

Lord Byng Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
3939 West 16th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V6R 3C9

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday, November 25, 2008

7:15 PM

Lord Byng School library

Present (Executive): Daniel Chowne (Co-Chair), Julia Lian (Treasurer), Brian Marcus (DPAC/BCCPAC), Brenda Rosenau (Volunteer Coordinator), Michelle Carrington (Fundraising), Cathie Ryan (Secretary)

Regrets: Sylvie Lefebvre (co-chair), Leo Ferry (Past Co-Chair), Patti Bacchus (Director at Large), Yvonne Marcus (Web Design), Ingrid Holler (Director at Large), Lewis Yau Lin (Chinese Parents' Liaison)

1. Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2008 meeting.
 - a. Motion: Caroline Crowe, Seconded Joanne Christine
 - i. Carried Unanimously
2. Introduction of the PAC Executive. John Hobbs will be the Volunteer Committee Coordinator and can be reached at JBHobbs@Telus.net
3. A Parent representative is needed for the School Growth Committee.
4. Principal's Report:
 - a. Lord Byng will be one of ten pilot schools for a District Sustainability Summit Recycling Program. We will be setting up a school garden in the planter boxes by the Drama Building. On December 4th there will be a CNN Live Feed Broadcast with students from Lord Byng, and schools in France and Uganda to have a round table discussion of Aids, Human Rights and other global issues.
 - b. The recent Byng Arts meeting for prospective parents was very well attended. A new student information system is being implemented, BC ESIS, which will allow enhanced communication between parents and teachers. Report cards will be issued December 15th.
 - c. We will be getting an extra counselor for grade 8 to begin at the end of January 2009. Alissa Brandt won the VPL Bookmark competition. Tim Braundt did a presentation for the Staff on the Olympics. Next Staff meeting is Dec. 10th at 7:45 a.m. when the BC ESIS system will be demonstrated. The J.Q. retrofit is going to proceed next year on track.

5. Brenda Rosenau has drafted a letter to the Assistant Superintendent which is to be sent to the VSB addressing issues raised by the impact of the U Hill overflow. The Principals of various West side schools have also expressed concern and Chris Kelly of the VSB is putting together a Task Force on Enrollment.
6. Parent volunteers are needed for the Teacher Appreciation Lunch on December 9th.
7. Discussion of Financial Matters and Treasurer's Report by Julia Lian, Treasurer
 - a. \$11,656 has been raised by grocery certificates fund raising. We were successful in getting \$24,700 for our gaming grant application from last year which was re-submitted. \$24,784 has been spent from the Teacher's Wish List. We have \$23,210 cash on hand and expect to get approximately \$25,000 in gaming funds this year. With the Wish List items to be spent from this most recent Wish List, the total Wish List spending will be \$40,261.
 - b. Thanks were expressed to Sylvie Lefebvre and Daniel Chowne for all the work involved in resubmitting the gaming application and also to the previous Treasurer, Annie Wang. Erin Zimmaro expressed thanks to the PAC on behalf of the Teachers for the Wish List items.
8. Michelle Carrington reported on the Close the Gap campaign which is now finished and raised \$7,100 in donations to the School. This is "general" money that is to come to the PAC that is to go to the Teachers' Wish List. The gaming funds money has certain spending restrictions on it, for example, it is not to be used to purchase curricular items. Where donors have designated a particular Department within the school the money will go to that Department. Grocery certificates program is on track and has raised approximately \$4,000 so far.
9. DPAC Report by Brian Marcus.
 - a. On October 30th there was a meeting with Chris Kelly on the Neighbourhoods of Learning within the Network of Learning, the focus of which is to more actively and broadly connect school, elementary to elementary school, and elementary to high schools to increase access to the various programs available, and also to connect the schools to the broader community including UBC, Galleries etc.
 - b. Queen Mary, General Gordon and Strathcona are part of a Pilot program with seismic upgrading to renew the schools. The most recent seismic meeting held as part of the Think City initiative placed emphasis on environmental issues and heritage noting that upgrades must address safety, space and functionality, environmental impact and heritage.

10. Lord Byng Website - Yvonne Marcus has been working with Len Pelletier on connecting the PAC Website to the Byng Website and it is now in skeleton form. There will be some new features available early in the New Year. The address is www.Lordbyng.net/PAC Len Pelletier reported that we have a great server now and that Word Press software is being used which will make the website easy to update. Five teachers have their own sites already and the student newspaper, the Grey Ghost, will be on too. Len can be reached at Lpelletier@vsb.bc.ca
11. Report by Erin Zimmaro - Teachers report things are settling down with the students as the term progresses.
12. Julian Lian reported feedback from the Chinese Parents Support Group that it is hard for some of them to come into the school to pick up their certificates.
13. Diane Lamb, Co-chair of the Grad PAC reported that their second meeting is tomorrow night. Co-Chair is Jane Sherk, Fundraising is Michelle Carrington, Treasurer is Lorraine Morgan, Volunteer Coordinator is Kate Wolf and Roland Schmidt. Wreaths are being put together next week and volunteers are needed as it takes 2 hours per wreath. In particular, grade 11 parents are encouraged to get involved for Dry Grad in June. Diane can be reached at Daine@dmlamb.com
14. Discussion of proposed guest speakers: Valerie Jenkinson who is with the online home school program and the Chairs of the various Byng Task Forces were suggested. The DPAC Liaison will come in February.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.