

**PCI Parent Advisory Council Meeting**  
**Monday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010**

Attendance: Sandi Knight, Jim Pehura, Mark Diboll, Donna Ott, Marilyn Gagnon, Caroline Cannon, Joyce Giesbrecht, Eldyne Parker-Beddome, Colleen Pallister  
Regrets: Tracey Taylor, Holly Brookes, Kinelm Brookes, Joel Baker

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by chair, Sandi Knight.

The agenda was presented with the addition of “Student Assessment”, an article included in the recent P.C.I. Newsletter.

The minutes of the Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed. Caroline Cannon moved the minutes be adopted as presented. Seconded by Eldyne Parker-Beddome. All in favour. Carried.

Correspondence:

School Board – Budget Meeting invitation; Tues., Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.  
MB Association of Parent Councils – AGM planned for Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> at Victoria Inn in Wpg.; call for nominations for Judy Aiken Memorial Award

Reports:

Administration: Mark Diboll – EAL educator, Lori Judson, gave a very informative presentation to staff on methods of communicating subject material to EAL students.

Renovations are still continuing at the school. All carpeting in the hallways of the PCS building will be removed this summer & replaced with continuous flooring. Re-painting continues. Near the Main Office entrance a separate office supply area will be completed shortly. Washrooms located west of the library will be removed as difficult to supervise & rarely used. They will be replaced with a storage area.

Diane Tennant and Shirley Pehura have submitted resignations effective end of school year.

Jim Pehura – Enrolment projection for next year will be stable.

A report has been prepared for the School Board itemizing the recent provincial exams’ results. Kudos to teachers for their long hours spent marking the exam papers. There will be reporting towards end of week with regard to provincial exam schedule for May/June.

Upcoming dates for grad. activities are listed in the recent newsletter.

Treasurer’s Report: No formal report – Jim Pehura reported that a grant cheque from the MB Main Street Program for the Plaza area had come in for \$942. These monies have been turned over to the Division. Otherwise the accounts remain unchanged.

School Board budget meeting is tomorrow evening. Funding for the Adult Ed. program has been discontinued by the government. Will be looking at ways to maintain the program.

Safety Coordinator: Marilyn Gagnon - No formal report. Mark Diboll reported earlier on building upgrades.

Volunteer Coordinators: Eldyne Parker-Beddome – Reported that there was good volunteer participation for the Teacher Appreciation Week.

Teacher Liaison: Donna Ott – Sincere thank you to Parent Council & volunteer parents who contributed to the food & treats during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Student Council: No formal report. A retreat was held recently at Day's Inn to plan for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester activities. Plans are being made for Spirit Week with Lit; still discussing legacy goals & interactive T.V. Last dance was cancelled due of lack of interest among students.

Old Business:

Nil

New Business:

Student Assessment – A discussion was held re: further clarification of proposed changes to educational practices & concerns of parent council members that the use of marks was in jeopardy. Mr. Diboll and Mr. Pehura explained that teachers will be expected to provide more specific feedback to students, with the emphasis being less on marks. For example a test done at the outset of teaching a new unit or concept may just have suggestions for improvement with no mark attached; after a time when the unit or concept should be mastered then testing or an assignment with a mark would be done. Marks as a method of measurement will still be maintained at the high school level. The goal is to have less pieces with a mark attached and more emphasis on other methods which will encourage the student to achieve an understanding of the required course material like. Teachers in each subject area will be working together to discuss ideas & plans so that there will be improved consistency among teachers instructing the same courses.

Some of the lower grades, i.e. 5 – 8, will be using methods other than number marks to assess the grade level achievement of the students.

It was also discussed that there is to be less or no penalty for late assignments i.e. lowering total mark potential if student does in fact exhibit knowledge of the course material. Concerns surrounding this concept were also voiced by council members.

A lack of information on report cards was also addressed. It is hoped that with the implementation of Maplewood computer program that there will be a chance to look at changing the report card format. There should also be easier access for parents to find out about a student's courses i.e. homework, attendance, etc. Parents are always encouraged to call or e-mail specific teachers with any concerns they have regarding their children.

School Board Meeting – Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> – New principal. Parent council members remained after formal meeting to give input to Sandi with regard to qualities they would like to see in a new principal and goals for P.C.I. for next 5 yrs. Many ideas were presented & discussed. Any available Parent Council members were encouraged to attend with Sandi.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

**Next meeting will be held on Mar. 16th, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.**

