

**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**

**June 20, 2005 Meeting – MINUTES**

**Parents & Staff in Attendance:** Astrid Visscher, Ita Leiva, Sue Watkins, Lori Fontana, Debra Thorne, Randy Judge, Margaret Bird, Joyce Spender, Ruth Martens, Vivian Haber, Siu Louie, Sam Louie, Emma Breurkens, Sylvia Jackson, Marie-Helen Humphries, Barbara Claridge, Pam Biela, Susan Roma

1.     **Welcome & Introductions**

- Guest speaker and then back to the Agenda

2.     **Dr. Tim Oberlander**

- Thank you to the school and staff to allow the study to take place
- Evaluate children's behaviour and learning related to the stress hormone; levels of Cortazol related to everyday behaviour in the classroom at different times in the day
- Result of the study will be posted on the website; back next year to report back

3.     **Review of Tonight's Agenda**

- Accepted with no changes; motion by Astrid, seconded by Vivian
- Parent raised concern of not receiving handout on hot lunch; suggestion made to post on website – Sue to communicate with office

4.     **Review of May Minutes**

- Minutes accepted with no changes; motion by Astrid, seconded by Sue

5.     **Fundraising Allocation Vote**

- Past very divisive between the French and English when fundraising; after years of discussion, the 35-35-30 formula was decided upon so everyone would fundraise together
- Discussion open to the floor –
- some parents telling others not to fundraise until Grade 7 – incorrect; all fundraising is good for the entire school (eg. library receiving \$6k last year, this year reading package for the primaries)
- 35-35-30 makes the fundraising pot bigger to split – playground, learning centres, school events, etc. have been funded through the PAC's fundraising – not just for Grade 7's.
- Any proposals to change the existing formula? None presented
- Barbara Claridge and the Grade 7 French parents voted last week to put in a trust fund monies raised for future trips that might be under funded as the Grade 7; this year, parents didn't fundraise enough, however, the YMCA was able to give us a grant
- Secret vote taken. Result is to keep the formula as is.
- Breakdown of fundraising (%) to be posted on the web site – 31% went to the Grade 7 trips and the balance went to the rest of the school

6.     **Treasurer's Report**

- YTD approximate \$18,500 (\$6,212 from the Carnival) + \$30,000 from the government
- Thank you to Tracy, Dale, Laura and Carolyn for all their hard work

7.     **Chairperson's Report**

- Received thank you letters for scholarships that the PAC supported
- Hot Lunch Program – didn't get the required 250 students signed up; we can still do a pilot program at the main school starting Fall 2005; Barbara raised concerns about extra work for the office staff as well as the staff meetings that happen over the lunch hours will make it difficult for scheduling of receiving of food, etc.
- WIC – letter from Telus that their existing request is being re-evaluated and that they are not proceeding with the request at this time
- WISH list – Annex's revised list received

8.     **Members @ Large Report**

- Carnival – food location was a concern as sales were down
- Need new organizers for next year

- Joyce will help with fundraising

9. **Elections**

- No nominations received
- Standing members: Astrid, Catherine, Ita, and Sue
- Motion to accept by Ruth; seconded by Lori

10. **Principal's Report**

- Provincial preview May 31<sup>st</sup> – create plan and show progress (less than 3% of issues referred to office from playground); focus on:
- Social responsibility – mindfulness education training – last week Goldie Hawn visited as the program is done through her company Bright Lights
- Literacy – early literacy, reading and writing skills (levels)
- Numeracy – a new math program
- Track meet early June – students did very well
- Sports assembly today
- Band concert – good parent turn out
- Talent show – student nominated acts from jokes to dancing to piano
- French Immersion parents meeting re: the move to the Main school
- Grade 7 girls focus group today re: ideas for programs

9. **Vice Principal's Report (Main)**

- District Review – difference between boys and girls re: trips to the office – boys usually referred to the office by the Supervisory Aids; girls tend to self-refer; grades 5 & 7's have the most visits to the office

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

- Annex will look at numbers now – didn't have review through report cards
- 2 weeks pre-kindergarten testing – evaluate value of this next year; great majority of students ready for school
- lots of celebrations – Learning Through the Arts – staff would do every 2<sup>nd</sup> year; it is difficult to find French speaking artists
- 14 peer helpers – no one quit or asked to switch partners; good sense of social responsibility
- Volunteer Tea – thank you to parents who helped
- Concert Under the Stars – some parents concerned about lack of control of children – parents asked to help reinforce being quiet when the teachers ask for quiet

11. **Other Business**

- Simon stepping down as Chair; thank you to all the parents and encourages all parents to continue to contribute in different ways
- Barbara – thank you to Simon for his efforts as Chair this past year
- Barbara – Marie-Helene will be on leave in the Fall – traveling. Thank you to Marie-Helene and a pleasure to have worked with her for the past six years.
- Meeting adjourned