

**Walter Moberly PAC Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2013
Commenced 9:15am, Moberly Library**

4 Parent attendees: Sharon Bagri, Diane Blue (Co-Chair), Mr. Paul Thandi (Treasurer), and Mandeep Malli; Patti Plottel (Principal) and Henry Au (Vice Principal)

Regrets: Mrs. Kulbinder Thandi (co-chair)

1. Welcome

January 2013 PAC minutes are available on Moberly website (under PAC section).

2. Treasurer's Report by Diane Blue

A new and more detailed format of the Treasurer's Report was presented. The April 2013 Treasurer's Report includes breakdown of the Gaming Grant funds and General PAC Funds, which has not been provided to the PAC in such a level of detail and formality in the past.

The opening balance figures are based on information that was provided by previous unaudited Gaming Grant Summary Reports and the current cash bank cash balance and have been reconciled based on paper statements and records kept on file.

Motion to accept the April 2013 Treasurer's Report by Diane Blue, seconded by Sharon Bagri.
Motion Carried

It was agreed to formally recognize the current Moberly PAC Executive team members as the following:

Mrs. Kulbinder Thandi, Co-Chair

Mrs. Diane Blue – Co-Chair

Mr. Paul Thandi - Treasurer

Mrs. Sharon Bagri – Member at Large

Mrs. Mandeep Malli – Member at Large

Motion to accept the above listed PAC Executive Members and Position by Diane Blue, seconded by Sharon Bagri.

Motion carried

A brief discussion on low cost banking was presented by Diane Blue. Based on a comparison of 4 banks along Fraser Street near Moberly Elementary (TD Bank, Royal Bank and Vancity), it was determined that Vancity provided the most cost effective banking with their non-profit organization bank account that offers no monthly

administrative fees and up to 40 free transactions. TD, Royal Bank, Vancity and BMO along Fraser Street charge monthly administrative fees of \$2 to \$6 with additional itemized costs above 5-15 transactions. The current Scotia Bank branch charges a monthly fee of \$3 with up to 5 free transactions and is paper based statements that come by mail. The Main St branch of BMO is offering all Vancouver Schools a low-cost commercial banking account that is comparable to Vancity fee cost structure, however, the Vancity branch on Fraser Street would be more convenient to do PAC banking.

Motion to change PAC banking account from Scotia Bank Fraser Street to Vancity Bank Fraser Street by Diane Blue, seconded by Paul Thandi. Motion Carried

3. Principal's Report by Patti Plottel

a. Cyberbullying Feedback

The SOLOS cyberbullying evening (February 19, 2013) had a good turnout and provided a good lesson for the parents who attended. There was some technical issues with the set up, but overall the feedback from parents was positive. The workshop was very informative and provided a better understanding about internet safety for our children.

b. School Fees

The following is the 2013-2014 school fees that Moberly will be charging students:

\$25 for General School Fees

\$10 for Agenda

\$10 Performance Fees

Approx. \$15 Work Book Fee (for intermediate students)

A comparative report on school fees charged by other schools indicate that the above fee structure is in line with what other schools are charging their students.

The Work Book fee is a new fee and being introduced as the Work Books will be used as part of strategy for Moberly's School Plan for improving students' reading goals. There will be an alternative payment method available for the Work Book. Students pay \$15 as a deposit and if they choose not to write the Work Book (by using their own paper), they may return the unused work book at the end of the year for a refund on their deposit.

Field trip fees – will vary with each field trip.

e.g. Ms. Gillis' class will do camp and the cost is approximately \$100.

c. School Calendar for 2013-2014

Currently in progress and will need to be approved by the Vancouver School Board (VSB).

To be approved by the VSB: 5 District School Closure days to make for a two week Spring Break. There will be no additional closure day in November as was in this academic year 2012-2013. These closures save the VSB approximately half a million dollars each year.

d. School Planning Day

This Friday, April 19th is school planning day (Professional Day). The focus has been on Reading and Oral Language for a few years, but Reading will be the main focus for 2013-2014 School Plan. Strategies will be developed during the meetings this Friday.

A quick update on the VSB: there is a 7 to 8 million dollar short fall; the VSB has a complex multilayer plan aimed for next year in order to meet the deficit. They have to present a balanced budget to Ministry of Education; areas affected by the budget cuts is a reduction in building maintenance and by taking money out of capital reserves. The VSB will also be staffing tighter and as a result classes will be fuller. Also noted was no replace of furniture. As well, layoff notices for low seniority staff because of decreased enrolment (it is projected that to be 1,000 less students enrolled in Vancouver district).

The enrolment projection for Moberly is 30-40 less students. To date, the school has received 4 to 5 notices of not returning with 30 “maybe” returning students. Kindergarten numbers are down: 44 have registered but there is hope to have 57 by September 2013 (57 in 3 K classes = 19/class).

Patti asks parents to please let families know to enrol in November to January because the VSB staffs based on the information the schools provide to them in April 2013 – families registering after April 2013 risk having to be waitlisted due to full classes.

e. Staffing / Classes for next year

See Moberly website (re: Principal’s News posted April 11, 2013, “Class Placements for 2013/2014”).

The deadline for class placement requests for 2013-2014 is **May 31, 2013 deadline.**

If parents wish to provide extra information regarding teacher selection of students, please submit by the deadline. Once classes have been formed, and staffing is decided, it is extremely difficult to make changes/switches in September, so make sure input is provided by May 31, 2013 (eg not wanting child to be in a split class, etc).

f. After school programs

- i. Sports4All (Friday) Gr. 4-7
- ii. Art Attack (Thursday) Gr. 1-4

They have been popular and waitlist for these programs. New application forms will come out soon for the programs starting in May.

g. Upcoming events, see the web based calendar on Moberly website:

<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/walter-moberly/Students/Clubs/Pages/default.aspx>

- i. Pancake breakfast (Monday, April 22, 2013)
- ii. Earth Quake Drill (Thursday, May 2, 2013)
- iii. Monthly Assembly (April, 22, 2013)
- iv. Earth Day (Thursday, April 22, 2013)
- v. Oompa Loompa Day (Thursday, April 22, 2013)

Non-Agenda Items:

1. Vice-Principal Report by Henry Au

<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/walter-moberly/Students/Clubs/Pages/default.aspx>

Student Council has organized several events this year. One event is called the Oompa Loompa Day, where classes are encouraged to dress alike (much like Twin Day). For example, one class may choose to wear red shirt and white pants for the day. Oompa Loompa Day was an inspiration from Willy Wonka characters, whom all look and dress the same. It is a school spirit challenge among the classes and a challenge for the teachers as well.

The students are learning to take initiative with lots of direction but they are growing and thinking outside of the box rather than follow what has been done in past.

2. Discussion on agenda items for the next PAC meeting

- Discussion on ways to increase parent participation in school/PAC which has been a historical challenge.
- Suggestion of encouraging parents to challenge each other and bring another parent to PAC meetings; Parent Rep for each classroom; incentive for PAC meeting attendance such as deduction of cost in child's next field trip, etc.

3. Sports Day is on Friday, June 7 and May 30 is Volunteer Tea (as posted on the Moberly Website Calendar).

Next PAC meeting is Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 7pm at Moberly Library.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 am.