

BME PAC Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2014

Location: Library

Attendance: Val, Janelle, Allie, Julee, Bonnie-Lee, Tanya, Angela, Karen, Rhonda, Lori, Jeanne, April, Margherita and Lacey (14 in total).

- 1) Call to order at 6:05pm
- 2) Adopt Minutes from last meeting and the agenda for this one: Bonnie Lee motioned to accept the minutes and agenda and Allie seconded it.
- 3) Introductions by Val
- 4) Officer's Reports:
 - a) Treasurer's Report by Allie: We are sitting at around \$20,000 in our account. Last year we spent about \$35,000 on technology for the school. At the Christmas concerts, we are planning on having a raffle each night, where we will sell tickets and then draw a winning number at the end of the concert. We are planning on buying Purdy's chocolates and Devry's poinsettias and giving those away as raffle prizes. December 9th, 10th and 11th are the concert dates. \$2 for 1 ticket or 3 tickets for \$5. Same prizes each night.
 - b) SPC Report by Bonnie-Lee: (Student Planning Council) 3 parents and Mrs. Williams form a team and go over goals and numbers for the year. For example, the upcoming report cards will be reviewed afterwards and this council will discuss how things are going so far.
 - c) Hot Lunch Report by Bonnie-Lee: January, February and March are open for sales now. December ordering closes on Monday. Things are all running smoothly and they have lots of helpers. Hot Lunch continues to be our biggest fundraiser and the best received.
 - d) COPAC Report by Julee: (Cory is away) Vivian Evans is now officially the president of COPAC. Pearson Elementary is potentially starting a program where they will have a one door solution of services. 20% of children are vulnerable. This would be a place where families can go and find the answers/services they need. Pediatrician, psychologist, nurse, transportation...etc. MDI should happen next year. A measurement tool to see if our programs are working. Starts measuring at the grade 4 levels. School garden grants are available up to \$2,000. "From Farm to School" organization is doing this. BCCPAC Resolutions were handed out for all present and they are looking for parent feedback. We circled either yes or no on these forms and handed them back in to Val and she will be passing these onto Cory who will then pass them on at her next meeting.
 - e) Fundraising Report by Julee: We have \$2,000 so far for Purdy's orders so that means we have made \$500 profit. We have made around \$250 profit for the Devry's Poinsettias. We will be starting a magazine fundraiser in January. Julee told us about the Warm Hearts Charitable Foundation by Fortis. She is going to apply for this for our school and they will give us \$1,000 to go towards our school. We will need to decide what we want to spend the \$1,000 on. We will most likely spend this money on the Fine Arts Program. Our Candice Johnson Photography family photo fundraiser went well. We received great feedback from one of the parents present. Candice will be offering another photo shoot in the spring time for those families interested.

- f) Communications Report by Val: (Dawn is away) Activity and engagement on the BME PAC Facebook page has been increasing. 8 new page “likes” since the last PAC meeting (now at 120 likes). I have endeavored to post every weekday, at least one post per day. When there are multiple posts in one day, I have been staggering the posts throughout the day, rather than have the posts appear in people’s feeds one after another. My hope is the staggered posting will garner more attention from people scrolling through their feeds. Occasionally I will post on a weekend...If there is a reminder that I forgot to post, I see something new on the BME school website, or I receive new information to post, however, I am open to adding posts on the weekends if the group feels I should be. Just let me know! I am linking back to the BME website as much as possible. Average reach of our last 10 posts is 170 people. One our Facebook posts last week had a reach of over 1200 from people sharing, liking, and commenting. I think that’s awesome! Comments and likes on posts are also increasing.
 - g) Fruit and Veggie Report by Juliee: The carrots and milk went great! Soy milk arrived and the next one is mandarin oranges. The milk is for grades K thru 2. In the case of a 2/3 split, the whole class receives milk too.
 - h) President’s Report by Val: We will be putting on a teacher’s luncheon at the end of December. We will be ordering from Hillcrest Market again. The last Friday of December. Also on the last Thursday morning of December, we plan on doing a free pancake breakfast for all students. Janet will be paying for this. We will provide pancakes, syrup, a drink and maybe an orange for each student before school begins. We are looking for parent volunteers to help cook the pancakes and hand them out. We are also looking for griddles to use on that morning. Please contact a PAC member or Principal Janet if you are willing to help with this.
- 5) Principal’s Report by Val (Janet is away): In regards to the upcoming grade configuration, there will be a questionnaire type survey online for parents so that we can provide input and so that they can collect data and be able to present to the board at the end of January. The board is hoping to have a decision made by the end of January on which year this grade configuration will begin. Action: Dawn, please post the link to the details of the meetings on the school website and Facebook. Also, we need to ask Janet if she is available to attend a PAC meeting on December 4th. If not, we will change the date.
- 6) Ongoing Business: We discussed the issue of lunch garbage being brought back home in each child’s lunch bags. Litter-less lunches is still being promoted at our school. Unfortunately the juice boxes and milk cartons that are coming back in student’s lunch bags are making a sticky mess. Is there a solution to this problem? At previous meetings, Janet had mentioned that this has been an issue in the past but that collecting the juice boxes is such a messy task. The smell, the fruit flies, the chore of going through them all is not worth it. She recommended that we continue sending juice boxes home with each student rather than keeping them somewhere at school and collecting them. There was talk about teaching students to rinse the empties first before putting them in their lunch bags but no definite solution was reached.
- 7) New Business:
- a) New Public School Configuration – We will discuss this in further detail at December meeting.
 - b) Christmas concert dates and raffle. These items were discussed during the Treasurer’s Report.

- 8) Discussion and items for future consideration: The assembly today was awesome. Grade 3 student, Beatrice, had her hair cut and shaved off and is donating her hair to the cancer society which makes wigs for other children with cancer. There is a link with a video clip of today's assembly on Facebook. Castanet and Global News also have videos on their websites. Playground policies need to be posted somewhere on our school website. On Wednesdays the intermediate students get to use the playground equipment and the sandbox. We also talked about next year's Christmas concert. One suggestion was made about having it at a community arts centre in November as an alternative option to having it in the school gym. If we have the concert in November, the venue is free! Another suggestion was made about a walkthrough type evening, similar to the Living Nativity that Willow Park Church puts on each year. This way, parents only have to attend one evening and each classroom does their own concert in their classrooms and then parents walk through and see each of their children's performances. Karen Regan will present these suggestions to Janet as future ideas for next year. As for this year, there will be three evenings of concerts. December 9th, 10th and 11th. In regards to the Fun Fair in May, Target is willing to provide us with up to 10 volunteers as well as some donations to our event.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

Next meeting: Thursday, December 4th at 6:00 pm (unless Janet cannot make it)

Minutes prepared by Janelle Schultz