

DIXON PAC UPDATE

MAY 14, 2009

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

PAG AGM: all the primary positions were filled. Outstanding volunteer roles include:

- **Staff Luncheon Coordinator** (celebration is usually held in April)
- **RDPA Role:** attending the monthly Richmond District Parent Advisory meetings. This role could facilitate several parents attending the meetings in rotation/schedule.
- **Canadian Parents for French (CPF):** we have contacted the CPF main office to learn what, if any meetings are being held. Apparently there is nobody leading the Richmond chapter.

Family Dance: Coordinators (Andrea Thomson and Yolanda Booth) report another good dance this year. We had the same number of families turn out (about 30 families in total) and the monies charged and received were on target with previous years. It's been suggested by Deirdre and Andrea to try a Fall Harvest/Halloween dance next year.

Book Sale: the sale was held on May 6th during the Celebration of Learning open house evening. It raised a total of \$375

(\$50 was from baked goods). There was no overhead to run this fundraiser as all books and baked goods were donated. All book prices were also based on donation (no set pricing was established) and it's believed that this structure contributed to the success.

Pendant Sale: \$100 was raised from this Mother's Day fundraiser.

Dragon Wear: the under armour shirts have been a great success and there was just over \$100 in profit made (unintentionally) by the product estimation pricing.

Fundraising: Lisa de Girogio and Karen Fisher-Hagel are the new fundraising coordinators for 2009/10. The sales representative for the Entertainment Books (coupon books) has presented a proposal to Dixon which will be passed along to the Fundraising team for evaluation. The team will create a fundraising proposal for next year. A request was made to outline the profit margins for any fundraiser which sells products so as to inform parents of the percentage value kick-back to Dixon.

~ Kristy McLeod

TEACHERS UPDATE

Christine Marin presented briefly on the Dixon Dragonflies project:

This central committee is expanding their reach to the entire Dixon population as Dixon's primary goal next year (i.e. School Planning Council goals) will encompass the garden project. Emphasising the question "how to make my world a better place?", each class will be assigned a planter box or garden area for planting.

Our garden shed is well stocked and many students are already working hard in the Friendship Garden. One area we are working on is weed identification. Many students were unable to identify weeds vs. plants so a

visual guide will be created to help students.

Deirdre has been working hard to get the district over to cut asphalt for our three square planters which will host apple trees.

Mark Marin, our local chef, endeavours to come by before year end to demonstrate the creation of Strawberries in Tuxedos and Cesar salad.

Parents wishing to help can approach our lead Dragonfly, Fiona MacNicol, who can assign various tasks such as weeding supervision, watering, planter decorations, etc.

~ Chris Marin

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report: Mairi was away this week but left the financial report for our review. There were no questions regarding the report.

Final Meeting for 2008/09
is our PAC Social

June 2nd @ 7pm

Hosts: Bonnie & Jason Leslie
3151 Francis Road

Question? email us:
dixonpac@gmail.com

In Attendance: Elaine Fontaine, Nicole Hawthorne, Susana Bradbury, Deirdre Lintott, Darryl Unger, Lesa Schulz, Ravi Saulnier, Kristy McLeod, Andrea Thomson
Adopting April Minutes : Andrea Thomson and Kristy McLeod

Winners of special treats include:
Tim Hortons coffee (Susana Bradbury), Gourmet Fruit Dip (Elaine Fontaine), Assorted Tea (Nicole Hawthorne)



Quebec 2011

There is still no formal coordinator for the 2011 Quebec Fundraising team. Kristy McLeod had requested email contact info from the Administration but this information is only available to staff via the "blue cards" and is private.

Kristy would like to send another notice home to the parents of children eligible to participate in this trip, requesting their email contact information. If a person opts to run this fundraising group, the information collected will then be passed along to him/her.

ADMINISTRATOR & TEACHER'S REPORTS

Deirdre Lintott provided the following updates:

New Staff: Approaching his new role as Dixon's Principal, Darryl Unger is working with Lesa Schulz to interview new staff. Staff members are leaving Dixon next year including: Teresa Ward (maternity leave), Karli Dionne (maternity leave), Dan Hirn (was only a temporary posting), Laurie Kay (still on maternity leave).

The hiring process is often complex as positions may be based on temporary leaves (i.e. maternity) and hiring is determined on various factors, including seniority. For instance, Mr. Hirn's position is a good example of the hiring complexities. If you have questions about this, contact the administration for more info.

School Planning Council (SPC): the committee met to review the proposed goals for 2009/10 and handouts were provided at the meeting. If you would like to obtain more information about SPC, contact your SPC reps: Sandra Khan, Ravi Saulnier, and Sue Mattice.

Family Dance: Hooray for Hollywood theme was fun.

Celebration of Learning: couple of mentions that this new structure was very successful.

Grade 7 Dinner Dance: group has been meeting to plan the upcoming celebrations.

May 15th ProD: Darryl Unger will participate in that session as it prepares staff for next year.

May 25th Staff Meeting: will address "inclusion review". This is a presentation to assist staff with the process of addressing children who present unique learning challenges and/or gifts. When presented with unique situations, teachers are provided new methods of supporting these students to reach their own levels of success.

May 20th - Kindergarten orientation

May 19th Minoru Track & Field: for students in grades three to seven.

June 5th Dragon Day: this is Dixon's version of 'sports day' and this year's theme is the Olympics.

June 19th Wheels in Motion: our annual Rick Hanson Wheels in Motion day and Service Awards assembly.

NEW BUSINESS

Park Swings Missing: the swings have been missing from the park since the fall; parents can call the City Parks department (again) to inquire.

Parking Lot: noted by many that the parking lot is still a safety concern and has gotten worse despite several notices home this year. Deirdre suggests that parents get on vests to get out to "ticket" for car idling, blocking, etc. Kristy noted some ideas to correct the current configuration but we were advised that no changes would be made in time for Sep-

tember 2009. Therefore it was suggested that a group organize a Parking Lot Committee to review the current format and determine next steps. We can request the district maintenance staff to come in and review our situation and work with the group. The question was asked, What is required to close down the Diamond lot altogether and only use the Gormond (back) lot? Nothing – it's up to PAC to decide if this is in the best interests/safety of the students.

Communication / Paper reduction: request to amalgamate all paper notices home to families of more than one student.

For instance, families with 2 or more children should only get one notice. It was also suggested that we send home fewer reminder notices (if not none) and rather rely on communication only through three streams of communication: (a) Dixon School Newsletter with monthly calendar/schedule of dates, (b) PAC Newsletter, and (c) student agenda's. This would allow parents to depend on three main sources whilst also reducing our paper flow. Other suggestions included: utilizing email, designating a parent contact per class to assist with reminders.

Dragon Day Volunteers

Dragon Day is Dixon's annual "sports day".

Parent help is needed with food sales from early morning till end of day.
Contact Karen Robinson or Kelly Bajwa (through the office) to sign-up to help sell coffee, set-up, clean-up, etc.

PAC SOCIAL

It's the last PAC gathering of the year—this is not a meeting but rather a "social" get together.

Date: June 2nd
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Bonnie & Jason Leslie's Home
3151 Francis Road

For more information, email dixonpac@gmail.com