



## Maple Grove Parent Advisory Council

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### Maple Grove PAC Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
**Time:** 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
**Location:** School Library

**PAC Executive Attendees:** Tim Luu (Co-Chair), Mary Ann Lo (Co-Chair); Joel Korn (Co-Treasurer), Freida Mak (Co-Treasurer), Winnie To (Secretary), Michelle Palibroda (Secretary), Mable Chia (Secretary), Lavina Yuen (DPAC Representative), Ivy Leung (Co-Fundraising Coordinator), Sophia Hague (Co-Fundraising Coordinator) and Miranda Deis (Montessori Committee Chair)

#### 1. **Call to Order and Welcome Message from Co-Chairs**

- Mary Ann Lo introduced herself and shared the PAC vision: commitment to the students, school and parents. First commitment is to start and end the PAC meetings on time.
- New for this year: a chime will indicate the end of each speaker's allotted time.
- Tim Luu introduced himself and welcomed all parents: if your child attends Maple Grove then you are a member of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC).
- Hope parents will take the time to attend even if you come late or have to leave early.

#### 2. **Adoption of the Agenda** - Agenda was adopted as presented.

#### 3. **Welcome Message from Co-Chairs** – #1 above

#### 4. **Introduction of New Members**

- Went around the room and everyone introduced themselves: name, names and grades of children and length of time at Maple Grove.

#### 5. **Administrators' Report: Dr. Phillips & Mrs. Weatherall**

- Dr. Phillips acknowledged one of the grade 4 students, Sarah Korn and her father Joel Korn, for bringing forth an idea: ***Open Your Hearts to Africa***.
- Students in family groupings (grades 1 to 7) rotated through various stations that introduced students to different activities and parts of Africa
- Ms. Hales, Ms. Hayes-Brown and Mrs. Weatherall were the teacher coordinators for this event.
- Jacky Essombe and her group performed at the celebration of learning assembly.

- Many activities have been planned: Mad Science, Kilometre (KLM) Club, Chinese School, Community Link Program (with Magee High School), etc.
- Dr. Phillips asked for after-school program ideas; some suggestions were:
  - Music – choir or singing group, strings, musical theatre
  - Drama
  - Dance – hip hop
  - Yoga
  - Arts and Crafts
- Dr. Phillips' office door is open, she likes emails because they are easy to respond to, likes to meet face-to-face if there is a concern, and expressed that she is fortunate to not have been moved; this is her 5<sup>th</sup> year at the school.
- Mrs. Weatherall introduced herself and spoke about teacher development opportunities planned for the Pro-D Days.
- She also explained that part of the Vice Principal role is to offer to plan fieldtrips, both in and out of school and to reserve blocks of seats for performances. Mrs. Weatherall reminded us that we are part of the literacy initiative that started 10 or more years ago and that the staff is involved in their very own Professional Book Club.

## 6. Proposal for Parents Input ( wish list, new ideas, suggestions )

- Mary Ann shared the main message "PAC is all of us".
- Asked for new ideas and suggestions to help our school and students; also ideas for PAC meetings and topics for guest speakers so the meetings have value.
- Asked everyone to write down their ideas, name & contact number; if there is time at the end of the meeting, we will discuss the ideas; there will be a prize draw for all entries.
- Sophia Hague introduced guest: Kristine Webber-Lampa, Coordinator, Nature Clubs in Schools Program
- Kristine encourages schools to have a nature club (or can be an event, classroom project, lunchtime/afterschool activity) as time outside in nature has benefits eg. reducing anxiety, etc.
- Membership benefits: assistance helping to put infrastructure in place, magazine (4x per year) and on-line resources available.

## 7. Executive Reports

- Treasurers' Report** - Joel Korn acknowledged last year's PAC for leaving us with a \$30,000 surplus and reported that the paperwork has been filed and confirmed by Victoria.
- Budget Proposal**
  - Proposed PAC Budget for 2009-2010 reviewed (see attached budget).
  - Expenses – add additional 10 computers and monitors in library; Smart Board not in budget this year; classroom allowances approx. \$240 to \$250 per FTE staff.
  - Budget proposal will be sent home for review and results presented at the October PAC Meeting.
  - Not a policy but general practice to carry forward a certain amount each year.

