
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SEXSMITH PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting date: May 25, 2016
Location: Sexsmith Library
Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Chairperson: Gurmit Sangha
Members present: As per attendance sheet.

Message from the Chair- Gurmit

School Highlights:

- Overall it was a great year for the PAC, full of exciting events:
 - The PAC held various successful fundraisers, donated funds towards school events (Diwali, Lunar New Year, Filipino Festival, Grade 7 Grad, Churchill Scholarship) and hosted special events (Breakfast with Santa, Sports Day concession).
- A thank you to the following individuals for their hard work:
 - Stan for being the “supply guy” once again for all our events
 - All the parents and volunteers who consistently help with the PAC and school functions throughout the year.
 - A special thank you to the following parents who have assisted in the hot lunch program throughout the year: Stan Tam, Roy Lee, Sue Jamieson, Kami Hothi, Aurella Sareal, Richelda Camrillo, Girlie Ibit, Penny Wong, Eva Jung, Pandora Poon, Elaine Chen, Janita Yu, Raman Hier, Debbie Cheng, Angela Wong, Lucia Rivera, Lisa Formento, Joan Arguelles and Christina Brown.

Special Guests – Barb and Daljit from Sunset

Barb and Daljit gave an update on their progress of starting up a daycare at Sunset. Currently they are in the process of obtaining licensing for the facility. Possible start date for the program may be either September 2016 or January 2017. Further updates will be presented at future meetings.

Principal’s Report – Ross Cassie

- Please see attached report
- Newsletters are posted on the website at: <http://sexsmith.vsb.bc.ca/default.htm>

Financial Update from the Treasurer – Fay Tam

Currently there is \$51,424.81* PAC funds, breakdown as follows:

General account	15,609.58
Chocolate Fundraising	22,365.58
Gaming account	12,222.75
Other Fundraising	1,221.58
Gaming membership shares	5.32

*This balance is after all the expenses have been paid.

Hot Lunch Program – Stan Tam

The hot lunch program has been a great success this year due to the hard work and continuous dedication from our great volunteers.

The net proceeds after all expenses have been accounted for amounted to approximately \$17,500. Tremendous job Stan and everyone!

The tentative menu for next year will be nuggets from October to December 2016; Meatballs and a side veggie (still in the decision phase) January to March 2017; hot dogs from April to June 2017. Richelda has already drafted the order forms for the fall when the hot lunch program will resume.

Other Business

Filipino Festival - May 27th

Everything is set for the Filipino festival

Spring Fun Fair – June 17th from 3:15 to 5:15 pm

Stan will make all the food purchases;

Gurmit has ordered the equipment and will pick it up on the day of the event;

Kami to send out an email asking for the volunteers for the event;

Ross to gather volunteers for the dunk tank; special request Mr. Biln and Mr. Kay!

Grad Ceremony and Lunch – June 24th

Lunch menu has been decided; there will be East Indian food served.

Volunteer Coordinator – Kami Hothi

A volunteer email address has been setup (sexsmithvolunteers@gmail.com), anyone wishing to volunteer can email Kami to let her know which events they would like to volunteer for. In the near future a calendar will be posted on the school website each month showing what activities are coming up where volunteers will be needed.

Elections:

- **The 2016/2017 PAC Board members are as follows:**
 - Chair – Gurmit Sangha
 - Vice Chair – Kami Hothi
 - Treasurer – Fay Tam
 - Secretary – Rana Sangha
 - Hot Lunch Coordinator - Stan Tam

Have a safe, fun and exciting summer everyone! See you in the fall!

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next meeting date: September 29th at 6:30 pm

Location: Sexsmith School Library

Principal's PAC Report for May 25, 2016

Sexsmith Elementary School

Sports Day – Last Thursday, we held our annual Sports Day under cloudy but dry skies. The children really enjoyed this day and it is the unofficial start to the summer months even though there are 6 weeks left of school! It is also wonderful to see our Grade 8 students currently attending Churchill come back and help out.

Sports Day is a very positive memory for our students. On Sports Day I had the chance to talk to many parents and they shared with me their memories of their own Sports Day. We are hoping to use the new grass field next year so that all the students can be at one site and not having to use Winona Park for the primaries. Many thanks to all the parents who helped out at the concession – the hot dogs were great!

