



# École Mark R. Isfeld Secondary PAC

Monday, September 12, 2011

## MINUTES

**Attendees:** Christian Ricard, Marlene Ricard, Donna Kane, Shelley Gailloux, Jeannette Gingras, Mary Maclean, Pam Blake, Sallie Crawford, Mark Reiss, Suzie Leroux, Carla Morrison, Melanie Burneau, Barry Walker, Annette Schmidt-Schweda, Caron Mulgrew, Loretta Fedor, Cheryl Adebar, Bill Village and Dianna Theos.

1. **Call to order** - 7 pm - Introductions
2. **Approval of Agenda** –Sallie Crawford – 1<sup>st</sup>, Mary Mclean – 2<sup>nd</sup>
3. **Approval of last meeting's minutes** – Barry Walker – 1<sup>st</sup>, Shelley Gailloux – 2<sup>nd</sup>

**6)c (moved from New Business)** Wealthy School Revolution.com presentation – Debbie Bowman (fundraising initiative). Debbie made a presentation about this business and the potential of its use as a fundraising initiative for the school. Thoughts were shared that this school is already bursting at the seams, there is no space that would accommodate this initiative, and the logistics are problematic in terms of volunteers and timings of pick-ups etc.

## 4. Reports

### a) Principal's Report

- Exceptional start up to the school year. The job action has not had an impact on the start up at all.
- Reviewing educational results from last year (required exams). Counted up 16 sets of exam results and Isfeld was above provincial average in all but one area. Grade 12 provincial exams are optional (with the exception of English 12 and Francais Langue 12).
- Staffed at 898 now at 929 students. Reviewing class sizes and only 3 band classes exceed that number and one French class is at one above. That is now being double checked. Class composition issues are improved since last year.
- Emergency preparedness: Last week's earthquake was a great wakeup call and time to review drill procedures. This came before the first official drill and the students did very well in following the correct procedures. Staff did visual check of building. No visible damage so allowed students to re-enter building with the caution that if an aftershock occurred, they would again need to evacuate. However, other than the evacuation part, this school is horribly unprepared for an earthquake if the damage were extensive. No equipment, no supplies, no training, no equipped first aid station, etc. Also, a problem arose in that many parents showed up to pick up their kids without even telling any of the staff, but just calling their kid's cells to come out to meet them to be picked up. There is a

lot of work to be done in earthquake preparedness and it will require a community effort to address as the district will not fund this.

- Time change: Later start time and dismissal time. Set weekly schedule instead of rotating timetable. Friday rotates and contains the x-block from 2:30 to 3:30. Schedule matches other high schools so that senior students can participate in courses at other schools as well as at the college. At this point, there is not much of that happening but there could be more as these opportunities expand. There are far less late students so far but it is early. If it becomes a problem again this year, those students will be required to make up that time as it is largely the same students who are habitually showing up late, largely being dropped off late by a parent. It was such a huge problem last year that a tough approach must be taken this year as this is absolutely unacceptable.
- Last year the student government took on the challenge of addressing the lack of a school cafeteria. Since there was no space, they wanted to get folding tables. Sherrie Elwood, district superintendent agreed to match what the students raised so we have been able to purchase a total of 8 tables. The school also received 400 new chairs. Gym sound system has been a long time need. There is now some money available to begin looking for that system.

**b) Trustees Reports** - No trustee in attendance for report

**c) Treasurer's report** – funds received last year have largely been spent, just awaiting receipts. Non-gaming account amount the same as last year.

**d) DPAC Report** - did have a quorum at the last meeting. Bussing discussed. They are still in need of a permanent chairperson.

## 5. Old business

**a) School sign** – Bill reported. Bill is in contact with a design consultant who is in discussion with the board. There is still work to do to get the city on board. They are reviewing the policies around this and hope to hear something soon. The board will still put up the promised \$10,000.

**b) Bussing** – time schedules have been adjusted as well as the school bus policy so hopefully things will flow more smoothly than in the past.

## 6. New Business

### a) PAC elections

- Chair – Chris Ricard
- Vice Chair – Lisa Taylor
- Secretary – Marlene Ricard
- DPAC – Jeanette Gingras
- FAC – Loretta Fedor and Cheryl Adebar
- SPC – Sallie Crawford, Shelley Gailloux, and Lisa Taylor

- b) Impact of teacher job action** – Wasn't much to report as things have been running very smoothly.
- c) Wealthy school initiative** – After some discussion, it was decided that we would not be signing up with this program for several reasons; a quick scan of the prices on their web site showed the products to be very expensive, organizing space would be nearly impossible in our already crowded school, volunteers, etc would be all but impossible. We do not desire to compete with the local businesses that support us.
- d) Earthquake Committee** - Mary Maclean offered to start a parent earthquake committee and had several parents offer to join her in that effort. We now have an earthquake committee!!

**7. Adjournment** - at 8:40 pm

**Next meeting: Monday October 17, 2011** (October 10 is Thanksgiving)