

**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  
March 31, 2008



**Parents & Staff in Attendance:** Becky Winkelmann, Dawn Preston Brown, Michele Jarrett, Trish Quon, Joyce Spencer, Theresa Sturby, Susan Dreger, Kam Grewal, Carolyn Morgan-Chan, Maryann McCreight-Balshaw, Lena Lai, Cindy Sepp, Sue Watkins, Sylvia Jackson, Donna Emeno, Sylvain LaRoche, Connie Carver.

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Review of Agenda**    Becky (accepted)/Dawn (seconded)
3. **Review of February Minutes**    Susan (accepted)/Trish (seconded)
4. **Business Arising from Minutes**
  - Parent discussion with Mike Smith regarding Emergency Preparedness Presentation will be for families in the evening—child minding will be available. Date TBA.
5. **Chairperson's Report**
  - **Internet Safety**—there has been an issue regarding Douglas School being portrayed on "You tube". The site was found by a parent who was "googling" Douglas School, and found a link to a YouTube video. The video included homophobic remarks, bullying, photographs taken at school and students clearly identifying themselves. These were students from a previous year, but Ms. Emeno along with the David Thompson Community Team is looking into this issue. There has also been a second site on "Facebook" that did not portray Douglas School in a positive light, this has also been dealt with. As the students are currently attending Douglas, suspensions were enforced.

**Point of Information:** Parents need to be involved with their children on monitoring what they are doing on the computer. Many information evenings are available to educate families on Internet Safety.

- **Seismic Upgrade**—Facilities Review was at Main School on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
- **Think School Forum**—was held at the Roundhouse on April 6<sup>th</sup>, this was in regards to preserving older, heritage schools rather than rebuilding them.
- **Committee II Meeting**—Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m. at Vancouver School Board. The Ministry has agreed on a replacement school for Douglas. Donna mentioned that John Perpich, principal at Dickens, was very pleased with a new school—very environmental, however size reduction was a concern. Donna is on the agenda for the Committee II meeting, and one item is that Douglas would like some of the money from the disposal of the building and land to be put towards the new school for upgrades i.e. larger gym and library, music room, etc.
- **Bike to School Day**—Date in June TBA. We will participate in the "Clean Air Commuter Challenge." The BC Lung Association will come to Douglas for information to students on bike safety.

6. **Member's at Large Reports**

- **Movie Night/Silent Auction/Cookie Dough Launch**—Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Samples of cookies will be available for bake sale so people can try them.
  - Bee Movie showing due to controversy with Snow Buddies.
  - Silent Auction going well with respect to community donations.
- **Sports Day May 16th**—Need use of a BBQ for the day—if someone who lives close to the school can lend their BBQ for a day—we'll purchase the propane—let PAC know.
  - PAC will buy the popsicles again for both schools.
  - Maryann will check into what the Annex is doing.
- **Staff Appreciation Lunch**—April 11<sup>th</sup>, both schools will receive a pizza lunch.

7. **Principal's Report**

- VPD came out to talk to the grade 6/7 students about gangs—very graphic, and well received presentation. Past Douglas students have been targeted by gangs so there was concern to make contact with older students about gangs.
- Mike Smith will make Emergency Preparedness presentations next Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup> to students—a.m. for primary, p.m. for intermediate.
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Professional Day—School Goals. Carolyn suggested that staff look into a day of Emergency Preparedness training specifically geared towards how staff would assist students should an earthquake or other natural disaster occur.
- VSB Budget meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup>.
- School Organization for 2008/09—English enrolment is down, French is up.

8. **Vice-Principal's Report**

**Main School—Connie Carver**

- Quebec exchange was a wonderful experience for all involved. Quebec students will come to Douglas in June.
- Primary musical was a huge success.
- Planning stages for an Intermediate Musical—possibly the History of Rock & Roll.
- Pennies for Grandmothers kicks off April 3<sup>rd</sup> with a presentation to the entire school from the Steven Lewis Foundation.
- Gang Prevention for Grades 6/7s. The CBC was filming the event to see what Vancouver is doing with respect to gangs. Watch for news as to when it will be broadcast. It was a very powerful presentation.
- April 1<sup>st</sup> class photos; April 2<sup>nd</sup> team photos.

**Annex—Sylvain LaRochelle**

- ½ the portable computer lab up and running.
- Annex going to Emergency Preparedness talk at the Main school on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Class photos on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Professional Day April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Jump Rope for the Heart on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- New Douglas Annex website.
- After school programs—Grade 3 cooking, Grade 2/3 open gym.
- School projection for 2008/09 over 200.

9. **Other Business**

- Sue applied for the Fruit and Veggie program again.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.