

Highlands Parent Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes



December 6, 2016

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*Executive Present:* Ed Desaulniers, Janelle Eisler Carr, Tracy Stirling, Jennifer Leroux (McNaught), Marnie Giblin, Jason Krupa, Glenda Savage, Angela Santoro, Karissa Rennie

*Executive Regrets:* Tracey Lebedovich, Karyn Magnusson

*Next HPAC Meeting:* February 7, 2017

## Meeting Minutes

### Minutes Approval

- Approval of the minutes from November 1, 2016 - approved and seconded by a show of hands.

### Administrative Update (Todd)

- Final reminder that report cards are going out Friday – after 3:30. If you are having issues with the portal please contact the school and let them know. IT is getting on top of it as quickly as possible.
- Welcome to new staff member Carol.
- For a number of years the School District has mandated a *Code of Conduct* and provided a template for what it should look like. The District has mandated some new language get added: “Anti-bullying measures will ensure all students, regardless of their sex, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, enjoy a safe, inclusive and welcoming learning environment.” The school will be adding this language.
- Next Monday night at 7:00 in the gym is our seasonal music concert. 3 teachers are leading the concert. Typically the show runs for about an hour. Strings (grade 4 to 7), Band (grade 5 to 7), Choir (grade 4 to 7).
- Basketball update: boys came in 3<sup>rd</sup> in the district tournament. The girls’ team is having fun. Volleyball will start in January.

### Committee Member update

- Ed is resigning from PAC Co-Chair. Brandy Hughes nominated Karissa Rennie for the Co-Chair position and Karissa's nomination was second by Marnie Giblin. Since Karissa was the only nomination she was acclaimed. Welcome Karissa and thank you to Ed!

## **Fundraising**

### **Parent Social Success – Update from Marnie**

- Almost 140 people bought tickets. Most people showed up in full costume. Target of raising \$5,000 and we came in just shy of \$15,000. Great fundraiser!! People spent a lot of money at the auction.

### **Scholastic Book Fair Nov 28-Dec 1 Success**

- Just wrapped up. As popular as ever. Sales just over \$4,700. Book fair money goes back to the library (about a ¼ of this amount).

### **Poinsettias & Gingerbread Houses: Dec 9, 2016**

- Plants will be distributed on Friday. Poinsettia pick up will be starting at roughly 3:00.
- Gingerbread is almost sold out. Nut free facility. Very fun event.

### **Talent Show & Movie Night**

- Will both be held in February this year. Dates will go out in upcoming newsletter.

### **Christmas Market**

- Raised over \$2,700 – lots of items were purchased. ½ will go to the Grade 7 class and the rest will go to a Charity. Some discussion about the technical issue of how the Charity will get paid as the PAC is not permitted to write a check to another Charity. Thanks to all the parents that helped make that happen.

### **Well Fed Studio (Ed)**

- Fundraiser – portion comes back to the PAC. Pick up January 18 – will be through Munch A Lunch. Healthy, pre-prepared meals.

## **After School Programs – Update from Angela**

### **Programs for 2017**

- Thanks to a lot of teachers there are about 10 more after school programs slotted for the New Year. Art, Sportball, Soul Girls, BrainStem, Adventures in Drama, etc. Stay tuned for registration details.

## **DPAC update**

- At last meeting Cindy Gurlap – our Trustee – spoke about the role of Trustee such as: homophobia policy, school closure, funding issues, educational initiatives, etc. She will come speak to our school if we are interested.

### **Christmas Hampers**

- In classrooms now. Each classroom has a theme – target group is pre-teen (a historically under donated group). Thursday morning is the last opportunity.

### **Book Collection/Drive for Library**

- We are shifting timing on this until after the Holidays. Will ask parents to bring in donation books in the New Year; with the aim that the majority of them will go directly into the classrooms.

### **Financials**

- PE equipment purchases are being investigated.
- We received \$8,520 from the Gaming Grant that we applied for. This is mandated to be spent a specific way. We can use for EcoFest and can also be spent in the Library. Will revisit in the New Year. Library is a good option as it did not get its budget request filled this year. There is a large need/request for novels for upper year classes. We need to place the plan to vote on the spending of the excess gaming grant on the agenda for the next PAC meeting in February.

### **Communication/Website**

- N/A

### **Parent Speaker Night: Janelle**

- BCTF Speakers – emailed all of the PAC Presidents and said that they have a number of speakers/workshops to offer. Parents could vote on topics of interest via FB and/or Newsletter. Topics include: Aboriginal Content, Advocating for your Child, Talking about Racism, Anti-bullying, Revised Curriculum, Social Media for Parents, Supporting Gender-Inclusive Communities, Supporting Learning, Student Privacy, Professional Development in classroom. Free of charge. Strong support in the room for programs on Social Media, Racism, Anti-bullying.

### **New Business**

- There have been reports that coming to the school is not the most welcoming school as a new parent (and child). Is there something we can do as a PAC? The new co-chair, Karissa, has put together a proposal of what can be done to improve this situation. Had a discussion about how we could be more effective in reaching out to new parents and making them feel more welcome.

### **Misc**

- PJ day will be the last day of school – December 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Safety Signs**

- New safety signs have been ordered and Erin MacNair will be replacing and repairing all signs over the holidays.