

Gray Elementary PAC Meeting

October 22, 2014

9:15 AM

In attendance

Zena Ray

Paula Hutton

Stacy Given

Amy Burden

Mike Keller

Alison Valcamp

Ruth Kaune

Tania Sallinen

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Turner will not be in the office on the Pro-D Day on Oct. 24th and there will be no one answering the phones.

The start up to the school year, while challenging and intense, has been good. Teachers were feeling stressed over the late start up, as were parents, so it is good timing we are having parent-teacher conferences this week.

There were some concerns over Parent-Connect reports; as the District stated we could not be receiving last year's end of year results, and some parents were concerned that "NM" was on the record, as they thought it meant "Not Meeting". In fact it stands for "No Mark". The District should have clarified this as it caused upset and confusion for parents. Some parents have asked to meet with their children's teachers from last year; however it would be difficult to arrange these meetings. There are a lot of items left from last year's Grade 7 class that needs to be picked up.

Remembrance Day assembly – students who are part of any service organization (Scouts, Girl Guides etc.) are encouraged to wear their uniforms for the assembly. Parents are welcome and it begins at 10:45 AM.

There is a new Director of Special Programming for the District – Brad Bauman.

Thank you to Ruth for putting the Welcome Back BBQ together – it was well attended and enabled us to achieve a "normal" start up for the school year.

There will be a series of three workshops for the teachers' professional development. Nicole Braid will be attending a conference in assessment in Victoria. This is critical as the new curriculum will roll out next school year.

The PAC has asked for a school wish list. This year the District has given the school money for the teachers to draw on for their classrooms, as well as the school received \$2,000 for school use. So far it has been used for extra admin support for Mrs. Turner in the office, as well as TOC's when we received our new Division. The teachers will be asked for any particular needs and the PAC will discuss at the November meeting.

Grade 6 ski trip will go ahead in the new year – January 15, 22, 29 & Feb 5. No fundraising has been discussed to date.

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Grade 7 camp – will happen but in the spring, due to the late school start-up it was impossible to go with the usual time of the end of September. Camp Summit has been tentatively booked and we will have more information soon.

Fundraising/Special Events

Ruth – Entertainment books and orders trickling in, and the Hot Lunch on-line ordering is going well. Many schools use this program (Backpack Fundraising), and any concerns about personal information security can be directed back to the company. They are adding extra security certificates but have not had any issues.

The school BBQ was a success, however we did have to spend money on the rentals. We are not able to host movie nights as per the District (media company agreement).

Alison Valcamp offered to run the Gift Card Fundraiser, and Ruth will provide the information to her to get that started. Alison also works with realtors who help support local schools, and will be bringing a letter to the school detailing how the realtor contributes to special events etc. For example, they provided a Photo Booth for the Sunshine Hills carnival, and it was a great success.

Paula asked that a list be put together of all the Fundraising we have done in the past few years so that we can plan, and hope that a small committee can come together to coordinate these events. We have the position of Fundraising/Special events still vacant, and hope to have a small group of parents come forward to work on this together. Events like Bingo night, Zumba Family Fitness Night, Pub nights, Regal sales, cookie sales and Family photo sessions are all successful past events.

Christmas concert will likely happen in the last week before Christmas break. Zena will speak to the staff at their next meeting and confirm times etc.

DPAC Report

No report presented nor discussed.

Treasurer Report

No report presented nor discussed.

Hot Lunch Update

See above – Fundraising notes.

Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Prep – the food and water expires 2015, and will be putting together a wish list in advance of the November meeting. Requests another key for the emergency bin to be kept offsite. Mike will also follow up on the clothing donation bin program that the Delta Firefighters run.

Ruth - Motion to adjourn – meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.