

# CEAP Parent Advisory Committee

## Minutes – March 12, 2014

Meeting called to order 10:15 am

In attendance: Barbara Lowden (Chair), Cheri Naslund (Secretary), Kelly and Karen.  
Regrets: Jeff Temple, Principal CEAP, Melody Romkes (Treasurer)

### **Principal Report**

Jeff was unable to attend the meeting; however, he provided the following written report.

### **Hornby Island**

- Previously, I have mentioned that we would not be planning a Hornby camping trip this year, and here are the reasons in greater detail: Previously, we have attended the 3-day camp in a way that passed very little of the cost of the trip onto parents. The daily fee and transportation costs were absorbed by CEAP and the PAC together, leaving parents only needing to pay for their fuel and food costs. When our enrolment was as it was previously - 40 students K-9, and camping fees were set at \$22 per day per student, our bearing the costs was do-able. This year, with enrolment skyrocketing (80 students K-9) and costs more than doubling (\$45 - \$88 per day), the costs seem out of scale to me, especially when we would be spending program-wide money on only one grade range (K-6). In the past, by far the main attendees' of this experience were the K-6 families. Also, any subsidies that were made available because of the price increase, to ease the costs for this year only, had already been allocated to other groups. For all of these reasons, I believe that it was prudent to forgo the trip this year. We need to discuss it for the future, in order to determine its value across the span of our program and how we might do it in the future.

### **Student Learning Support Funds**

- Parents may have heard that, very recently, the BC Ministry of Education has moved to place a cap on the amount of funding that can be provided to any one student, per year, by any private or public DL or Home-schooling school. More information on all of this is posted on our CEAP website. Basically, The new amount is \$600 per child per year, with exceptions in the following cases:
  1. Supporting students with special needs
  2. Career and Post-secondary course fees
  3. A portion of Internet costs

We will be adopting this new policy for the next school year (2014-15), with considerations towards making the process for accessing the funds much easier for parents, including greater clarity, flexibility and ease of payment. Stay tuned for more on

this soon. I wish to thank parents who have presented me with some very good ideas on how we might improve our process in this area.

### **Program Organization and Information about Next Year**

- At this time, I do not have any new information to share about next year. As I have previously shared, after the April 29th Board Meeting, we will all know more about their intentions for next year, from which will flow many other decisions. Nevertheless, we are planning in a preliminary way for continuance of our present programs, with some growth into next year.

### **Parent's Information Website**

- Beth was unable to attend the meeting.

### **Chair Report:**

- Barbara mentioned that the School Board's 90-Day Community Consultation Review is well underway with the School Trustees and Superintendent Rollie Koop.
- A meeting with PAC Chairs, the School Trustees and Superintendent Rollie Koop is scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2014.

### **Treasurer Report:**

- Melody was unable to attend the meeting.
- Melody and Barbara attended a Treasurer's Workshop on February 26, 2014, hosted by BCCPAC.

### **New Business**

#### **Budget**

- A draft budget for the year had been previously prepared with monies allocated for transportation costs to Hornby Island. With the information from Jeff that the Hornby Island trip will be cancelled this year, budget monies in the amount of \$500.00 will be reallocated between the High School, Middle School and Elementary School expenditure items. Also it has been determined that there are no graduating students this year, therefore the budget monies in the amount of \$250.00 will also be reallocated between the High School, Middle School and Elementary School expenditure items.

**Action: Barbara and Melody will prepare a new draft budget.**

- Field trip ideas for the Elementary level were provided as follows: Rath Trevor Education Camp, Horne Lake Caves, Deep Bay Marine Centre, Wild Play and Bowling.
- There was a discussion if PAC monies could pay for Kerri Isham to present her "Power Up" course to the Elementary level children. PAC monies can be used for this type of education.

### **Communication**

- There was a concern raised that there was a lack of communications between the Principal and the parents. It was discussed that perhaps, Jeff could prepare a Principal's Newsletter on the CEAP Website in order to keep parents better informed of changes, such as cancellation of the Hornby Island Trip. It was felt that more parents may read the CEAP Website, then the CEAP PAC Minutes as a way of remaining up-to-date.

**Action: Barbara will discuss further with Jeff.**

- Distribution of CEAP PAC Minutes. There was a further concern raised that the CEAP PAC Minutes are distributed by the teachers, thereby adding to their workload. It was suggested, that perhaps, Suzanne the CEAP Secretary, could distribute the minutes to all parents.

**Action: Barbara discussed with Suzanne and she had no problem with distributing the CEAP PAC Minutes to all parents on her list. Suzanne also posts current copies of the Minutes on the CEAP PAC website as well as posts an announcement about the upcoming CEAP PAC Meetings.**

- Next Pac Meeting:
  - **Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 10:00 a.m. Cheri's House**
- Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.