

Lord Byng PAC General Meeting
May 25, 2010
School Library – 7:15pm

There were approximately 25 people in attendance

PAC Executive members in attendance: Sylvie Lefebvre (chairs meeting), Daniel Chown (past chair), Julia Lian (treasurer), Karen Schaubert (communication), James Chau (DPAC), John Hobbs (volunteer coordinator), Lucy Li (parent-chinese group), Michelle Carrington (fundraising), Cathy Ryan (school growth committee)

Secretary: Alyson McKendrick (in lieu of Monique Giard)

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by John Hobbs; seconded by Sylvie Lefebvre – all in favour.

Approval of April 27, 2010 meeting: Motion by Sylvie Lefebvre; seconded by James Chau – all in favour.

PAC Nominating Committee:

- New parents are needed for: Treasurer, Co-chairs, Secretary, Fundraising, DPAC/BCCPAC representative, and others
- John Hobbs mentioned the importance of a smooth transitions between current and new committee coordinators. Write-ups of duties are needed so there are no gaps
- Current positions tentatively filled for 2010/11 include:
 - Karen Schaubert, communications; Cathy Ryan, School Growth Plan; Lucy Li and Wuling Zeng, Chinese Parent Liaison; Julia Lian, Treasurer; Michelle Carrington and Karen Ford, Fundraising; Colleen Miranda, teacher appreciation lunch
- A new Treasurer will be needed for the 11/12 year – Julia would like to train someone now. It is not a complex position or time consuming, but a very important position
- Michelle Carrington would also like to train someone in Fundraising for the 11/12. The Gift Card program is about a 2 hour time commitment per month and requires 2 to 3 parents.

Communication:

- Karen Schaubert introduced a new parent communication tool. The PAC will now have its own list serve so office staff's time won't be taken up with PAC updates to parents. *Stay Connected* allows parents to sign up to be on the PAC email distribution: pac.byng@gmail.com. The LB PAC website is: www.lordbyng.net/pac
- There was a discussion around how the *Stay Connected* system would coincide with Ebulletin

Treasurer's Report: Julia Lian provided an update of account balances; receipts for wish list items are still pending but once received from Maggie Chan they will be reimbursed by PAC; expect that PAC will leave about \$8,000 in the accounts for next year (about \$30,000 was approved for funding this year).

Fundraising: Michelle introduced a new IGA Marketplace gift card program.

DPAC/BCCPAC: James Chau had nothing new to report

Principal's Report:

- **2010/11 School Calendar:** has been approved by the District with the exception of the proposed change of Professional Day from November 26 to November 3

- **2010/11 Bell Schedule:** Fixed start and end times are the same for all Vancouver Elementary and Secondary Schools. Period 2 is 90 minutes, 7 minutes of which are taken up with announcements
- **School Fees:** have not increased from last year. Supplemental fees should not change, however, there may be slight deviations
- **2010/11 School Plan:** Community input was sought. Focus on assessment will continue. The District will review. Reflections on the 2009/10 Plan, Ms. Taddei reports that there were improvements in the marginal/grey areas.
- **ESL Students:** are taking pride and ownership of their school and are becoming involved. The 3B's Club has been successful: Bridge, Bond and Build
- **Athletics:** Ms Taddei highlighted this year's accomplishments in Lord Byng Athletics: Tennis, second in the Cities; Jr Boys Rugby, City Champions and Track and Field, City Champions, ending a 65 year drought. Kudos given to Mr Byron Jack and Ms Sara Neal for coaching the Track and Field team.
- **Staffing:** Ms Taddei reports that we have retained our 5 full time Counsellors, Sherry Hurst, Resource Teacher and Erin Zimmaro, Librarian. 22 staff were initially given possible lay-off notices, 8 have been laid off. Their jobs have been posted and Ms Taddei hopes they will apply back for their positions. There will be some duplication of duties at the department head level. Our 3 Administrators need to consume 6 teaching blocks.

Erin Zimmaro, teacher rep for PAC thanked everyone for the opportunity to be involved

SPEAKER: John Jordan

Grade 12 Counsellor

Retiring after 33 years of service.

Pathway to Success

(Chinese translation provided by:
Robert Lee, VSB Multicultural Liaison)

- Success is a sub-goal to the real goal of happiness
- John encouraged parents to make connections between privilege and responsibility when children are young. One way to make that connection is to give children regular chores at home, to contribute to the family, to see themselves as part of a group, not just looking for their own pleasure
- As children grow older, there are many learning opportunities that go beyond school, such as, athletics, critical thinking and dialog so that parents and children really understand each other
- Encourage children to develop an emotional vocabulary
- In the high school years, children move beyond their parents and start becoming their own person, making their own decisions
- After high school, children should not have to depend on their parents too much.
- John has written in this year's Year Book to the graduating students that parents can reflect on
- John emphasized the characteristic of curiosity. Curiosity can be crushed if there is a focus just on test scores. Please have the dialog with your child to see what they view as success.
- Once children know what success is to them, parents' job is to support them in reaching that success

There was a general Question and Answer discussion, mainly around goal setting and obtaining goals.
Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm