

South Slope PAC Meeting
Wednesday November 27th, 2019

PAC Executive: Kim Godwin, Mark Van, Charlotte Brown, Clint Wieler

Parents: Billy Chan, Yasu Shigemitsu, Feyona McKenna, Leigh Chan, Sergei Shalaev

Staff: Teresa Fierro, Catherine Bennett

Item A: Introduction and Welcome

Item B: Presentation – Nancy Rourke

Jennifer Zuvic – Head teacher for BCSD. Thank you to the PAC for supporting deaf artist Nancy Rourke coming to the school and working with the kids.

Lots of art projects in the last few years, but great to have an artist be here in person to work with the kids. Jennifer gave a brief presentation on the different art the kids were doing. Focused on 3 primary colours, blue, yellow and red. Yellow – hope, expression. Red – power. Blue – deaf-hood. How does one express the way they see themselves using those three colours and how do they show themselves to others?

She is very well known in the deaf community. Some of her art is displayed in the hallway. Emphasize the importance of having deaf role models for our students.

We will be inviting other deaf role models into the school as this is a great opportunity for the kids to learn. Each year bring in someone new.

Item C: Review and Motion to Accept Oct Minutes

Item D: Financial Update

\$11,766.12 Gaming

\$4,411.09 Non-gaming

\$14,710.74 Donation

- Since last meeting we've had \$285 in donations.
- Budget for this year is \$23,330 in spend.
- Currently we've spent \$1,789.52 of budget.

Fundraisers:

- Subway (44% profit) – Brought in \$602.90, with \$347.70 cost, and \$255.20 profit.
- Reflectors - Brought in \$729.20, with \$585.32 cost, and \$143.88 profit.

Cost to photocopy to show those reflectors was too high, so we should look into a way to get this online so parents can see the reflectors prior to purchase.

- Neufeld – Brought in \$1972, with \$1636 cost, and \$336 profit. Last year we brought in just under \$2500. What can we do to get these numbers back up? We are always looking for any new ideas to get awareness around these fundraisers.

What does fundraising go towards? – technology requests, items for staging, stairs, curtains, risers, atrium furniture, outdoor classroom. Depending on what we've got going on, the money will be dispersed differently. This year we are directing money towards smaller items. Last year we also had the books for the library and authors were brought in. 3 authors this year, almost \$4000. \$1000 for computers, \$1000 for the library, \$4000 for the art grant. We have this money, but if we spend it without fundraising, we would have nothing left at the end of the year.

Good for parents to see where the money is going when they are donating.

Suggestion to have a write up of all of our fundraising goals for the year and include this write up with all fundraising hand outs and orders forms. Or include a link to something on the school website that shows what this is and what we're doing. Include this information in the monthly newsletters, or a few times a year.

Item E: South Slope Campus Updates

- BCSD K-7 Report - Catherine Bennett
 - o Setting up 2 activities after school Wednesdays with parks and rec.
 - After school clinic. Workshop where students can learn and develop different skills. Basketball.
 - 2 groups – 1 is K – 3 and the other is 4 – 7
 - o Similar to last year we measure academic progress. MAP to measure success. Literacy and math assessment program. This was done and we were able to share the progress of that program with the parents, about 2 weeks ago. Have intake process for this program. Instead of three stages, we decided to put the first two stages together. Part of this is a conference where students share their learning with their parents. After that is report cards which are due out this Friday, sent home before the 13th.
 - o The IEP – new format this year. We've improved focus on the skills as well as the student's development. Burnaby school board – a few principals got together for a strategic planning meeting. Parents received letters about this. School board has set up that every 3 years we have to develop a school growth plan around what the school intends to do, similar to South Slope. What are we doing now and what are our goals for the coming year? We start in Fall 2020. By April and May, we should have a finalized plan to share with you for Fall of 2020. Now in the brainstorming stage thinking about what we need and what we project for the next 3 years.
 - o A few more events coming up which Teresa can talk about.
 - o We have three intermediate grades with 5 or 6 mainstream students – started at the beginning of November and this has been going well. Students are curious about

going into a mainstream classroom and wanted hearing peers and hearing students in a hearing class, how would they work together? We were able to place a couple of students in these classes to get a taste of what its like. How they can socialize and build a partnership with these students. Gym class, woodwork, dance, photography, anything we don't have, we send them to Burnaby South. Gives them an opportunity to work with an interpreter.

