

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
SIR JAMES DOUGLAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
7550 Victoria Drive, Vancouver BC V5P 3Z7
Main School: 604-713-4817 Annex: 604-713-4885
Douglas.aucontraire.net

September 18, 2006 Meeting---MINUTES



Parents & Staff in Attendance: Lori Fontana, Catharine O'Brien-Bell, Roya Ali-Mohamad, Angela How, Carolyn Morgan-Chan, Becky Winkelmann, Trish Quon, Joyce Spencer, Connie Carver, Adrian Keough, Donna Emeno, Damon Smith, Devinder Grewal, Clara Hesson, Theresa Sturby, Dayle Giesbrecht, Ita Leiva, Judy Fong, Tom Ng, Ruth Martens, Dal Sandhu, Raymond Wong, Siu Louie, Susan Dreger, Kam Grewal, Sue Watkins, Sylvia Jackson, Paramjit K. Badyal, Sujata Pamelkar, MaryAnn McCreight-Bedshaw, Qiam Li, Rose Weber, Charlene Chow

1. **Welcome and Introductions:**

- Sue Watkins, our new PAC chairperson, welcomed everyone to the first meeting.
- To contact PAC, leave a note in mailboxes at either main school or annex, or email douglasPac@aucontraire.net

2. **Review of Tonight's Agenda**

- Addition: Parking—Damon Smith
- Motion to accept—Dayle/Ita

3. **Review of June 19, 2006 Minutes**

- Motion to accept—Ita/Dayle

4. **Business Arising from Minutes**

- Cookie Dough issue resolved, company paid.
- Funding split tabled until October PAC meeting.

5. **Chairperson's Report**

• **Goals for the year:**

- Review Fundraising Formula. Details of the current formula will be presented in next pac meeting. We will be looking for feed back on if and how the formula can be improved.
- Better communication between parents via website; website will include fundraising forms, highlight school events, etc.
- More parent information nights—including guest speakers
- Emergency Preparedness talk
- Community Building between both schools, English and French, which will include encouraging volunteering amongst parents

• **Review of last years spending**

- Wish list from Annex and Main Schools reviewed. Wishlist allocation will be posted on the website.

• **DPAC**

- Presentation by **Alfie Kohn—October 19 7 – 9 p.m. at Magee Secondary Auditorium—topic-- Testing and Student Achievement**

6. **Fundraising Report**

- Point of information—there are two classifications of fundraising—**School and Parent**.
- Fundraising committee revived, and are planning numerous events which will be posted one month in advance to give parents the opportunity to get involved.
- **Ongoing fundraising activities include:** soup labels (Dayle G. will assist in organization of Grade 7 class to count labels), pull tabs from cans, Usborne books, Hot lunches, bake sales.

- Possible **Special Fundraising Projects**: Gift Certificates (Becky W. will facilitate); Family Photo Night November 1 and 2 (volunteers will be needed); Movie night (Donna Emeno will check required license)
- **Fundraising Goal--\$20,000.**

7. **Principal's Report—Donna Emeno**

- Previous principalships at Queen Elizabeth and Emily Carr.
- Students, staff, parents at Douglas very welcoming,
- 24 Divisions with 584 students. Intermediate average—28; Primary average—21; Kindergarten—19.
- Some parents have express concerned about combination classes—6/7; 4/5; 2/3; K/1. Please be aware that:
 - Needs of children are assessed with respect to combination class.
 - Not an indication of students ability, rather teachers look at needs of all students.
 - Each grade of curriculum is taught in combination classes.
- Many new teachers at the main school, many maternity leaves.
- Goals are still **Literacy and Social Responsibility with respect to safety.**
- Douglas may possibly build a website.
- **Questions answered:**
 - See Donna Emeno if you feel your child is in the wrong class, however, the reason needs to be educationally sound.
 - Meetings for Quebec Trip will be very soon.
 - Challenge Program will continue as this will be part of the posting when teacher M. Lee goes on maternity leave.

8. **Vice-Principal's Report—Main School—Connie Carver**

- Feels very welcome at Douglas.
- Philosophy—service to Donna, assist staff with quality instruction, service to students by assisting in learning.
- Teaching V.P.—will provide music instruction.
- **Question answered:**
 - Music and Band are separate, Band begins in Grade 5.

8. **Vice-Principal's Report—Annex—Adrian Keough**

- School now painted.
- Increase of 20 students—all classes near maximum.
- 9 Divisions, 198 students, Grade 1 to 3—24 average, Kindergarten—22 average (waitlist of 15)
- Little staff change, will have a new Supervision Aid.
- Goal: **Social Responsibility** (problem solving in a peaceful way) **and Numeracy.**
- New Program at school—**Action Schools BC**—received an \$800 grant which PAC or school need to match. Each classroom will receive a bin of active related equipment.
- Student Council will comprise of Grade 2 and 3.
- **Question answered:**
 - Mme. Ball provides the music and art program through teachers' prep time.

9. **Other Business:**

- **Supervision at Main School**—2 staff in morning; 1 staff in afternoon. Young students are only dismissed to a parent, intermediates are dismissed on own. School Patrol will begin shortly.
- **Grounds Upkeep/Washrooms**—Let office know if there is a problem outside, it will be taken care of; Donna will look into soap in washrooms; toilet paper on outside of stalls as there have been past incidents of plugged toilets.
- **Grade 4 welcome**—both English and French together.
- **Parking Patrol**—No accidents to report, some near misses; at Annex **not allowed to park in front of school at all on the North and South sides—only a 5 minute loading zone--\$75 ticket**; possible speed bumps on Borden.
- **Thank you** letters from Scholarship recipients.
- **Letter from Parent** commending teacher, G. Goundouvas.

➢ **Point of Information—no adults allowed inside children washrooms.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Next meeting Monday October 16, 2006 7:00 p.m. Main School