

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



December 18, 2006—Meeting Minutes

Parents and Staff in Attendance: Becky Winkelmann, Trish Quon, Rose Weber, Joyce Spencer, Ruth Martens, Damon Smith, Adrian Keough, Donna Emeno, Connie Carver, Ita Leiva, Joan Lichtmann, Kam Grewal, Sue Watkins, Sylvia Jackson.

1. **Welcome**—An informal meeting, with treats.

2. **Business arising from November 20, 2006 Minutes.**

- Changes: Apology to Mr. Miciak for misspelling his name in the minutes; and **English Grade 7 camping trip is on May 4, 2007.**
- We wish to clarify that the English Grade 7 trip this year is to a camp. The possibility of a bigger trip (such as Ottawa, or something else) in future years was discussed with the teachers and they decided not to proceed at this time.
- Motion to accept—Ita/Trish

3. **Principal's Report**

- Pam B. (counselor) will be returning in January.
- M. Hooper returning from maternity leave in January.
- Memo from school board re: Booster Seat Issue: K - Grade 3 affected, and those up to 80lbs, therefore, need booster seats for children who go on field trips. Donna will look further into this issue with Carolyn and Trish, and will bring information forward. Also, need to clarify shoulder belts vs. lap belts.
- School fee update: recent court decision has said that fees for goods and services that are not a necessity to the curriculum are permissible i.e. band instruments, field trips, etc.
- Web Page at Douglas Main School will be up and running on Wednesday December 20.
- Questions for Donna:
 - Update on Grade 1 girl being asked by Grade 7 girl for money—it was a misunderstanding, and the incident has been sorted out.
 - Policy on cold days—Students at Main School were told to stay outside although it was very cold. Connie will look into issue.
 - Electronic Equipment (i.e. IPODS, MP3 players, etc) coming to school—policy will be looked at.

4. Vice-Principals' Reports

Annex

- Adrian wishes everyone a Happy Holiday.
- January 23, 2007 is the K/Grade 1 information night.
- Hired a replacement for Mme. Chantel Trudeau.
- Usbourne book sale very successful, as over \$1000 raised in books for the school. Thank you Becky for donating your commission as well.
- Report cards go home December 22—will be in a new grid format.
- Question: Why are report cards given out after Parent/Teacher Interviews? At the Annex it has been traditionally done this way.
- On target with *Social Responsibility and Numeracy*—information is gathered from report card data from June and December.
- 1st theme day—Rainbow Day—was a big success.
- Arts Program—*Happy Winter Concert* is on Wednesday, December 20.
- Assembly on Friday December 22, to say goodbye to Mme. Trudeau, and a good-bye at the Main School on Tuesday December 19 10:45 a.m.
- Policy for Power Outages—engineer phones BC Hydro to see when power will be back on, and if Hydro is unsure then the school is closed. On the first outage, in November, Hydro had informed the school that power would resume shortly, therefore, school was not cancelled, but on December 19 no definite time was given.

Main School

- Concert Tuesday, December 19 at 10:45 and 1:15, as school is divided into a primary and intermediate concert. All parents are welcome—the band, choir and individual classes will be performing.
- Student Goodwill—going to others less fortunate--\$1200 raised and 1400 items for the Food Bank. Union Gospel mission-Ms. Ellis' class—raffling off little hand-made Christmas trees. The goal is to raise 100 meals. Tickets are 50 cents each.
- Music Program—Jr. Band G. 5, Sr. Band Gr. 6/7.

Point of Information: Movie night will now be on January 31, 2007. A new notice will be sent out.

5. Other Business

- Fundraising—Poinsettias--\$222.05; Shop Funds--\$591; Bake Sale Main School--\$300.
- Parent Question re: FSA Testing -Is there any benefit to student writing? Some parents were given a form by their student's teacher with the option of students withdrawing from test.
 - There is no monetary gain for the school. If many students choose not to write the test, then Douglas will have a higher exclusion rate; therefore, the data collected will be less accurate, as Douglas will likely have higher scores. There are those that are automatically excluded—special needs, students 2 to 3 grade levels below, ESL reception students.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Next meeting January 15, 2007—Main School Staff Room.

