

**PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Sir James Douglas Elementary School**  
**7550 Victoria Drive, Vancouver BC V5P 3Z7**  
**Main School: 604713-4817    Annex: 604-713-4885**  
[douglas.aucontraire.net](http://douglas.aucontraire.net)

**October 18, 2004 Meeting – MINUTES**

**Parents & Staff in Attendance:** Simon Szeto, Catherine O'Brien-Bell, Ita Leiva, Sue Watkins, Tracy Shudo, Dayle Giesbrecht, Astrid Visscher, Mdme. Humphries, Pam Biela, Barbara Claridge, Sam Louie, Damon Smith, Barb Venne, Becky Winkelmann, Trish Quon, Bell Caldwell, Joyce Spencer, Emma Breurkens, Siu Louie, S. Dhadli, Clara Hesson

1.    **Welcome & Introductions**

- Simon Szeto welcomed everyone to the PAC meeting
- PAC introductions were made

2.    **Review of Minutes**

- Last meeting's minutes were reviewed and accepted by Sue Watkins, seconded by Dayle Giesbrecht

3.    **WIC Review**

- The concerns expressed over the last two meetings were reviewed as was Telus's presentation and potential benefits
- Question asked if a translated version of the WIC proposal was sent out – Barbara confirmed that translated versions were sent out to Spanish, Punjabi, Vietnamese and Chinese households (that are marked as such).
- Location is firm
- Fibre-optic cabling – possibility of being expanded to the school
- WIC Vote – taken by secret ballot by all those present

4.    **Chairperson's Report**

- All the petitions regarding the proposed beer & wine store at 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Victoria were sent out; PAC Chair from David Thompson will contact our PAC with any news.
- Fundraising – Dayle / Tracy:
  - Confirmed events so far are Purdy's, Big Brother's, Scholastic, and Hanging Baskets
  - Fundraising sheets should be filled out and returned
  - Volunteers needed – not enough on the last Hot Dog Day
  - Sushi Day is planned next
  - Suggestions made: ask each class for a volunteer; each class/each grade picked for a specific month; send out notices that we need volunteers
  - Snack Shack – revamped for a more nutritional value (run by Ruth Martens) - one week ice cream, one week baked goods – first one is set for Oct 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Concern raised regarding fundraising and how it might be affected by the change
  - Parent volunteers are needed as well

5.    **Treasurer's Report**

- Not much to report as we are just starting the fundraising events
- Suggestion made to have a complete breakdown of the English and French grade 7 trips sent out to parents as well as a complete breakdown of expenses vs. fundraising – will be posted on the web site and attached to minutes

- Concerns raised as to the relevance of the Quebec trip and the pressure to participate – Barbara confirmed that the Quebec trip is not mandatory and that a student can go on the English trip or no trip at all

6. **Principal's Report**

- Parent contact day – good turnout
- Report cards out November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Main school
- Meeting held re: Quebec trip – optional activity generated by the parents over the years that drives this trip
- 160 students to Victoria for the Return of Egypt Exhibit last week and a visit to the legislative building
- Community School Team – a new feature this year based on David Thompson (a group of 3 people will identify areas that they can help Douglas Main & Annex)
- Additional support to replace the Challenge Centre – Meredith Lee to help students who are talented/gifted; they will work in 6 week blocks/rotation; will start next week
- Band – VSB had contacted a teacher who might have been able to add this to her schedule but there was a time conflict; option of making band “off table” (e.g. 8:00am or after school). At this point still recruiting.
- Learning through the Arts – will be Drama this year
- Canada-thon will be replaced with a Spell-a-thon

7. **Vice Principal's Report (Main School)**

- Social Responsibility Assembly held with performances of multi-cultural songs including an Irish band. Introduced playground leaders and discussed respect
- Lunch hour – house games have started
- Safety Patrol has started

8. **Vice Principal's Report (Annex)**

- Report cards last day of term – parent conferences before report cards
- New playground open and old playground repaired
- Peer helpers – 1<sup>st</sup> debriefing after working the playground
- Hip Hop classes have started at lunch time with a performance planned for a later date
- Initial planning of “Learning through the Arts” starting in November
- Stream of Dreams project will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> – lots of volunteers have offered their services to cut & sand the fish

9. **Other Business**

- Becky Winkelmann from Usborne Books –
  - presentation regarding literacy promotion through house parties and school events
  - recently did a literacy fair at the Annex (the Usborne consultants do all the work – no parent volunteers needed)
  - opportunity to do a read-a-thon where fundraising is done through pledges (i.e. % of books to child, % of books to school or school can receive money; Usborne also contributes an additional 8% if over \$500 total is pledged)
- PAC Meetings Schedule:
 

Nov 15	Jan 17	Feb 28
Apr 18	May 16	Jun 20
- Agenda items can be emailed to Simon at: [simon\\_szeto@hotmail.com](mailto:simon_szeto@hotmail.com)
- Meeting adjourned

## FUNDRAISING BREAKDOWN FOR THE 2003/2004 SCHOOL YEAR

The PAC funded the following through fundraising efforts:

Agendas	1,843
Benches, Annex	300
Bursaries, Thompson and Churchill schools	800
Consulting	500
Cooking program	590
Electronics	171
Ice skating, cross grades	738
Learning through the Arts, 6 classes	750
Library resources	4,379
Performances, Annex	400
Performances, Main	3,950
Playground, Annex	4,000
Portable cd players, 5	585
Projector	3,264
Pumpkin patch	239
Roller blading program, Main and Annex	1,444
Grade 7, French Immersion Allocation	9,415
Grade 7, English Program Allocation	9,415
	42,783