

PAC Meeting
Moberly Elementary
April 21, 2015 @ 7pm

3 Parent attendees: Rashmita Agarwal, Diane Blue, and Paul Thandi
Principal: Patti Plottel & Vice Principal: Karl Graham

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. Parent Direct Drive
 - b. World's Finest Chocolates
 - c. School Calendar/PAC meetings
 - d. Plan for PAC elections
6. Principal/VP's Report (Patti Plottel & Karl Graham)
 - a. Satisfaction Surveys
 - b. Next year's classes

Minutes:

1. Welcome all
Patti Plottel welcomes 3 parents in attendance. Brief review of how to navigate Moberly's website to access Treasurer's Reports.
2. PAC Chair report
Paul Thandi has no updates or reports for this month.
3. Treasurer's Report
Diane Blue reviews the report. There is one cheque written from PAC's General Account for annual commitment to classroom funds yet to be cleared.
4. Old Business
 - a. Patti Plottel provides a brief playground update. Approximately \$44,500 has been raised. Patti has met with the VSB and the original plan has to be reduced in size due to foot space requirement for foundation for playground. Habitat (playground vendor) will redesign to the allowable footprint as per VSB requirements. Hopefully the cost will not increase despite the smaller design (quote is 2 years old). Patti Plottel also notes that the VSB will be installing and not originally discussed Habitat. The aim is to have Phase 1 installed before end of school year which is only 6 weeks to get supplies/equipment for the 8-9 weeks of school year remaining. Habitat will give school fundraising brochures to help

fundraising for the final \$10,000 (hope to find someone to pay for lion's share of this amount).

5. New Business

- a. Direct drive fundraising letter to send out to community this week.
- b. Chocolate fundraising – World's Finest Chocolates fundraising (i.e. the cartons of boxes of chocolates). VSB rules on health and nutrition is that chocolates cannot be sold to students but students can sell to parent's family and friends and the community. Questions were raised - How do we distribute these boxes of chocolates? How to target the students to participate with this chocolate fundraising? It was recommended that we try this fundraiser in Fall 2015.
- c. A draft calendar for 2015/16 school year was distributed. The Ministry used to set calendar for all schools, but with new legislation, all schools have same hours of instruction but it is left to each district to determine how to allocate the instructional hours. VSB district has 180 days in session, 879 hours of instruction, the 7 days of non-instruction consist of 6 days of Pro-D day and 1 day of administrative day. Of the 6 Pro-D Days, one is allocated as an annual "school planning day". School Planning day is very important day; review results and prepared reports that look at areas of strengths (where students are doing well) and weaknesses of students (areas of weaknesses). This Monday is April 28th is School Planning Day and PAC exec is welcome to attend.
- d. Discussion to plan for PAC elections at next meeting especially PAC executive. Paul Thandi regrets he is unlikely able to continue as Chair; he has been approached by to sit on Board of Directors with other non-profit organizations. Patti Plottel will try to make connections with possible parents. Suggestions include strategies for targeting parents at September's Welcome Night PAC (possibilities of having parents meet at gym after meeting classroom teachers or have parents come to gym first followed by meeting classroom teachers? Provide food while in gym?) and revisiting PAC reps for each grade or classroom.

6. Vice Principal's Report

- a. Karl Graham reviewed the preliminary results of satisfaction survey by staff and grade 4 & 7 students and their parents. It was an online survey that gave a chance to talk about how satisfied they are with school and their kids' education, students are feeling about being here (getting along with teachers, enjoying classes, do they feel bullied, do you belong to clubs, etc), and their health and nutrition and physical activity. Patti Plottel and Karl Graham indicated that the results from the question about bullying is not quite accurate. To students, anything bad is bullying, but really bullying is not just about being treated not nicely, but bullying is not rampant at Moberly. Misunderstanding around bullying, the catchword for everything these days. Students are learning to seek help now whereas before it would "go under the radar". "One offs" incidents are not bullying, but an ongoing harassment is bullying. Criteria for bullying situation is multifaceted – but it is a power situation where one or a group is either older, bigger, or involves a group, higher social status, etc), is purposeful,

continuous, among other criteria. There was a suggestion to bring back the evening of teaching parents to learn about media/internet savvy to teach our children (the seminar was well attended 2 years ago at a PAC meeting night).

b. Next year's class placements

Discussions will be held in June with parents are welcome to send a letter of request or feedback about their child/children's placement (due by end of May). Please do not specify a teacher but describe the setting or characteristic that would help their child best. In response to some parents being not aware of split classes at Moberly, Patti Plottel included information in today's newsletter (which is also posted on Moberly site) regarding split classes.

Meeting adjourned 7:50pm.