

**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

**Parents and Staff in Attendance:** Adrian Keough, Donna Emeno, Connie Carver, Mike Watkins, Sue Watkins, Becky Winkleman, Carolyn Morgan-Chan, Vivian Haber, Henry Ahking, Mary Ann McCreight-Balshaw, Joan Lichtmann, Trish Quon, Sylvia Jackson.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Welcome to Henry Ahking Manager of Planning & Facilities at the VSB.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Henry gave PAC an update on East and West Fraserlands, and the proposed schools that are to be built there in the future: West Fraserland is from Kerr to Knight St.; East Fraserland from Boundary to Kerr.

- The official development plan of East Fraserland was approved in Oct. 2006. It is anticipated that in the next 15 to 20 years there will be a population of 13, 000.
- Two schools were initially proposed for this area—West Fraserland an Annex K to 3 and East Fraserland school K to 7, but now the belief is that there will be approximately 1000 students in this area, it is now being looked at to build two schools with 500 each. In addition, it is believed that the East Fraserland school will be built first as it will be built in conjunction with a community centre and day care. The timeline for the completion of the new housing will be 2010, and the schools 2013 to 2015.
- **Questions:** Will the new/renovated school at Douglas be impacted because of the new schools being proposed in the Fraserlands? Yes, all these things will be factored into the new/renovated school. Presently, there are about 100 students from West Fraserland attending Douglas. (although it isn't known how many of those are in French Immersion)

**Discussion then moved to the Seismic Upgrade of Douglas Main School:**

- Parents at the PAC meeting feel that safety is paramount, and would rather have a new safe building, which comes with modern equipment; Donna said the staff at Douglas feel that safety is important as well. In addition, by constructing a new building, the students will have little disruption as they can stay in the old building while the new one is being built.

**Point of Information:** Any comments that parents have can be forwarded to Donna who will pass them on to Henry Ahking at the VSB. Look for a meeting in May were parents and the community can hear the proposal and have input.

- The VSB in conjunction with the City are working together to bring the proposal to the community/school. After community/school meetings, and preferred option is clear, then this will be sent to the Ministry in June.
- As upgrade was at first budgeted, and replacement seems to be more cost effective and safer, Ministry will conduct a "Due Diligence" study to ensure that all options (such as filling empty seats in other schools) have been considered.
- If all is approved, then possibly a new school will be started in the Fall of 2008.

3. **Review of Agenda** Sue (accepted)/Becky (seconded)

4. **Review of February Minutes** Joan (accepted)/Vivian (seconded)

5. **Business Arising from Minutes/Chairperson's Report**

- Parking Patrol—Sue spoke to Officer Abundo, most of the problems are on Brigadoon, where people make U-turns, some tickets have been issued; Becky and Donna will speak to Pastor at the church to see if Brigadoon Entrance to the church parking lot can be blocked off to improve traffic flow on Brigadoon.
- Sue is meeting with Donna regarding the main schools wish list.
- Thanks to Carolyn and Sue Dreger for volunteering for the School Planning Council.
- For the Budget for next year, the PAC would like to provide funding for the classroom self-rescue buckets; we will need approximately 40 – 50 buckets for both schools, at about \$120/bucket.

- Ita and Joyce are meeting to coordinate Sports Day Volunteers.
- Next meeting must be rescheduled to April 18<sup>th</sup>, due to Pro-D day.

7. **Treasurer's Report**—PAC has raised \$6862 so far.

8. **Members at Large**—still continuing to accept Volunteer forms. After Spring Break, the translated letter will be sent out. Blank forms are available on the website.

9. **Principal's Report**

- Report cards out March 9<sup>th</sup> with parent teacher interviews the following week.
- Final student projections for 2007/08 school year will be in May—it looks like Douglas will have the same number of students and staff with an increase in French Immersion.
- Professional Day after Spring Break, will be school goals.
- Meeting with the new School Planning Council will happen soon.
- Budget Meeting at VSB—nothing has been formalized, but there will be a deficit, not known how much.

10. **Vice-Principals' Reports**

**Main School--Connie**

- Upcoming FSA testing for grades 4 and 7 from May 7 – 18 (takes about 3 days in total)—reading, writing and numeracy is the focus. There is time taken to teach how to take the test (i.e. how to fill out the forms), but tests are based on the IRPs which are being taught in the classroom. There are student exclusions based on advice of the staff. If there is a large negative difference regarding FSA results, the staff examines it, and looks where to focus in the future.

**Point of Information:** To get more information regarding the FSA testing, go onto the Ministry of Education website, and go to Foundation Skills Assessment. Also, see the BCTF site <http://bctf.ca/fsa.aspx>

**Annex--Adrian**

- Grade 3s completed school satisfaction at the main school.
- 87 Ks are registered for 52 places; 5 new grade ones.
- Annex is at about 200 students.
- Roots and Shoots—the whole school will be attending this performance at the UBC Chan Centre on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Before the May PAC meeting there will be a Grade 3 parent meeting regarding transition to Grade 4.

11. **Other Business**

- Question to Donna and Connie from a parent regarding primary kids who are noisy at lunch, and are made to clean up lunch, and are called "lunch helpers." Donna and Connie will look into this.
- Recycling Boxes at Main school for beverage containers—Grade 7s are to take on this project to raise funds for Quebec Trip. Donna will look into contacting a company who comes in and recycles the beverage containers.
- Adrian explained Supervision at the Annex—it is there to provide a transition from car/bus/walking to school, it is not "supervision" per se, and not to be used to drop children off at 8:30, or to leave them there after school, until 3:30 p.m.
- Thank you to Mike Watkins for updating the PAC website, and adding seismic link.

**Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.. Next meeting is WEDNESDAY April 18<sup>th</sup>-- Main School Library.**

We will be having a guest speaker, the topic is "Raising Confident Boys and Girls".