

**Belmont Parent Advisory Committee Meeting  
December 9, 2008  
Belmont Secondary School**

**In Attendance:** Heidi Harms, Janice Foulger, Charlene Burles, Anne Harray, Corrie Stevenson, Barb Shalkowsky, Don Grant, Pam Joyce, Janet Cooke, Jennifer Harris.

Dr. Grant introduced Mrs. Pam Joyce, the school's new Acting Vice-Principal. Mrs. Joyce is a teacher on staff and is replacing Mr. McHugh who has gone to Westshore Centre for Learning and Training to fill-in for the Vice-Principal at that site.

**Call to Order:** 7:01 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:** It was agreed to move the Treasurer's Report to the beginning of the agenda. The amended agenda was accepted.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of Nov. 18, 2008 were accepted.

**Reports:**

***Treasurer's Report:***

Charlene reviewed the bank statement for the period Sept. 1 to Dec. 9, 2008. The current bank balance is \$9,621.27. Charlene noted that she had sent a thank you letter to MLA John Horgan for his \$100 donation to the PAC. Heidi mentioned that the PAC still has to vote on the request for money for shop lockers. The initial request was for \$4,000 but the teacher has now secured \$1,500. Don Grant said he can contribute \$1,500 to \$2,000 from other sources and perhaps the PAC can "top up" what is left over.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the PAC delegate up to \$1,000 to assist with the purchase of shop lockers. The motion was **CARRIED**.

Dr. Grant said he would report back on the amount that would be required from PAC.

Charlene discussed the request for funding for 10 computer monitors for the StarWorks program.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the PAC pay for the 10 StarWorks monitors for a total of \$1,891.82. The motion was **CARRIED**.

The request from the Gateway Program for \$777.00 for 3 bicycles and 10 helmets was discussed.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the PAC pay for the 3 bicycles/10 helmets for a total of \$777.00. The motion was **CARRIED**.

A request was received from the Belmont Career Fair for \$200 which will provide lunch for the exhibitors.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the PAC provide \$200 for the Belmont Career Fair. The motion was **CARRIED**.

**Business Arising:**

**a) Tutorial block:** Dr. Grant reported that the proposed tutorial block would be in contravention of the teachers' contract as it would take time away from the teachers' prep time. Because of this issue the proposal is being "shelved" for the time being. Mrs. Joyce said the proposal needs some work and might come up again in the future.

**b) New Sign:** Barb said she has spoken to the representative from the sign company who said he would look at the current sign and what is needed. We are now waiting to hear back from him. An official from the City of Langford has advised that a new sign might contravene City by-laws. Barb is waiting to hear back on this. Corrie reported that the Society is not able to help with funding for the new sign. The Society suggests looking at corporate sponsorship and/or capital funding from the school district. Mrs. Joyce said she's now in charge of keeping the current sign up-to-date for announcements. She said new announcements can be e-mailed to her at [pjoyce@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:pjoyce@sd62.bc.ca).

**c) Teen Drivers workshop:** The workshop will take place on March 10, 2009 and will be in lieu of the regular PAC meeting. The school office will be taking the phone-in registrations.

**REPORTS:**

**Principal's Report:** Dr. Grant reported on the following:

- a. The Dec. 4 Winter Music Concert was well attended and, as usual, the performances were great!
- b. Sr. Boys' Basketball doing very well. They won an earlier pre-season tournament and last weekend finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in a 16-team tournament in Cowichan.
- c. Belmont will offer a Soccer Skills Academy and Dance Skills Academy next year. These are continuations of the Dunsmuir academies. The Hockey Skills Academy will continue to be offered as well.
- d. Dept. Heads and administration are currently working on strategies to "re-brand" Belmont. We will try to be more successful in getting the message out to the community that Belmont has great programs – both curricular and extra-curricular.
- e. Discussions are taking place regarding changing the timetable so it is less complex in terms of how it's structured in the current software program. Also, it would make it easier to offer various programs in a way that is more understandable for students and parents.
- f. The 10,000 Tonight Food Drive is Dec. 10, 6 – 9 p.m. Student and parent volunteers are needed.

**President's Report:** no report.

**Society Report:** Corrie reported on the following:

- a. Bingo affiliated organizations will be issued a lump sum payment. That will replace the monthly grant instalment payments they would otherwise receive through to March 31, 2009.

A personalized letter will be sent to each affiliated organization informing them that the lump sum payment will be deposited electronically into their gaming account between December 3 and December 5, 2008. The first one will be for the remaining 4 months of this fiscal year and then in April, for the next full 12 months.

- b. Society reported expenditures to date a total of \$30,620.58.
- c. Society can't commit to a new reader board sign. We're still trying to determine the impact of no student fees. Society expenditures are \$10,000.00 higher this year than at the same time last year. If we had to choose between setting aside money for a sign or using the same money as a direct benefit to the students, we would obviously go with the students. It really comes down to priorities. It was suggested that corporate sponsors and checking with gaming to see if there are any extra funds for capital projects could be possibilities.
- d. Danielle Preston has been in contact with Lloyd regarding a raffle license to raise funds for prom. Once Lloyd has received the dates, prizes, etc. from Danielle he will be able to apply for the license through gaming.
- e. Did PAC receive information from Stephanie Needham regarding Spencer and the Honour Choir? Apparently it was put in the PAC drawer and it should be in the Society drawer. Please redirect the information to the Society drawer and it will be looked after.

**Communications – Alison** - regrets.

**SPEAC/BCCPAC Report:** Anne reported on the November SPEAC meeting highlights:

- a. The meeting was held at Dunsmuir and a tour of the school was given. Principal Carl Repp spoke about the common language strategies being developed in the school.
- b. The Sooke Teachers' Assoc. rep. discussed FSA testing concerns.
- c. The SPC training night was Nov. 25 at John Stubbs Memorial School.
- d. Boundary issues were discussed – some school boundaries will be redrawn.
- e. Spencer's hockey academy now begins in grade 7.
- f. Spencer Middle School is hoping to offer depression/suicide/crystal meth prevention sessions for students and parents. This could involve other schools as well.

**SPC Report:** Heidi reported on the following:

- a. The Inaugural SPC Training meeting was held on Nov. 25. The focus was on working together.
- b. The first meeting of the Belmont SPC will be in January, 2009.

**Prom Report:** Don said Danielle has requested an official letter from the school for the committee to use when soliciting prom donations from community businesses. Don expressed

some concern about doing this as the prom is a parent-run event, not a school-run event. It was suggested that Danielle contact Kathy Sadowski to find out how she handled this matter for last year's prom. Heidi said she will talk to Danielle about this.

**New Business:**

- 1) BCCPAC December 2008 magazine.
- 2) Vancouver Island Parent Conference - "Caring Communities" - Feb. 7 at Spectrum Community School. This event is being co-sponsored by the DPACs from School Districts 61, 62 and 63. Brochures were circulated.
- 3) Dec. Board meeting agenda and minutes were circulated.
- 4) BCTF Newsmagazine.
- 5) Don asked if the PAC would be willing to meet on January 13 so the Medical Clinic staff can come to the PAC meeting. Don said he would confirm this date with the clinic staff and let Janice know. The PAC agreed to move the meeting date once Don confirms it.
- 6) Draft revised policy and regulations "District and School Codes of Conduct" - the Superintendent is looking for comments on the draft revised policy and regulations. Don said he will find out where Belmont's Code of Conduct is posted in the school.

**Meeting adjourned 8:07 p.m.**

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 13, 7:00 pm**

Janice Foulger,  
Acting Recording Secretary

Heidi Harms  
President