

# Draft - MINUTES

LEPAC General Meeting  
Lochside Elementary Parents Advisory Committee

April 20, 2011

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## LEPAC Executive Attendees:

President:	Jen Wilson
Vice President:	Mark Creswick
Treasurer:	Don Mellings
Secretary:	Carmen W.
Volunteer Coordinator:	Kathryn Watson
Past-Treasurer:	Danielle Cooper

## Regrets:

COPACS Co-Representative(s): Vacant  
Healthy Schools Coordinator Vacant

## Guests:

Principal Joe Grewal  
ROMS Principal Peter Westhaver, ROMS VP Carly Hunter, ROMS PAC President Cathy F., Sonja M., Bronwyn P., Sandi P., Shelley H., Tamara G., Marissa D.

## I. Welcome

Everyone was welcomed by Jen at 6:34pm.

## II. Guest Speakers – Royal Oak Middle School Principal Peter Westhaver and VP ... Hunter

- Anticipated for 2011/12: 560 students, 32 teaching staff, 18 supporting staff, 20 divisions 7@6, 6@7, 7@8
- Overview of blue/green learning *communities* based on two floors.
- Outline of School Goal: *To improve engagement* .
- Support includes, all staff, counselling, youth and family counsellor, student services, target reading, ESL, Girls Group, Saanich Police Liaison, Community Partnerships
- 4 blocks of teaching per day (67 min) each.
- In grade 6: Math, Science, Humanities tend to be the same teacher in their home room settings but FSL (2 blocks/week), PE, FAAS may be with other teachers.
- FAAS – Fine Art Applied Skills typically includes Art/Drama, Woodwork, Home Ec.,and – optionally- Band.
- There are room for 60 students in the band program. Registration will be online May 2<sup>nd</sup> with a first come first basis. Typically there is a waitlist.
- Lochside Gr. 5's to Royal Oak Friday May 13, 9:30 – 11:30
- ROMS band to visit Lochside Tuesday May 17
- Gr. 6, 7, 8 placement meeting May 17, 18, 19 – set up meeting for 15 minutes with Mr. Westhaver and/or have discussion with your child's current teacher. They will be meeting on May 19 with all other grade 5 teachers from SD63 to make up the class lists.
- May 5 at 6:30pm – Student Services open house for students with ministry designation.
- ROMS PAC President Cathy Fountas provided brief overview of PAC Meetings - held on third Thursday of each month.
- Jen W., thanked all ROMS representatives for their informative overview.

### **III. Approval of March Minutes**

- Minutes were provided, reviewed, and discussed
- **MOTION:** Don motioned to approve the March 16 Minutes, Seconded by Mark, voted and all in favour. Motion Carried.

### **IV. Reports**

#### **A. President Report**

- None at this time

#### **B. Playground Report**

- The concrete base for climber and playpod maze has been poured, awaiting 28 day cure.
- Tunnels have been installed and are popular.
- Installation costs are on budget.
- Question asked "is all play equipment open to all grades". Joe indicated that once all equipment has been installed then administration may look at designating some equipment as Primary or Intermediate only.

#### **C. Treasurer Report**

- Only \$950 of \$3000 limit has been raised via Thrifty foods Smile Cards. Deadline is June 2... use the Smile Cards!

### **V. General Business**

#### **A. Constitution**

##### 1. Playground Maintenance Budget

- Facilities staff at SD63 would like a requirement within our constitution that states "2% of our yearly revenue to be put into a playground maintenance fund to a maximum of \$1,000."
- Open discussion held
- Motion Denied.

##### 2. Section V. 4 Vacancy on the Executive

- Currently says "If any officer resigns during a term of office or if any office is not filled at the time of elections, the executive may appoint a voting member of LEPAC to fill the vacancy until elections at the next General Meeting"
- The recommendation is made to insert the word "Annual" prior to "General Meeting" to more accurately reflect what is meant in the statement.
- Motion Carried.

#### **B. Upcoming Events**

##### 1. Charity Fundraiser.

Lochside school community likes to support a parent-led fundraising and awareness event for charitable organizations each year. Request was made for proposals in April newsletter. No submissions presented at this meeting.

However Angie Z, is approved to organize World Vision fundraiser in November 2011. She had been approved last year but due to other Lochside commitments it was not completed. Joe has given Lochside Administration approval.

