

**WE SURE COVERED A LOT OF INTERESTING INFORMATION AT THIS STAFF  
AND PARENT MEETING!  
MUCH MORE WAS DISCUSSED THAN CAN FIT ON THIS PAPER.**

James Douglas Parent Advisory Meeting  
November 17, 2003



**Parents and Staff Who Came**

Renee MacDonald, Alison Muth, Vivian Haber, Darren Shong, Susan Watkins, Patricia Quon, Carolyn Morgan-Chan, Beverly Olds, Clara Hessen, Bruce Fleming, Pam Biela, Lyn Jones, Simon Szeto, Astrid Visscher, Paramjit Badyal, Lina Reid, Paramjit Jawandha, Ruth Martens, Isabel Somerville, Barbara Claridge

**Chairperson's Report, Astrid Visscher**

- There were some complaints about the photographer. Several different photo companies and references will be reviewed.
- Seismic safety: Douglas is #34 out of 47 schools listed at greatest risk in an earthquake.
  - For more information contact Families for School Seismic Safety, [fssbc.org](http://fssbc.org)
  - Please consider writing a letter or e-mail to the provincial government. If anyone wants to take on this advocacy role by attending FSSS meetings and bringing us information, please contact Astrid, 604-325-1010 or [avisscher@shaw.ca](mailto:avisscher@shaw.ca).
- Emergency preparedness for Douglas was discussed.
- Save Our Schools is a group concerned with the educational cuts to our schools. For more information, look up [vancouverosos.ca](http://vancouverosos.ca)
- Parent resources on bullying have been produced by the BCCPAC and Ministry of Education. To find these resources, look up [www.safeschools.gov.bc.ca](http://www.safeschools.gov.bc.ca)
- A wish list from the Annex teachers has been received.
- 2 groups are interested in providing hot lunches for Douglas and Douglas Annex:
  - Culinary Arts, through local VSB high schools, offer fairly healthy lunches for \$3.00-\$3.50; we would have to collect the money and pick up and distribute the food. The PAC would not benefit from this financially.
  - 2 Annex parents propose preparing very nutritious lunches for \$2.75-\$4.00, 3 choices. They will take orders up to 9:30 the same day, and will deliver the food themselves. They propose donating \$0.25 per lunch to the PAC.
  - Generally, people present preferred the second proposal because it doesn't need parent volunteers and would raise money for our school.
  - The main area of discussion was whether or not the families in the school would like to have a hot lunch provided, and how often they would use the service. A decision was made that a survey will go out in December to see parents' response.

**Treasurer's Report, Simon Szeto**

- The gaming funds we received this fall did not take into account the Annex, so we are about \$3000 dollars short. Simon inquired about this and hopefully it will be adjusted.

## **Fundraising Report**

- Family Photo night was well attended.
- Unfortunately the Craft Fair was cancelled because poor attendance last year meant that few crafters wanted to pay for tables this year.
- Poinsettia order forms should be in by Nov. 28. Pick up your poinsettias Dec. 4 in front of the Main School.
- Big Brother's fundraiser Dec 1-4. Bring bags of good, useable clothes and household items in garbage bags to the Main School gym. The PAC gets \$3 for every bag you bring.
- Grade 7's Bottle Drive Nov. 28 only. Please bring rinsed, refundable bottles to the Main School parking lot.
- Spring Fair, late May or early June, is in the planning stages. It is hoped to be a community event with pony rides, bouncy castle, concession, fire department, sports and games etc.
  - Question about corporate sponsorship at the Fair. After discussion, it was decided that yes, we would allow corporate sponsorship, and will leave the decisions of which companies are appropriate up to the fundraising committee.
- Scholastic Book Fair at the Main School and Annex Dec 3 + 4 during parent teacher conferences.

## **Principal's Report, Barbara Claridge**

- Please keep your pull-tabs from pop cans for sending children with kidney disease to Camp Dialysun through the Kidney Foundation. Bring them in to the office.
- Fire drills are at least once per term. Fire fighters came for a safety presentation.
- Douglas Fine Arts Committee will be bringing an Indian dance presentation Nov. 28.

## **Vice-Principal, Annex, Marie-Helene Humphries**

- Marie-Helene was away but sent notes.
- Thank-you everyone who participated in the Annex Big Brother's fundraiser. We received over 300 bags and made \$1044.
- Designs and quotes for new playground equipment are expected soon and parents will be asked for their input.
- Roots of Empathy program in grade 1 is going exceptionally well.
- \$900 worth of books were added to the library with federal funds received in Sept.

## **Isabel Somerville, Resource Teacher**

- Pat Treacher, grade 7 teacher, would like to do a book exchange again this year but would like some parents to help. On a specified day, children would bring in used books and get tickets to trade for different used books. Please contact the Main School office if you can help.

Visit the Douglas School website, [www.douglas.aucontraire.net](http://www.douglas.aucontraire.net), to find dates, resources and other information such as links to the organizations mentioned.



Next PAC meeting **January 19**, 7:00 pm  
At the Main School

