

Elphinstone Secondary PAC Meeting

Monday, Oct. 17, 2011, 7:30 pm

Attendance: 16

1.0 Adoption of agenda: Rob Henley, 2nd Stephine Boyd

Adding on discussion on bike racks and correspondence into a New Business category 4.5

2.0 Adoption of minutes from last meeting : 1st Brenda Soppel, 2nd Dirk Larsen

3.0 Guest Speakers – Ms. Sokowski re: request to PAC to get some funds for the sewing club

The club has been running on no funds for the last year and just trying to get stuff from the sewing class. They are looking for funding for 5 machines and some supplies. They have obtained quotes from Sew Easy for Pfaffs and to Carolla's quilt shop for similar machines. The 3 woman that are running the club have been using their own supplies as well as used and donated supplies. They have run out of supplies now. Our local suppliers are willing to give us prices that are lower than the ones in the city and will be there for servicing. They are asking for \$5000 -\$6000.

Mr. Daniels re: request to PAC for funds for audio equipment. This is used as an interface for recording various student projects, movie making, music events etc. He is asking for upgraded machines (6) to replace and supplement the old ones that are almost obsolete. They are used for many different classes, not just his, for a variety of different projects. The price of these is \$99 each. He gave us a demo of the difference between the old system recordings and the new. Huge difference! Total amount he is requesting would be \$853.

4.0 Treasurer report

\$13, 040.00 will be given to us for the gaming account.

Stephine just took over from Kirsten so she is still figuring things out.

Apparently, the gaming account number for the PAC has been used by grad groups in the past and the reports were not completed. It also makes it look like the PAC has been raising more money than we have really raised.

The current grad class have been told this and will be applying for their own accounts in the future.

As per the requests of our guest speakers:

Members of the PAC are concerned that we are spending so much money for only 10 or 12 kids. There was discussion about possibly giving half of what was asked for. The textiles classes would probably be using the new machines as well especially the senior students.

Motion was made by Linda Riesco that we donate the money for 5 machines for a total of \$4800. Seconded by Tracey McLennan. Voted, 3 against, rest in favour. Motion passed.

Motion to spend \$853 for Mr. Daniels audio equipment by Autumn White. Seconded by Natalie Smith. Voted, all in favour. Motion passed.

4.5 New Business - bike racks. Linda Riesco has requested that we consider purchasing a good bike rack and place it undercover if possible. Her son Forrest is checking with his employer on the cost of them.

Homework club – Kate Tauber from the community school came to talk about it. She is requesting that the PAC support this with \$1500. The PAC has been donating \$1000 in the past but Mr. Fauchon got a raise this year so this would cover the difference for the 4th day.

Motion was made by Brenda Soppell to donate the \$1500 to the homework club, 2nd by Autumn White. All in favour. Motion passed.

Greg Russell had a suggestion that the PAC sponsor an all candidates meeting for all the school trustees candidates in our area. Gibsons is not holding one and he is concerned that parents will not be able to question the 9 candidates. The election is on Nov. 19th. Motion by Brenda Soppell to host an all candidates meeting at the school. 2nd by Diane Henley. This will cost approx. \$150. Fred Thorsell would be willing to moderate it and contact all the schools to put it in their newsletters. Suggested date is Monday, Nov. 7th. Motion passed.

5.0 Earthquake Preparedness

-last year we had asked for the storage container in the back to be levelled by the school board so we can use it for dry storage for the supplies that we have already purchased. We currently have all the initial emergency supplies. The next step would be to start getting the water and food. We agreed that we should wait until we get the container fixed.

Mr. Thorsell will check into other options of places to store these items.

6.0 Ideas for Making Elphinstone an Excellent school

New permanent item on the agenda. We are looking for people to think about this and be talking to others and make suggestions at subsequent meetings.

7.0 Principals report

-pep rally put on by the leadership group.

-the coast reporter has been featuring little articles about things that are happening in the school such as Peter McDonald's lit class medieval feast.

- Oct. 7th we had a UBC rep visit.

-Nov. 14th – 9 schools are coming to talk to the grade 12's

-girls volleyball teams are doing very well.

-cross country team is up and running and doing well.

-more emphasis is being placed on following up on student's unexcused absences with the goal of making kids more successful in school.

-Mr. Thorsell is finding it a very positive place to work.

-Oct. 24th Cap U is having an information evening for studying on the Sunshine Coast in Sechelt.

8.0 Next meeting – Monday, Nov. 21st, 7:30 pm, meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.