from last year: have extra math teacher time to support students, and smaller class rooms.

-Have started to program for next school year 2013/2014. Looking for grade 11s and 12s to apply for spare study time, school to have more control.

-‘DL’ Distributed Learning (online courses). I.e.: planning French Gr10 falls as a selective course, but is a requirement to graduate. Students have to be very thoughtful when making their choices and programming their classes. Counsellors are to support, and parent nights are upcoming soon.

-School is at limit. For the last 2 years all transfers have been accepted. Transfers requests are now open. Principal to Principal transfers will not happen until September 2013.

-School webpage is in transition, with big changes.

- Formal event is in jeopardy if kids are not in school the following day. The challenge is the after party.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm**

**Next Meeting is February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**