2. Garage Sale– May 7.

- Muffin table will also be available.

3. Half-price book fair – May 11 – 13.

- Volunteer requests will be sent home shortly.

4. Staff Appreciation Lunch.

- Bronwyn volunteered to co-ordinate with Marissa, Tamara, Shelley
- Tentatively set for Wed. June 15, 2011

5. Year-End BBQ

- Tentatively set for Wed. June 22, 2011
- Bronwyn will help to co-ordinate
- ACT: Volunteers are needed

**C. Foster Child**

- LEPAC usually requests coin donations for our Foster child in February but due to Fun Fair that was not done this year.
- General discussion had parents agreeing that they have been asked for too many donations this year.
- Don indicated that there is flexibility in the budget to pay this year without asking parents.
- Perhaps a 'donation' box at Year End BBQ?

**D. Additional Gaming Grant**

- Must be used for extracurricular sports (not facilities) and music
- ACT: Jen to pursue with BC Gaming as to what may be selected as initially the guidelines appear quite restrictive. Also to confirm by what date the money must be spent.

**V. Principal Report – April 20, 2011**

**WITS Assemblies & Learn Not to Burn**

- All students in grades K-3 participated in **WITS Program** (Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, and Seek help) on Monday April 18<sup>th</sup> with Saanich Police Liaison Officer Jana Sawyer
- We continue to use principles of restitution to help students solve problems with peers
- Students in grades 1 and 3 participated in the Learn Not to Burn Program presented by the Saanich Fire Department on Wednesday April 13<sup>th</sup>

**Literacy**

- Author Robyn Stevenson spoke to all students in grades 4/5 about writing on April 8<sup>th</sup>
- She presented a special writing workshop for students in the Red Cedar Book Club
- We have started our Read Across Canada Home Reading Program for next six weeks
- Friday April 15<sup>th</sup> John Nedwidek, author of "Ducks Don't wear Socks" spoke to all students in grades K-2
- A group of students in grade 4/5 are putting together a school newspaper

**School Organization**

- Lochside Elementary School enrolment in 2011-2012 looks great
- We will have at least 15 divisions (same number as current year)

-Information in the next newsletter about school organization and parent input

**Federal Election May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- Lochside Elementary has been selected as one of the polling stations for federal election
- Our parking lot will be very busy on this day

**Autism Awareness Week – April 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**

- Very successful fundraiser -over \$6000 raised for ACT (Autism Community Training)
- Great assembly with Brendan Dwyer speaking about having autism
- Some concerns expressed by staff over different charities and organizations using school & students to raise funds – cuts into instructional time, money going out of the school etc.
- Concern expressed by a couple of parents about the prizes and pledge forms going home

**Extra-Curricular**

Cross-Country – we have over 85 students involved

- April 20<sup>th</sup> @ Centennial Park
- April 27<sup>th</sup> @ Centennial Park

**Grade 5 Transition to Royal Oak Middle School**

- April – May – Special needs students visit ROMS for orientation
- April 29<sup>th</sup> ROMS Counselors here to talk with Student Services Team at Lochside
- May 13<sup>th</sup> Grade 5 students visit ROMS

**Grade 5 Camp Thunderbird**

- All grade 5 students are going to Camp Thunderbird on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Some concerns from parents about the costs for the camp - \$180+
- Some suggestions to do some fundraising for next year e.g. parents of grade 5 students take on the poinsettia sale around November/December or ??? Or perhaps options, some families may wish to simply pay while others may appreciate fundraiser. Recommendation for Gr. 5 parents to discuss in September 2011.

**VI. Discussion Items**

**A. Elections Next Month**

**B. Save Around Coupon Book**

- Looks promising, recommend 2011/12 LEPAC Exec/ research in June (vs. Entertainment Book).

**C. Hot Lunch**

- Hot Lunch Coordinator has stepped down and with lack of classroom volunteers it is increasing teacher participation and impacting teaching time.
- Latest offering has resulted in mixed feedback. Discussion held and decision made to continue with hot lunch for remainder of year but develop team to investigate options for 2011/12.

**VII. President Jen adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm**

Next meeting - Wednesday, May 18, 2011 from 6:30 to 8pm.