

**Pacific Spirit School
Parent Meeting
Monday, March 2nd, 2009
7:00 pm**

MINUTES

Tea (make snack smaller - not such a big deal)

- Based on some concerns from a few parents, we discussed the purpose of tea and the concerns around how elaborate the snacks need to be for this
- We agreed that the purpose of tea was related to community rather than food and it was suggested that each family (when 2 families are hosting the tea) bring 2 snacks each – this should be sufficient. Also, traditionally there has been a focus on healthy snacks and it was requested that we return to this focus.

Room Rental

- As most of you know, we are running a deficit budget this year and are looking for ways to deal with this.
- We have an agreement to rent out the East Room to Pacific Rim Montessori School possibly as early as April 15th for \$3000/month – this will help our budget shortfall significantly
- The agreement is for Pacific Rim to remain in the space until June 2010 after which we will renegotiate their sub-lease with us. This will allow us to reclaim the space as our numbers grow – which we are fully intending.
- This is pending City Hall approving a development permit – something that is required for them to rent out our space.
- Ingrid will keep you up to date on what is happening with this.

Promotions – Kim & Ingrid

- Open house events
 - As we are holding several open house events over the next little while, we encourage you to speak to visiting parents about your experience with the school
- Flyers (Kim)
 - Kim handed out flyers for everyone to put up in various locations
 - If you are able to help out with this, please contact Kim Frank.

Web site:

We discussed the importance of our web site for attracting new families to the school. While the web site has been updated and looks great (thanks, Alec!), it is not a site that pops up readily when one searches the internet. We discussed the notion of doing a business directory submission. Anyone who is interested in helping out with this should contact Ingrid.

Some help:

- Policy manual (typing) – Ingrid could use some help typing out our Policy Manual. Debbie Nelson has been kind enough to do at least half of it, but there are still some sections remaining. Anyone able to help out (even a bit), please contact Ingrid. Ideally, this work would be complete by April 17th when we have a monitoring visit scheduled with the Ministry of Independent Schools.
- Library sorting – Our library books are in need of sorting! If you are at the school and have a few spare minutes, don't be shy! At the moment, the unsorted books are piled on top of the library shelves.

Homework/Personal Planning

- Parents at the meeting commented that they missed the personal planning and being informed of any homework assignments (this is something Heidi had been doing when she was working with the elders in the afternoons). It was discussed that writing homework up on a board for parents to check at the end of the day would be helpful. Ingrid brought this up at an educator meeting and Nisha and Kyla confirmed that they do write the homework up on the chalk boards in their classrooms so parents are welcome to check these at the end of the day.

Field Trips:

Harbour Tour Field trip is postponed until after the Science Fair so that kids can focus on the Science Fair (originally scheduled for March 30th)

Science Fair – Thursday, April 16th

Sports Day – Thursday, May 7th