

Seycove PAC Meeting Minutes

October 11th 2011

Present: Harvey Roll, Teresa Varty, Mary MacAvlay, SueAnn MacCara, Birtie Hunter, Ingrid Guerrero, Sarah McLennan, Roxy Ampbell, Michael Batten, Erica Roberts, Trevor Anderson, Eli Mann, Josie Hughes, Marcelle Adam, Chris Vetterli, Vanessa Everard, Donna Harvey, Elvyna Kerrey

Guests: Mr. K Hachlaf, Mr. D Overgaard

Meeting called to order at 7:34pm

- 1) Introductions made – round table. Mr. Overgaard (new Seycove VP) introduced himself
- 2) Approval of Sep 13th 2011 PAC meeting minutes:

Amendment – SueAnn to speak to Mr. Braam about attending the October 2011 PAC meeting not Mr. Hachlaf.

**Mr Braam unable to attend due to conflict in schedule on Tuesday evenings.

Minutes approved with amendment: Motion by Teresa Varty, seconded by Eli Mann. Passed

- 3) Student Council Update – moved to November 2011 Meeting
- 4) Grad Council – moved to November 2011 Meeting
- 5) Seycove Auction – Elvyna Kerrey

This is the major fundraiser for Seycove and Our Family of Schools (Cove Cliff, Sherwood and Dorothy Lynas). The auction will be held on March 3rd 2012 – this is the 30th anniversary of the Seycove Auction so the THEME is the 80's.

The Seycove Committee needs two people from Seycove to attend the Oct 26th 2011 meeting; this is one of the initial planning meetings, so the more info and involvement the better. For

more info please contact Helene Mears at hmears@telus.net Helen is also in charge of acquisitions, and help is always needed.

Seycove also needs a Liaison between the Auction Committee and the PAC. This volunteer will go to the meetings and report back what is needed / help required etc...to the PAC. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity please email Sue Ann MacCara sueannmaccara@me.com or Elvyna Kerrey ekerrey@ca.ibm.com (PAC co-chairs). Mr Overgaard (Seycove VP) is the School Liaison to the Auction.

6) DPAC – Birtie Hunter / Vanessa Everard

The first DPAC meeting is next week.

The Environmental Volunteer Group – info to be attached to these minutes

7) Treasurers Report – Harvey Roll

The Banking Overview will be attached to the minutes

Breakdown:

Chequing account is to write the cheques that the PAC issues

Savings account: Is a high interest bearing account

The RBC account is a specific account for the Gaming Funds that are issued by the Provincial Government. This is based on \$20 / student at Seycove (approx. \$16,000 this year). These funds are handled specifically according to Government guidelines. Funds must be used to benefit students by enhancing extracurricular opportunities. Grant funds must remain under the management and control of the PAC

The Events section is for the Auction

The Allocations are how the PAC spreads the money throughout the various departments at Seycove.

*The Large Projects is where the bulk of the money goes – this is done through collaboration between PAC, Seycove Administration and Seycove Staff. In previous years we have supported

the Transportation (buses), Technology (Computer Cart), Library etc...The list of proposals are given in by May, input is given and then a decision is made by the group

* The Allocations are then done by departments – spread across all departments by percentage. This varies by year and percentage.

* The levies are specific and cannot be used for anything else. The levies are collected on the first invoice sent out in September.

Transportation - the maintenance / purchase of the school buses

Technology – keeping up to date with technology

Emergency – keeping the emergency kits current (checking expiry dates)

Harvey will have current totals for the November 2011 meeting

8) Principals Report- Karim Hachlaf

Welcomed everyone to the PAC meeting, great turn out! Gave the regrets of Tara-Lee Hallson (shares treasurer position with Harvey) who is unable to attend this evening.

* To follow up on the suggestion made at the PAC meeting last month regarding moving the Grad Ceremony to the Orpheum (downtown). The approx. rental is \$3200 and \$5 / person entrance charge. The Orpheum is a beautiful ornate theatre where the staff looks after all the details. The Orpheum can also accommodate musical choirs / bands / orchestra etc...

The reason for the discussion is that we have a large portion of elderly grandparents who struggle to climb the bleachers; we also have those in wheelchairs etc...

Mr. Hachlaf has chatted to Ms. Lempriere and there been to real backing to date to change the venue.

Do we have Parent, Student, Administration and Staff backing – dialogue needs to happen? No staff discussion has taken place yet.

* Staff Action (Legal Phase 1 job action), due to the work action Reports Cards (at the present time) will not be prepared or distributed. The Interims deadline is Monday 17th October.

Process for interims: (standard procedure) all Gr 8's get an interim, students gr 9 -12 if their marks are below 50 % get an interim and also if the teacher see's the need to send one if the marks are between 50 – 60 %. Due to job action the teachers cannot be forced to issue interims. The administration is working with this and has various ways to help teachers / parents through this time. Parents can be pro-active and contact their child's teacher directly – all staff contacts are on the <http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/SchoolSites/Seycove/Staff.aspx> webpage.

* Parent / Teacher Interviews, due to job action these have been cancelled BUT the teachers will be available to parents to meet with them on Thurs 3rd and Fri 4th November from 1 – 3 pm. Please contact the teacher or the school to make an appointment to see a specific teacher. The school will act as a 'switchboard'.

