

NEILSON GROVE PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
MEETING MINUTES – Monday, November 4, 2013

Meeting called to order @ 7:05 p.m. – 11 members in attendance (including Mr. Thompson)

Motion to adopt minutes of: Monday, October 7, 2013

Motion: Stephanie Pettie; Second: Deborah Stewart; All in favour, carried.

Chairperson's Report (Corrine Sepke)

- Usually NG hosts a Spring Fair every two years; however discussion about if we should try a Fall Fair for near the beginning of the next school year (October 2014 approximately). A number of schools in the area already hold Spring Fairs and a Fall Fair would reduce competition. If we hold the fair in October, it could be Halloween-themed which might prove very popular. Motion to host Fall Fair: Terynn Papadopoulos; Second: Danielle Palivos. Vote held, all in favour, carried.
- Fundraising ideas for Spring:
 - Walkathon: The students collect donations and PAC/School hosts a BBQ fundraiser at the end. Drinks could be free but hamburgers and hot dogs are sold.
 - Cards by Kids: Students contribute an art piece that is printed on blank greeting cards which parents / family can purchase. Proceeds to the PAC.
 - These and other fundraising ideas will be discussed at December's PAC meeting.
- Currently PAC meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7pm. Discussion around if the meetings should be moved to another day/time and/or alternating evening/day meetings and if that would encourage more parents to turn out. DPAC recommends having four meetings a year where all parents are invited to attend and then a few meetings a year where a smaller committee meets to discuss items that can be brought forward to the larger group meetings. At this time, the NG PAC would like to stick with the status quo for our meetings, but will place a news point in the PAC newsletter asking parents to let us know if they would like to have a meeting at a different time/day.
- Port Guichon PAC has invited members from the NG PAC as well as Ladner Elementary PAC to a meet-and-greet at a local pub on Nov.15.

Treasurer's Report (Deborah Stewart)

- The deposits have been made for Entertainment Book fundraiser.
- The next round of deposits will be for the Subs & Tubs fundraiser.

Fundraiser's Report (Esme Kanda / Michelle Miller)

- Entertainment Books: As per last month's update, this year's Entertainment Book fundraiser was quite successful. Company that supplies the books would like to know if NG would like to host continue with the fundraiser for next year. Motion to keep Entertainment Book fundraiser: Terynn Papadopoulos ; Second: Esme Kanda. All in favour, carried.
- Gift Cards: Last year the school received approximately \$900 from \$17,000 in sales. The school only receives 1-7% from retail which does not make for a lot of return on sales made. There has been a number of requests for money sent out lately (Subs & Tubs and photos) and there will be Breakfast with Santa and Front Row Seat Draw upcoming. Unanimous vote to cancel gift card sales for this year.
- Breakfast with Santa: Esme and Michelle will handle the planning for this with Patty assisting. Wednesday December 4 is the date of the breakfast.

- Front Row Seat Draw: Nancy will assist Esme and Michelle in planning for this. Ticket booklets will go home as usual. Extras may be purchased as well. Some tickets may be sold at the Breakfast for Santa. Concert is December 12.
- Tubs & Subs: Ends November 7.

Traffic & Safety Report (Velda Low - absent)

- Nothing to report.

Emergency Preparedness Report (Ila Senez)

- Nothing to report.

DPAC Report (vacant)

- No one from NG was able to attend last meeting.
- Next meeting is November 18.

Hot lunch/Snack Program (Danielle Palivos / Terynn Papadopoulos / Michelle Osing)

- A few people have requested that the online orders be opened for them and this is still possible for anyone else who wants to add/make a late order.
- After January, the hot lunch team is planning on making some additions/changes to the current lunch & snack offerings.
- There was a bit of a Sun Chip controversy over some students receiving different sized bags. There was an issue with supply and the bag sizes are 40g and 19g but. Both bags have 19 chips though the 19g bag has smaller chips. There are also issues with the supply of pop chips and there may need to be substitutions made.

Milk Program (Carolyn Scott – absent)

- Nothing to report

Teacher's Report (Joan Canil)

- From a teacher's point of view, the hot lunch program is running really well this year with less errors happening.
- Remembrance Day assembly is on Nov. 8 at 10:45am.
- Preparation for the Christmas concert ("December in Our Town") will start soon. The concert will have a multicultural theme, exploring how different people celebrate the season.
- Grades 2, 3, 4 will be starting gymnastics this Tuesday with Kids Can Move. They will have four 30 min sessions
- Grupo America will provide a cultural performance this week

Principal's Report (Bob Thompson)

- A grant request was written for an Artist in Residency. If the request is successful, a female artist, who is also a teacher, will be integrating mathematics with a visual component at the school.
- Hip Hop: Due to scheduling conflicts, we were unable to set this up. Mr. Thompson is looking for an alternative instructor or replacement Cultural Event.
- District Track Meet: It was thought that Port Guichon would run the concession for the track meet this year, and next year, NG would do it; however, the track overseers have said that Port Guichon and NG need to share the concession for one year instead of one year per school. This is still being looked into.

Comments / Questions

- Nancy Pavlich to Mr. Thompson: At the last meeting, it was mentioned that NG will not be participating in “Me to We” this year due to a number of concerns. Nancy wanted further clarification as to the reasons that it was dropped and she expressed that she feels it’s important that NG students learn the importance of community and service involvement. Mr. Thompson explained that he and the teachers had discussed participation in “Me to We” and decided to pursue other opportunities. NG still wants the students to learn the value of service, but they will pursue different ways of accomplishing this. NG is still undecided which umbrella organization NG will be a part of. Ms. Canil added that a very small group of students were given an opportunity to directly participate in the program and that it is generally believed that there are other opportunities which will benefit the entire school population.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 2, 2013 @ 7:00 p.m. (NG Library)