Lion King – Forget about Broadway shows our Lion King performances were unbelievable! Our students gave 4 unforgettable performances for our school community in May. The actual performances were the result of many months and hundreds of hours of practice and preparation by our students and staff. It was not just the actors putting in this time but every costume and prop was made by our staff and students and all of the music was prepared by our staff as well.

This activity really provided many students the opportunity to participate in an activity that isn't offered at many elementary schools. Being part of a production like this provides the students with opportunities to be able to work with their peers and teachers on a large project. It also does help the students to develop self-confidence and an interest in live theatre. Many thanks to Mr. Biln and MS Overall for all of their work with this!

Strings Performance – On May 18, I along with many of our parents had the opportunity to attend a performance at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre that highlighted Vancouver elementary and secondary String programs. It was an evening to remember. I think this was my 18th such performance I attended either as a school Principal or parent and I have to say this was as memorable as any. Regrettably it looks like it could be the last one as the Strings programs at the elementary level are going to be discontinued as a result of the budget reductions for next year. Many thanks to all the students and their teacher Mrs. Anderson for all their efforts this year and to Mrs. Anderson for providing such a rewarding program to our students over the years.

Opera Performances – Four of our divisions – Divisions 4/5 and 8/9 recently completed a program of study with the Vancouver Opera Society. The culmination of both groups was a performance for their parents. Both performances were very entertaining and the students learned a lot about how opera is another way in which a story can be told.

Track Team – Almost 100 of our Grade 4 to 7 students are part of our track team that have been competing against other schools in Mini Meets. On June 2, our track team will be completing their season at the District Meet at Swangard Stadium. Recently we found out that one of our former students won the Grade 8 boys high jump competition at the District High School Meet! As with the arts, athletics are a great way for students to become involved in their school and it is great to see over half of our intermediate students taking advantage of this opportunity.

2016/17 Staffing and Enrollment – We have just received our tentative staffing allocations for next year. We are slated to have the same amount of enrolling divisions as this year -15- but our resource teaching support has been decreased by .22. We have two resource teachers retiring so we will have two postings to fill their positions.

Our enrollment for September is currently at 360 which is a decrease of 16 from our current numbers. However the initial projection in February was 342 and then 350 at the end of March so the trend is that our enrollment will increase over time. This is why we were able to maintain our 15 enrolling divisions.

New Education Plan Evening. – I would like to thank the 3 parents who attended the VSB's information evening on the New Education Plan that will be implemented in September. A question on the minds of educators and parents regarding reporting practices and report cards was not able to be answered as at this time the reporting procedures are still being discussed.

VSB News

- 2016/17 Budget – In late April the VSB trustees voted to not approve the 2016/17 budget that was recommended by the VSB's Senior Management Team. However we are proceeding with the staffing cuts and elimination of programs and supports that were outlined in the budget. The trustees are required by law to submit a balanced budget to the Provincial government by June 30. At this point they haven't.
- VSB Facilities Review –The VSB is currently undertaking a facilities review. As part of this review they will be making recommendations on June 20 about school's that could be considered for closure or consolidation in the future. Two annexes will not be in operation next year – Henderson Annex and Laurier Annex but that is because their enrollment was very low and all of the students could be absorbed into the main schools. There are no other schools slated for closure or consolidation for next year.
- VSB Strategic Plan – Our 5 year plan for our district that has as a focus improving learning opportunities for our students is almost completed. Over the past few months input from all the stakeholder groups have been elicited and from these ideas our new Strategic Plan will be developed. The document should be ready for the fall of 2016.

June Activities – We have lots of classroom and school activities planned for this June including our Grade 7 Celebration, year- end assembly, PAC Carnival and lots of field trips before we dismiss the students on the 29th. The students and staff will be busy!

Many Thanks – On behalf of the students, parents, staff and myself I would like to thank the PAC for all of your support this school year. Whether it is providing hot lunches, providing support for our school and classroom programs, stepping up to volunteer or taking the time to advocate for our school community, you do so without reservation and that really helps to make Sexsmith the special school community that it is. We look forward to working with you again next year.