

Gordon PAC meeting minutes, Monday 28th April 2008 6:45 PM

Attending: Ingrid Sulston (chair), Paul Pavlidis (secretary), Anna Johnson (Treasurer), Margaret Davidson (Principal), Noreen Morris (vice principal), Cathy Marr, Eva Sereda, Heather Young, Penny Dagg, Joanne Rowland, Aaron Dudley, Marlene Jones, Nina Dolleris, Diana Schmidt, Michelle Chui, Elke Porter.

Guest: Les Smith (Community Schools Team Coordinator)

Approval of March Minutes. Motion: Anna Second: Motion carried.

Motions to be made on spending money: A notice of a motion was made by Anna in the March PAC, which was acted on as follows: Motion made by Cathy Marr. From the gaming grant: up to \$500 for graduation ceremony, up to \$1600 for author visits, up to \$1600 for concerts, \$400 for drama club items, \$255.44 for PE equipment, total of up to \$5000. Motion second: Anna. Motion carried (unanimous)

Cathy further moved, that from our regular account: \$100 gift to teachers for this term (17 divisions plus library, music and resources) total of \$2000. Heather seconded, motion carried (unanimous).

DPAC need parents for their Executive – they have openings for members at large, at the very least. Deadline for nominations May 14th. Cathy mentioned that it's a good opportunity to discuss issues (like school renewal) at a city level. While DPAC tends not to get politically involved, this could be changed by people who want to make a difference. Margaret will put something about this in the newsletter – someone could at least be a DPAC liaison.

Les Smith: Guest from our Community Schools Team Not every school is a community school, so they have 'teams'. The east side has more teams as judged to have higher needs; on west side, we're responsible for 4 high schools and 17 elementary schools. Les distributed a sample newsletter (attached to paper minutes) and wants to get involved with the PACs. Examples of programs:

- Grade 7-8 transition; peer pressure, other social issues.
- Leadership classes run by Mike Kulik. Training 5&6 how to do games with younger kids. Does 5 or 6 schools for a few weeks and then cycles around, so he covers all the schools. Some students went to a student leadership conference.
- "MoreSports": After school on Wednesdays starting next week at Gordon, we have soccer; culminates in a tournament with 1500 kids! This is an 'out of school, low-cost sports program. Basketball in the fall.

But only 4 people on the team – Karen Young (curriculum development), Mike Kulik, Brian and Les. High school kids are trained to be coaches etc. – volunteers, but need a VSB person to be there, so supervision is a limiting factor. Budget is fixed, and may even get eroded by getting a smaller slice of pie, and costs are also rising. We have to start charging small fees to make up gaps in out-of-school programs.

What kind of programs does Gordon want? Some ideas that were mentioned: hiking and mountain biking, 'beach study' – something with nature – chess, skateboarding, swimming. Help with spring fling?

Les suggests that we collectively come up with ideas, fill in their survey (attached to paper and electronic minutes), and let him know.

Playground structure – Aaron – I met with Murray Stewart to discuss issues. Old stuff we have that he wants to get rid of (treated wood, getting too old). We don't have money for replacing all of that, but we should start replacing it. Focussed on area in the corner of Bayswater and 6th. Students were surveyed

(results attached to paper minutes). Top choices were 'rotating dish' (could replace tire swings - \$11,703.50) and 'habitat systems' (slides, climbing stuff, pretty standard but very nice; we have some stuff from them already that it could be joined onto, near that Bayswater & 6th corner). We can replace that corner wooden stuff for \$20,000.

Paul moved to replace the Bayswater and 6th wooden equipment with a 'habitat systems' worth up to \$20,000 and the kids can provide input on which pieces we get. Eva seconded. Passed unanimously.

Now we need to decide what pieces to get for our system. Aaron will get some big boards made up by Habitat with some examples on. At the Spring Fling kids and parents can put stickies on the pieces they like most.

Margaret quick notices:

- Mary has booked two **authors** in anticipation of the grant money.
- Kate Milne wants to start a '**walking school bus**'. Suggested having a table at the spring fling to gauge interest, and come to the Earth Day assembly. Kids walk with a few parents on a set route; goal is to have more kids walking to school and to make it safe in terms of dealing with auto traffic.
- **Artist-in-residence**. She's a photographer to help document the school whether it gets torn down or not. She also worked with Dickens. I decided to work through student council; each division will choose something they want to remember to be photographed. I haven't met her yet but next week she's coming to talk about it. Margaret will get in touch with parent Derek von Essen who has also been photographing the school.
- **Mr H got an award.**

School Plan – Margaret: The school plan is developed yearly by the Principal and Vice Principal, reported to the school board. The school board evaluates success (of course the school monitors progress as well). This replaces the accreditation process.

The committee met. Jennifer Sears, Ingrid Sulston, Lisa Chambers, Jan Hare, outgoing Maggie Samsom. Want to move to get it together in October so we're ready to make the plan in January. About 3 meetings, then meetings of staff with principal and v.p.; Who are the kids we're most worried about, and what are we doing about it.

One focus for this year is Social responsibility: Collecting data: which kids are involved in school activities? Determine which kids need more involvement, especially primary kids. Distributed part of the performance standards for social responsibility ("Contributing to the classroom and school community"). There are other aspects but we're starting with this to focus on.

Cathy: the School Plan replaces an accreditation process, under provincial Bill 34. This specifies who should be on the School Planning Council and how they are voted in.

Financial – Anna has question: readathon money ~\$1200. How do we divide it up. Suggestion is to divide up among classrooms, library. Mary and teachers will meet to discuss. Ingrid moves to make a notice of a motion to spend all \$1276.44 on literacy, where the teachers will determine how it will be spent. Seconded: Paul seconded.

Spring Fling –Meeting Tuesday 1pm in the library. Contact Ingrid if you can't make it but want to help out.



West 2 Community School Team

The West 2 CST provides support and programs to 4 Secondary schools and 14 Elementary schools. Please review the list below and let us know if there are any of these programs and services that you would like to see at your school, or provide us with some suggestions for other initiatives.

Our team includes: Karen Young (Teacher), Brian Taggart (Youth & Family Worker), Mike Kulik (Child & Youth Programmer) and Les Smith CST Coordinator.

<input type="checkbox"/> Roots of Empathy: Fosters the development of empathy through discussions, observations, and lessons during class visits by a parent and baby.	<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Opportunities: Providing students with leadership experiences (such as Byng Link; Noon-Hour Games, Playground Leaders, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sports and Recreation: Various projects requiring secondary student volunteers (such as MoreSports, coaching, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Transitional Support: Providing support to grade 7 students by preparing them for the transition to secondary school through workshops and lessons (such as Byng Link; Link Crew; Transition Sessions; etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> One to One Support: Counselling and support to individual students provided by the YFW.	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Group Support: Counselling and support to small groups of identified students provided by the YFW.
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Education: Organizing and supporting workshops in parenting skills.	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Learning: Opportunities for students to volunteer for activities, programs and events in the community.
<input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Support: The CST Teacher can provide collaborative support to classroom teachers on topics of sustainability, global citizenship, and social responsibility.	<input type="checkbox"/> School-wide Initiatives: Providing support and assistance with school projects and events (such as Sports Days, carnivals, special events, school fairs, day camps etc.)

Other (What you would like to see): _____

Your School: _____

Your School Contact Person: _____

**Please return this to us either by fax: (604) 713-5435 or via Blue Bag to:
Bayview Elementary (attn: West 2 Community School Team)**



**West 2 Community School Team
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