

Moberly Elementary PAC Meeting @ Moberly Library  
Tuesday, February 17, 2015  
**Starts 7pm**

4 Parent Attendees: Soraya Galdamez, Diane Blue, Farrah Murdock, and Paul Thandi  
Principal: Patti Plottel & VP: Karl Graham

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. PAC Chair's Report (Paul Thandi)
3. Treasurer's Report (Diane Blue)
4. Old Business
  - a. Playground update/plans/fundraising
5. New Business
  - a. Lunch outside
6. Principal/VP Report (P. Plottel and K. Graham)

Minutes

1. Welcome

Moberly newsletter distributed on Friday, Feb 6th by paper and electronic; one parent confirmed receipt and another parent did not. A "Kindness Tree" display is in the hall way with lots of leaves (leaves represent student's encouragement & acknowledgement of another student). Parents are encouraged to review the "Random Acts of Kindness Foundation" publication information on the Moberly website; kindness increases happiness (a fact based in science).
2. No updates/report by PAC Chair
3. Treasurer's Report – brief review of the Vancity accounts and note of outstanding \$2500 deposit to be cleared in March.
4. Old Business
  - a. Playground update/fundraising/plans: \$13,400 raised by school and \$24,500 by PAC gaming grant = \$37,000 raised to date. Playground quote is 2 years old. Patti met with playground company and school board rep. The Phase 1 plan will be completed by end of school year. Tower/Fort with ramp portion will be Phase 1 and the swings and accessories will be fundraised & installed as Phase 2. Phase 1 will include the base and foundation for the playground. There are procedural changes by school board and so we have to contract with the company that sells the equipment to lay/build foundation for playground and assembling the playground equipment. The vendor, Habitat, is the most successful local business and they have excellent product and 15 staff that do playground install (according to Canadian safety standards and will also be inspected by VSB safety). Habitat's costing will be similar to school board fee for the playground install. Community install was very challenging in the past with Moberly.

- b. "Afternoon at the Movies", the pre-release of Penguins of Madagascar." Will be in March and popcorn and bottled water will be offered. Last time we had 200 kids and popcorn service will be improved.
- c. This Wednesday is "Power Hour" with staff with all students spending time in gym with support staff to help supervise, followed by Professional Development Day on Thursday. There will be a Lion Dance in the gym during "power hour" and then another screen of the Penguins prequel.

Q: Can parents come?

A: Yes but parent volunteer must be distinguished between paid visiting parent and parent-volunteer. There will also be more organized exit this time; venue change - small gym vs. large gym, to be determined.

#### 5. New Business

- a. Lunch outside – the Staff have concerns with the current lunch room arrangements. The family lunch room is popular and overcrowded and students are searching for other places to have lunch. Students go outside to have their lunch when the weather is better. There are picnic tables outside but problems arise as students do not throw out their garbage in garbage bins. Primary and intermediate grades are still segregated on school grounds and will be supervised if they are having lunch outside. Teachers and parents will be polled.

#### 6. Principal/VP Report

- a. Update by Mr. Karl Graham: basketball season just finished. Senior girls finished their final game of the season last week (against Douglas Elementary). They did well and will be having a post-season party soon. Badminton season is next and Mr. Sasic will be running a Badminton club for the older students. Mar 24<sup>th</sup> the Vancouver Police Dept (VPD) will come and have lunch-hour basketball game with older students (girls and boys). VPD will be back in May for a lunch hour roller hockey game. Mr. Graham has Friday meeting with administrators for "Welcome to Kindergarten" for the May 19<sup>th</sup> for "Ready, Set, Learn" program (incoming Kindergarten class) and the May 26<sup>th</sup> is "Welcome to K". "Kindness Tree" is being tweeted by Mr. Graham, where he's been sharing on social media, the acts of kindness by Moberly students. #@KindnessTree – to follow on Twitter. Staff/students have been filming on the iPads to be shared on Pink Day, Wednesday of the last week of February, which raises awareness of anti-bullying.
- b. Update by Ms. Patti Plottel – Vancouver Giants and 3 VPD reps came to talk about drug awareness and some interesting slides that were quite graphic (kids were warned ahead of time); the presentation/talk was about what it means to be drug addicted. Other items:
  - i. Lion dance and Penguins of Madagascar
  - ii. Do Bugs need Drugs? Program
  - iii. Pink Day assembly next Wed (Div 4 sponsoring – MC and leading assembly)
  - iv. Recycling Program
  - v. Gang Squad by VPD to talk about avoiding gang recruitment with tough presenters and impress upon the students how to keep safe and how easy to

be sucked into gang activities. Will be advanced notice to parents (it is part of the school curriculum).

- vi. Book Fair – Mon to Thurs (Mar 23, 24, 25, & 26) – hours posted in newsletter and on posters along hall way. Money comes back to school to fund new books and refresh the library collection.
- vii. Community Link programs (the after-school programs) are trying to come up with new programing, such as Hip Hop Dance, Yoga and other activities. Patti has asked them to offer something during lunch hour as well.
- viii. Student Council projects: this month is Kindness Tree, nothing planned for March, and April is Freezie & Frisbee fundraiser, May etc
- ix. Recycling program by the VSB: VSB must meet the green directives: 3 containers only: mixed recycle, food scrapes and garbage bins. It will be a challenge because students presently do not consistently put their garbage in any of the cans. Initiatives such as having grade 7 students help “host” the containers during break times to teach others how to use the different containers (eg throw juice boxes into refundable box, recyclables into blue bins, and food scraps in the appropriate bin). This will be a big learning curve for all and it will start after spring break. Suggestion of “bring it home model” where kids bring back all their lunch garbage and packaging to dispose and recycle at home.

Final update by Ms. Plottel: For students taking extended vacations (i.e. absences longer than 20 school days), families are warned when they go on extended vacation to advise the school. It is now a requirement for families to sign a form informing they understand that their seat will be given away to another child on waitlist.

**Adjourned by 8pm**