

ABBOTSFORD TRADITIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PAC
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2007

Meeting called to order 7:11pm

Approval of May minutes will be moved to October meeting. Agenda 1st Kamal Sidhu, 2nd Lori Toews. Approved.

Guest Speaker – Brenda Head conference chair for PITA. She will also be on the executive for next three years. Mandate is to provide professional development for middle school teachers. It is a fairly new thing as we have gone to middle. At the conference, Saturday will be open to parents. Samples of workshops for parents will be:

- ADHA goes to school
- Brain gym
- Readers theatre
- Autism
- Happily ever after writing

There is a \$35 fee for the parents to attend on Saturday. DPAC is looking to fund a portion of that.

Brenda is also organizing the event to be here at ATMS. She is looking for help to

- Placing PITA signs around town
- Parking
- Presenters packages
- School readiness with sign coverage
- ASK ME coordinators
- School decorating
- Welcome signs
- Refreshments
- Lunch set-up & cleanup
- Registration desk
- Office help i.e. photocopying
- Saturday conference end clean-up

Treasurer's Report – Lori Toews

See attached report. Summary of 06/07 review Income \$15,296.03 Spending \$15,800.49 plus money to start with we have \$12,539.08 this year.

Consignment – The first Thursday from 2:00-3:00 will be shopping time. To submit items please put your items in a bag with your name and phone number and take to Mrs. Dahl or Mrs. Horsman at the office. Please no stains, tears, and holes.

Bookfair – Estella Cumyn is organizing that for a short week in November the 13th –17th. Parent scheduling sheet will be available in the front office.

Fundraising – Pam Robinson

Raffle tickets go out with students tomorrow. We are encouraging students to sell one book. This is the ONLY fundraiser that the PAC is doing. The top sellers of each grade will participate in the 'DEAL OR NO DEAL'. There will be a form going out with each student for parents to sign stating that they will participate or opt out. Friday morning 3 more parents are needed to hand out tickets at home room.

Principal's report – Daljeet Rama

Proud to be the principal of this building with green fields, best teachers, PITA conference, and a spectacular year. Terry Small is an international presenter that will be coming to this school to do "How to help your child with Homework". He gathers all the latest and greatest research on this topic. This will be FREE to all parents. He will also be presenting to each of the three grade levels. He usually has a table of his resources available for sale to parents.

Class sizes, we are completely full. Longest waiting list is in 6th grade of 47; grade 7 has 23, and grade 8 at 15. We must be doing something right. Bringing in portables is not foreseeable.

New teachers filling in for teachers on leave are Mrs Grieve, Mrs. Frank, and Mrs. Sidhu. A new position created is Mrs. Olson as Physical Activity Director. She has created colored house teams that will be cross grade, consisting of grades 6 to 8 on each team. There will be two teachers to each team and there will be points awarded to each team. Games and activities should start next week, things will include crazy hair day participation and various other activities.

Virtual School is available to adults FREE

Picture day is on Monday for individual pictures. Class and team photos will be taken in the Spring.

She will be looking for parents to volunteer to run a noon hour club, sewing, cooking, crafts, games, etc. Look for advertisement in newsletter. Also need parents to do cross walk guarding.

SPC goals were handed in. 1. Writing skills 2. Social responsibility.

We are looking at doing indoor building murals. We are having kids submit ideas. There will be a non-ATMS panel to judge the submission. Theresa Morgan will help coordinate getting an artist to do this. Daljeet has some money left over to go towards this.

Chair's Report – Rhonda Pauls

I am very thankful to Pam to doing up the raffle prizes, Sheilagh getting the licence and making ticket prototypes, Rhonda photocopying, and the Klawitter's at Abbotsford Printing for numbering and making booklets. Thanks to Kamal for interpreting the raffle info sheet into Punjabi.

I am hoping to get the agenda on the school website along with minutes. We want to be transparent on our spending. Lori Toews came up with this fantastic 'ATMS PAC NEWS FINANCIAL FACT FLASH! Great stuff, full of all the spending that PAC had done.

Today I sent out an email to staff for their budget wish list. Dal will be cc'd on the emails so that we can coordinate spending wishes in case she already has it on her budget

or didn't know it was needed. The actual voting for budget items will be at our October morning PAC meeting.

Kids have been complaining about garbage on fields from public users. Jason Parker has ordered two more garbage cans out there. Public user groups still do not respect our fields. Rhonda has sent in a written complaint to the school district. They stated that if there are two complaints without improvement, they could cancel the public user group use.

Weeds. A parent/student group has shown interest to weed the deplorable front gardens. Maintenance has received a work order last March or April, but it is not a priority. Discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of volunteering to pull weeds vs. it really being a district job. But it is not a safety priority. Suggestion was made that parents send emails to Daljeet for her to forward to Admin. She will forward them as soon as tomorrow. One parent was driving by the Simpson school and notice the awful look and there is still the traditional sign hanging up.

Sign up sheets for parent support is available to volunteer.

The government is offering two types of grants. One is lottery style and the other is based on need. Both are to a maximum of \$20,000. Deadline for submission is in November. Rhonda polled kids last year and they would like to see outdoor volleyball, covered picnic tables, benches.

Format of meetings – looking for your ideas as to what you would like to have happen so that the meeting are not just information giving.

Feedback of Jason Parker – part of his professional development he is looking for the PAC to submit answers on 1. What do you like that I am doing and would want me to continue? And 2. What do you NOT like that I am doing and would like me to stop? He would like your thoughts. This is on paper and will be given to him in confidence.

Elections of Officers – Sheilagh

Nominations are to be in Oct. 4th positions still to be filled are SPC, DPAC, BCCPAC, general members.

Motion to adjourn Balbir, 2nd Theresa carried.

Next PAC meeting will be Oct. 11 in the morning.