

Walnut Road Elementary School

PAC meeting minutes

January 21, 2015

Start time 7:00PM

1. Welcome Back!

2. Modes of Travel To School Survey Result Presentation

----Kerry Hamilton, Community Programs Manager from HASTe

Kerry gave a presentation on the results of a survey did in October 2014 about Modes of Travel to school. The survey found a slight increase in the use of car and a slight decrease in walking both from school to home and from home to school. It also found that the new traffic circle at 160St and 82Ave was considered the most effective activity in School Travel Plan.

Ms. Stacey mentioned that the road safety situation has improved a lot, but there is still room for improvement. Some parents put forward their ideas about children cycling to school. As there are too many pedestrians on the sidewalk at the rush hour, they will never let their children cycle to school.

The attendees of the meeting discussed about ways to promote walking to school, such as walking to school on Wednesdays, once a month or every two weeks, and then gradually make it a pattern and routine, to rouse the awareness among both children and parents. Another idea discussed is having contests with little and low cost gifts to get more children involved in this campaign.

We hope to get the campaign started in this spring.

3. Principal's / Vice Principal/s Report

----Ms. Stacey & Ms. Cutway

Kindergarten registration begins on Monday, January 19. We have 51 students registered already for the September semester, and our projected number is 86. Please inform any families in the neighborhood with children of kindergarten age. We are also planning an event for 3 & 4 year olds on Thursday, January 29 from 8:45 to 10:15.

Students in Grades 4 and 7 will participate in the Provincial Foundation Skills Assessment between January 12 and February 20. The FSA is designed to provide a snapshot of how well students are attaining important foundation skills in relation to provincial standards. The assessment is made and marked by trained teachers and it's not optional. Students may only be excused for being English language learners, being students with special needs, or being identified with too much anxiety. There is too much misunderstanding about the FSA, and the school does not promote the assessment.

Two musical are in preparation, and will be on stage in the last week of February, time to be confirmed. Parent volunteers are needed for make up, costume and charge of admission.

Volunteers are needed for Jump Rope For Heart on Thursday, February 26 to help with counting of jumps for the fundraising.

Two parent volunteers are also needed for the school planning council. The meeting will be held 7 – 8:30pm next Thursday, January 29, at Enver Creek Secondary School.

Ms. Cutway is undergoing a performance review. Questionnaires will be sent home and parents are welcome to give their input.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

----Bob Gill

The organization checking account has \$23,788.07 and the gaming account has \$28,889.14.

Bob has a question about a \$2500 fund in the Paypal. The fund is under whose control?

5. **Committee Updates**

Hot Lunches

----Mike

It went on quite well, but only three parent volunteer showed up to help one time. Another problem is that some children thought that their hot lunches were paid by their parents, but the pay didn't show up through Paypal.

There will be one more round in spring, and pizza will be ordered for Sports Day.

Family Fun Night

----Kelly

It will be on February 10, and the preparation went on quite well. There was good turn out on the preparation meeting. Anybody can volunteer to help out.

Soup Labels

----Kathy

478 labels were collected. Many people still don't know about it. Flyers will be made and put with another reminder in the newsletter. It will be sent to staff members as well.

Earthquake preparation

----Mike

It went on well.

Teacher Appreciation Lunch

----Marsha

It will be on February 25, which is also Pink Shirt Day. Parent volunteers are needed to coordinate the event on that day.

6. **Questions and Comments?**

One parent asked where to find the PAC meeting minutes.

The PAC meeting minutes can be found at the school website.

Meeting ended 7:50pm

Next Meeting: 7:00pm, Wednesday March 25, 2015