## 8. Committee Reports

- a. **Class Parents** – Co-Coordinators: Bethany Froese and Winnie To
  - Goal is to build a solid group to facilitate communication between parents & teachers and parents & PAC.
  - Ivy Leung spoke about positive impact of an effective class parent.
  - Winnie shared her experience as a class parent.
- b. **Fundraising** – Co-Coordinators: Ivy Leung and Sophia Hague
  - Ivy shared message that *“Maple Grove is a community that cares deeply, shares generously and helps willingly”*.
  - **FUN**draising supports the *“shares generously” part of the message*.
  - Sophia welcomed ideas and input from parents who have seen successful fundraising in other schools.
  - Fundraising objectives (see attached letter).
- c. **Hospitality** – Coordinator: Cindy Cheong
  - Mary Ann (past Coordinator) appealed for volunteers to help with this rewarding task.
  - Provide refreshments for the PAC & Montessori meetings, teachers during Parent-Teacher conferences, and events throughout the year (Welcome Tea, Terry Fox Run, Sports Day, etc.)
- d. **Hot Lunch** – Coordinator
  - Joel Korn (past Coordinator) acknowledged Janie Pang and Michael Mong for bringing the program into the school.
  - Need to support Rose Bevacqua, our VSB staff in charge of Hot Lunch program.
  - Coordinator position: not time consuming, work a shift each week, make sure at least 1 parent/shift and help Rose fold menus and stuff envelopes once a month.
- e. **Library** – Coordinator: Nellie Wong
  - No report.
  - Mable Chia spoke on behalf of Heidy Chiu, Volunteer Coordinator: Invite everyone to be involved in their child’s school
  - Many opportunities to participate: be a Class Parent for child’s classroom, volunteer for one of the committees affecting the entire school ( Hot Lunch, Safe Arrival, Library, etc.), or help with a Fundraising Event (Halloween Bingo, Casino Night, Movie Night, Spring Festival).
  - Can also support programs with a donation to PAC.
- f. **Lunch Time Activities** – Coordinator: Yvette Hoptioncann
  - Arts & Crafts offered by Ms. Hayes-Brown; Basketball program is being planned and exploring opportunity to partner with Dunbar Community Centre.
- g. **Montessori** – Chair: Miranda Deis
  - Miranda announced meeting at Tyee School on Sat. Sept.19 from 9:00 to noon; speaker Betsy Coe talking about developing viable Montessori programs and maintaining them.
  - Montessori Parent Evening on Tue. Sept. 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm
  - B.C. Montessori Association Conference on Oct. 23 at The Executive Inn in Burnaby; for parents and teachers.
- h. **Safe Arrival** – Coordinator: Monika Gay

- Mable appealed for volunteers; program ensures that our kids have arrived safe to school by cross-checking attendance list with calls to the Safe Arrival Line
- Ann Dow spoke of experience as the Safe Arrival Coordinator for 2 years; opportunity to meet the kids, staff and parents (on the phone); provides “peace of mind”.

## 9. Review Parents Input & Prize Draw

- Mary Ann drew from the ideas submitted by parents.
- Draw Prizes: Pizza Certificate (donated by Bella Pizza) and bottle of wine; winners: Joel Korn and Michael Mong.
- Ideas: raffle draw, traffic safety, Expert Friends program and Wolfe Elementary, health care provider to speak about hygiene (Dr. Phillips commented that the school nurse will be doing this).
- Another idea: professional directory/knowledge bank – Ann will start this with Tim and Mary Ann’s help.

## 10. New Business

- A copy of “*The District Plan for Student Learning 2009/2010*” is now available in the PAC Parent Resource section of the Library.
- Ann Dow and guest, Ruth Castellino, spoke about **Play R Way Fitness** program which offers 30 minutes of activity:
  - Monday & Wednesday mornings from 8:15 to 8:55 am
  - NEW – Monday to Friday from 3:15 o 5:15 pm

Goal is to increase fitness and learning capacity; registration forms are available in the office.

- 11. Adjournment** – Tim called for motion to adjourn the meeting: motion – Miranda; seconded – Mike Everson; motion carried.



**Thank you for attending. It makes a difference to have everyone here, as your presence makes possible for us to function as a strong group of committed parents who are out to create an environment that nurtures and supports our children’s success, and our families’ success.**

*“Being part of a team has a positive multiplier effect on everyone’s skills, as a result of synergy. Being part of a team makes everyone involved more effective, and helps them to achieve far greater and more lasting results than any individual acting alone. Dreamers are also team builders, because without the support of many talented people performing their roles, little can be accomplished in turning grand visions into reality.” Pat Williams*