

ECOLE SECONDAIRE HUGH McROBERTS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Revised 15 February 2017 MINUTES

Parents in attendance: Sheryl Jerstad; Bal Sidhu; Li Ping Magnussen; Lucy Guo; Lisa Enns; Sandra Clark; Zahida Dhalla; Diane Neufeld; Hugo Madeira; Miwa Suzuki; Carla Shkwarok; Arvind Sharma; Qing Hong Li

Administration in attendance: Jane McFadyen; Benita Kwon

Guest: School Trustee Jonathan Ho

Meeting started 7:05

- 1) Welcome and introductions
- 2) Minutes from January 2017 adopted by Sheryl and seconded by Zahida, but see Gaming Account * item below.
- 3) School Administration Report
 - a. Teachers and students thank PAC for wishlist items purchased via gaming grant.
 - b. Jan. 26th Grade 7 Parent Evening had a new format. Parents of students from similar feeder schools were grouped together in 3 separate sessions. Hands-On Night right after was enjoyed by all.
 - c. Professional Day Jan 27th focused on universal design and creating classroom environments that meet the needs of diverse learners.
 - d. Breaking down Program Planning night into sessions for Grade 8 and 9, then Grade 10 and 11 worked well. Next year school may break it down even further. Course selection sheets are due soon.
 - e. School enrolment will be a little lower next year. McRoberts is not the smallest school in the district but not the largest either. Transfers requests continue to be high. We will have approx. 100 international students.
 - f. Parent/teacher conferences are Feb. 22 and 23rd. The school is considering a different format next year so even more parents can get appointments.
 - g. Education Week is March 3 – 7th. Notorious Dance Competition will be held at McRoberts. Many other student events are being held around town.
 - h. SD38 is looking for students to take part in visioning exercise around the values and mission of schools in the future. This will take place Feb. 24th (Professional Development Day). Interested students can contact administration.

4) Dates:

February 22 – 23 Parent Teacher Conferences
February 24 – Pro-D Day
February 27 – March 3 – Education Week at Aberdeen Centre
March 8 – Regular Bell Schedule, Locker Clean Up
March 8 – PAC meeting 7pm **CANCELLED**
March 9 – Term 2 Report Cards Sent Home
March 10 – Last day of classes, Wednesday Schedule
March 12 – Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 13 – 24 – Spring Break
March 27 – School Re-opens
April 4 – Collaboration Day
April 14 – Good Friday
April 16 – Easter Sunday
April 17 – Easter Monday (no school)
April 18 – New Block Rotation
April 19 – PAC Meeting

The need for a PAC meeting in March was discussed. Lisa motioned that this meeting be cancelled. Sandra seconded. All in favour.

5) Committee Reports

a. Treasurer Update

i. General account has \$4,734.13

ii. Gaming account has \$28,752.22

- Last month PAC approved spending approximately \$19,287.00 in gaming account funds on wishlist items. * This includes funding \$1700 for a 3D Printer for the Engineering Club which was not captured in the January 2017 PAC minutes. This leaves approximately \$8,000.00 in the account once all invoices are in. It was felt PAC could fund more wishlist items.

Sandra motioned that PAC increase funding of benches for the school to \$6000.00. Lisa seconded. All in favour. PAC still prefers backless benches be bought.

b. Secretary Report - nothing to report at this time

6) Guest Jonathan Ho

a. Trustee Ho reports SD38 enrolment will be down next year so revenue lowering. This year the District moved \$2M from a service account to cover the shortfall. Next year will be tough.

b. Ministry of Education increased funding this year for Jan.-June because of Supreme Court ruling. McRoberts has used this funding for 3 Grade 8 Math and Science, 2 English language in Socials and Science classes, 2 French Immersion, 1 Applications of Math, 1 Teacher librarian and 1 counseling support

c. SD38 has purchased Canadian Foundation for Economic Education program. Teachers can have their students participate in a district wide event, topic TBA, on April 19th. Parents interested in helping their children learn about responsible money management can visit the website anytime @ www.cfee.org

d. Parents questioned why a new city centre school is needed when other schools are not full. Trustee Ho said it is to decrease parent driving, bussing as this creates safety issues and inconvenience for neighbourhoods.

7) Open Forum

a. Parents asked for an earlier opening of Sign Up Genius for Parent/teacher conferences so parents have an equal opportunity to get spots.

b. Core Competency – Jane McFadyen led parents in an exercise to help them understand how the new curriculum will assess student communication. Parents broke into small groups to discuss their last communication with their child about program planning, then evaluated the type of communication that took place.

8) Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM

9) Next meeting April 19, 2017