Q – Are teachers still keeping records etc...? A – Yes, teachers are still issuing tests / assignments, that are being marked and the results recorded. Parents are able to contact any teacher at any time (via email or phone the school) to find out how their child is doing

Q – What about Gr 12 results? Gr 12's need their results for early admission into post-secondary institutions. A – The job action will not impact early admission and will not impact the Gr 12's.

Q – What about End-of Year awards? A – Honour Roll is decided by Term 1 & 2 marks, so this still needs to be assessed. Whatever is decided will be communicated. Concern that the students knowing that awards might not be awarded they might not have the motivation.

Phase 1 Job Action is an unknown variable.

Q – What can parents do? A – Contact your MLA Jane Thornthwaite jane.thornthwaite.mla@leg.bc.ca and let her know the impact of this job action on your family also your contact your School Trustee Susan Skinner sskinner@nvsd44.bc. Then at a very local level your DPAC and BCCPAC.

* Positives: Events & Field Trips

- Dominican Republic Fundraiser (Global Initiatives with Ms Yeo), Wal-Mart sponsored an event and donated \$700 towards the fundraising efforts

- The annual Take Our Kids to Work day takes place on **Wednesday, November 2nd, 2011**. This job shadowing initiative allows the entire community—parents, teachers, employers and workers—to play a part in the career development of Grade 9 students.

The primary objective of Take Our Kids to Work is to link classroom learning with the workplace. It also allows students to see their parents in a workplace role and to help them understand what work their parents actually do to support a family. This job shadowing activity supports learning outcomes found in Career and Personal Planning 8 to 12. (Info taken from the Sep 2011 Seycove E-bulletin)

- Thanks to the generous support of our parents, Seycove was able to purchase a brand new Baby Grand Piano

- Imagine... David Suzuki in YOUR classroom! The National Film Board of Canada and the David Suzuki Foundation are pleased to present the David Suzuki Virtual Classroom on November 1st at 10:30am. This is an amazing opportunity for Seycove Grade 11 and 12 students to connect with the famous environmentalist, live and in real time. During the online session, Dr. Suzuki will talk intimately about his rich experiences and compelling vision for the future of our planet.

- Last year, the school district adopted Policy 608 - Video Surveillance to give schools the opportunity to install video monitoring to address vandalism. This year, we have two bus drivers that are also SEA's at Seycove, who drive the yellow district bus that transports our low incidence students. As opposed to parking the bus at the maintenance yard by the Lucas Centre, the bus will now be parked at Seycove. Given the likelihood of potential vandalism as we had with our own bus a few years ago, the school District will financially support the installation of video surveillance for our front parking lot. The equipment would likely be installed on the pre-school and Chris Eldon has given her approval.

Motion by Eli Mann "to investigate and support the cost of installing video surveillance at the rear of the school"

Seconded by SueAnn MacCara, (Opposed – None), Motion Passed

- Pro D Day workshops overview – Mr. Overgaard

3 workshops were attended by the teachers.

- Ms Petra Willemse (English, Math teacher) spoke about Edmodo (basic breakdown from Edmodo.com) Edmodo.com is a private online social platform for teachers and students to share ideas, files, events and assignments. Built on a microblogging model, the site allows teachers the ability to handle a good deal of class activity online. Teachers can send out assignments, receive completed assignments and assign grades using the online platform. The home page allows the teacher to make a new assignment, assign an event to the calendar, send out an alert, and write a note to an individual or a group of students, and share links or files with students. When a link or file is shared, a message can be added that explains the contents. Teachers can also assign grades to assignments, and students can easily view a summary of their grades on all assignments

- Mr Brian Hughes (Seycove Librarian) spoke about technology advancements at Seycove and the IPAD's. How to set-up grade books and the parameters required.

- Mr Overgaard explained the 'Choice' program being considered by school on the North Shore. The intent is to offer another choice of schooling, with a different classroom environment. It is working with the student in their home school; it is individual to the student.

The staff assigned with is a Youth Engagement Worker – these have specific hiring guidelines.

Currently on the North Shore we have:

Keith Lynn Alternate Secondary School A full alternate school program that teaches academics, art, outdoor education, life and social skills to students in grades 8 – 10 who struggle in a mainstream learning environment. (Closing end of 2012)

Youth Learning Centre An alternative learning environment for 16 – 19-year-olds to pursue their education with a flexible learning schedule and individualized instruction.

Therapeutic Day Program Combines academics, therapy, counseling and recreation for students dealing with anxiety, depression or other mental health issues.

The CHOICES program is to pull students into the program to connect them in school and outside of school for success.

We have the opportunity too shape how the program will look in the schools. Conceivably within two years all schools will have a CHOICES program. It is for students having challenges. With Keith Lynn closing, they hope to consolidate all alternate programs into the CHOICES program. Keith Lynn is used as 'transition' back into secondary school. Majority of students at Keith Lynn will spend 1 – 2 years and then transition back.

* School Teacher Posting: Posting will go up in November / December

* School Dances – query whether these would be allowed back to Seycove? At the present time no due to the fact that when the dances were held there was inappropriate behavior, drinking, drugs etc...This was an unsafe environment and the Staff and Administration do not feel that this is an appropriate focus for their time. Discussion took place.

9) Any other business – none

10) Close – Meeting finished at 9:15