The opportunity can prepare them for when they go to mainstream high school settings. Also trying to do this on the South Slope side – inviting BCSD students into South Slope side – shared learning in math, science, PE. Need to book interpreters and make sure the curriculum is aligned.

2 groups with this learning opportunity. Mainstream – math, science, sit and watch the interpreter. The students have to be serious and want to be challenged and want to be a part of it. We are trying more hands on, more activities, more partner and group work. Not just teacher lecturing. Have seen a big improvement in confidence in both teachers and students. Sometimes teachers can co teach together.

The mainstream learning program can be expanded, it just depends on how many students are interested in joining this program. It has already increased over last year.

- One of our instructors is very interested in outdoor education – how do we do this and start this? Need a plan. Partnering with SFU – asking them about their outdoor program. Learning in the classroom and then going outside.

- Head Teacher – Teresa Fierro

- Social media presentation. Very lucky to get this guy. Safety, more awareness. A guy from Burnaby South. Cyberbullying. BCSD participated as well.
- Remembrance Day assembly was very well attended.
- Jingle bell walk now called the Elf Walk. Flyers handed out on the 4th, the Wednesday. Routes have been planned out. Maps have been printed. Looking for parent volunteers and drivers to help the children collect these food donations, and then help box up and get the food ready for the food bank.
- Pancake breakfast – fireman volunteers will be coming to help out with this. December 5th – also pajama day. Sign-up sheet for volunteers needed for this. Setup, handing out, cleanup.
- New format in report cards this year – a little bit more spread out now. December 13th, formal report card will go home. New reporting ties more closely to the revised curriculum. Giving parents more opportunity to have input into what their children are learning. Teachers feel there is more of a partnership between teachers, parents, and students.
- South Slope Choir:
Gardenworks – happened last Thursday. Opening of the Christmas Season. Been singing for 7 years now.
CKNW orphans' fundraiser is next Tuesday. Choir invited to sing in the 11-12 time slot at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver.

- Skating – Last week of December. Dec 17th and 19th. This year we have both rinks.
- Hip hop in February and literacy week in January.
- Christmas Concert December 12th, 12:30pm – Some classes from BCSD joining in the concert this year. Will put something on the website about this. Parents from BCSD have been asking for something that all the kids can be a part of, but we would not be able to force all classes to be a part of this.
- Stanley Park ecology society coming to talk to kids about coyote awareness tomorrow. Visual presentation.

Sergei – can we get the organics bins changed more frequently? They smell quite a lot.
 For the subway order forms – can we put something on the notice to encourage parents to not use a plastic bag, but instead use an envelope or can we change the order form so that it can be folded to allow for money to be placed inside the papers? We can reuse the plastic bags in the office for ice, when kids come in and need ice for bumps, bruises, etc.

Fundraising:

- Subway – Jan, Feb? (possible sushi this month instead), Apr, May. For the sushi we should sell to the teachers too from the adult menu.
- Raffle for school musical in May – 5 or 6 baskets with stuff brought in by the kids.
- Mabel's Labels we got a cheque last month for \$57.

New Business:

Formal ASL for South Slope students and parents – Have started talking about this. At this time, it will be students teaching their peers and their parents. Intermediate students have been practicing and are in the South Slope classrooms teaching hearing students ASL. What can we do to get parents involved more? Talk more to the school district? How can we get a licensed instructor? It's a process. Intermediate classes. We have an ASL teacher – Christine who teaches BCSD students every day. Would she be willing to teach two separate 30 minute classes to a few South Slope classes? Trying to figure out when to put her in these classes. Ideal to get a permanent instructor who can follow ASL curriculum. ASL as a formal is included in the BC curriculum beyond grade 5 as an elective. Many parents not aware of this.

Private grant applications – plants in class for grade 7. Just a starter project to get into the grants process. This surrounds an ecological project.

In the spring will look at – best buy for new technology and Victoria foundation for BCSD – ramp for the stage.

New Meeting: January 22nd, 2019