

# Holly PAC Newsletter

Holly Elementary - Home of the Holly Hornets

April 2012

SPRING

## PAC Meeting Schedule 2012

May 29

**NOTE: This is the final PAC meeting before the end of the school year**

### General Meeting Change

The May General Meeting has been changed from May 8 to May 29. During our May general meeting we put forth a proposed budget which is finalized and voted on in September. In order to assist with greater accuracy of budget numbers we moved the meeting until after the spring fair totals would be in.

## PAC Executive for 2011/2012 Year

**Jennifer Griffiths, Co-Chair**  
tjgriff@dccnet.com

**Lorelei Dake, Co-Chair**  
leidake@yahoo.ca

**Janifer Gentle, Vice Chair**  
jgentle@telus.net

**Jana Wachowski, Secretary**  
jcwachowski@gmail.com

**Rose Kroeker, Treasurer**  
rose\_kroeker@telus.net

**Janice Ayach,  
DPAC Representative**  
mjayach@telus.net

## PLAYGROUND REFUND

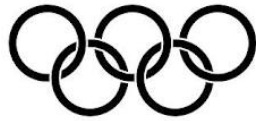
We had an amazing response from the Holly parent community and the Holly staff on how to spend the playground refund. They were all great suggestions. In fact, we received 33 suggestions. The total cost of the suggested items for which we had estimates was \$37,300. Unfortunately we had a much smaller amount of money to work with (\$19,800). In going through all the suggestions from both the school and the parents, it became apparent that there were many similar ideas. In working through organizing the suggestions the common goals for the school community were highlighted as well as equitability and accessibility to all Holly students. Thank you to all that were able to make the meeting and help with the voting process. The results of the vote are as follows:

- \$10,000 to technology (covers the majority of the teacher's wish list including document projection cameras for the classrooms that currently do not have technology, and may also include a good quality digital camera for the office, 2 I-Pads for the Kindergarten classes (or good quality wool rugs), and 2 I-Pads for sign out by teachers)
- \$2000 to hold in savings
- \$1000 donation going to the local community in form of technology - awarded to Gibson Elementary. A school we have connections with via Ms. Chapman and Mr. Zerbe.
- \$3740 towards a Long-Term Beautification Plan (which may include improving the front office display area, painting the EP bin, a mural, trees and making the entrance/driveway more welcoming)
- \$2516 towards a Fine-Arts Wish List (which may include a classical guitar and case and Djembe drum for the school, more guitar lessons, a school-wide musical or other fine arts program - subject to the endorsement and support of the staff)
- \$544 towards Sports/Playground Equipment (requires further discussion but may include something like more hockey sticks, nets for basketball hoops, etc.)

A reminder to those who submitted requests that were not covered in the voting on the playground refund and for those people with future requests, discussion of these items can be done at the PAC Budget and General Meeting May 29. The proposed budget for the 2012/2013 school year, discussed in May, is further discussed and voted on at the September 2012 general PAC meeting.

## PAC EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

If you are interested in being on the PAC Executive, nominations for the 2012-13 school year are now being accepted. Voting will take place at the PAC general meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. The positions are: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and DPAC Representative.



## SPRING FAIR – SAVE THE DATE!

It is just a month away! We are busy planning all the great activities for the up and coming “Olympics” themed Spring Fair, Friday May 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m at Holly. Raffle tickets have gone home, prizes are being collected, signs are being organized, games are getting a touch up... so much to do, so exciting!! Please save the date for our fair and look for the notices coming home. To make this event a success, we need your help! Keep reading...

## AUSSIE JARS

This is one of our most popular booths at the fair! The children purchase a ticket for the opportunity to draw a number which corresponds with the jar they will win. We need your help with providing donations of clean jars which you have filled with a prize that you might like to win. The jars should be clean and can be any size. Prizes must be new and preferably NUT FREE. Some ideas of what the jars have been filled with in the past are:

- Movie gift certificates, hair elastics, pennies, sports cards, beanie baby, marbles
- Candies, chocolates (New this year - **please make sure candies are wrapped** for sanitary reasons)
- Any other fun prize idea

For all jars that meet the criteria, your child’s division will receive a point - the division with the most points will be awarded a classroom pizza party. Examples of Aussie Jars will be on display in the office.

## GENTLY USED STUFFIES

We are collecting GENTLY used (clean with no stains, rips or holes) stuffies for our extremely popular SPIN-THE-WHEEL booth. Great chance to recycle as you spring clean!

## THEMED CLASSROOM BASKETS

We will be having a silent auction of “themed” baskets. These baskets are always a HUGE hit!! Each classroom will be assigned a theme, such as “Kid’s Creation Kit” or “Movie and Game Night”. We will be sending out a plea for basket items next week - please look for this letter in your child’s backpack. Thank you in advance for any items you are able to donate.

## SILENT AUCTION

Also included in the silent action will be some other great items! Please visit the silent auction/raffle tables at the Spring Fair to bid on:

- Principal for a day
- Christmas Concert Reserved Seating
- Grade 7/Kindergarten Graduation in June
- Lunch with Ms. Chapman and Mrs. Clancy
- Fire Truck Visit

## SPRING FAIR CONT

### CAKE WALK

Once again for this year's spring fair we will be bringing back the ever-popular Cake Walk. New this year - we are happy to announce a Bake Walk, opening it up to baked goods as well as cakes. We will also be holding a cake decorating contest, open to all Holly students. Please ensure all entries are Olympic themed. There will be a notice going home in the next couple of weeks explaining more and cakes/baking are to be received in the library on the day of the fair, May 11 by noon.

### VOLUNTEERS

The success of our spring fair depends on the many volunteers required to run the fair. We will need help with running games, ticket sales, concession, set up, clean up, security, etc. It has been a great way for families to come together and fundraise for our school at the same time. This is a fantastic volunteer opportunity for any of your high school students looking to fulfill their volunteer hours. Please contact Pindi Mann at [p\\_mann@telus.net](mailto:p_mann@telus.net) with the times that you are available to help out (set up 1pm - 3pm, first shift 5:15pm - 7pm, second shift 7pm - 8:45pm or clean up).

### RAFFLE TICKETS

Raffle tickets have already been handed out to our intermediate students (one booklet per student). Booklets have 15 tickets each, and each ticket costs \$2 for a total of \$30 per booklet. Raffle books can be requested by the families of primary students or for intermediate students who wish to sell more tickets. Please fill out a request form at the office or email Lorelei at [leidake@yahoo.ca](mailto:leidake@yahoo.ca). Requests for booklets can be made until Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Sold booklets and the corresponding money can be handed in at the office. In addition, there will be members of your Spring Fair Committee in the multi-purpose room to receive all sold tickets and money or unsold tickets between 8:40 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on the following dates:

Tuesday, May 1st	Tuesday May 8th
Wednesday, May 2nd	Wednesday, May 9th

We ask that you please return all sold or unsold tickets and money no later than Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget our "Student Prize Draw" and "Classroom Pizza Party" For each sold booklet of tickets returned to the school, the student's name that has been assigned to that booklet will be entered in the "Student Prize Draw" which will be a movie pass. There will be two prizes awarded, one to the Primary Grades and one to the Intermediate Grades. This draw will take place at the school the morning of Wednesday, May 9th. The division that sells the most raffle books will be awarded a pizza party!! Check out the tally poster by the office!

**Thank you for supporting your Holly PAC!**

## BIG BROTHERS

We are having our next clothing drive from April 18 - 25, so it's time to dig through your closets and purge! We will accept clothing, accessories, shoes, purses, sheets, linens, blankets, pillows, sleeping bags, etc. All items must be clean and in good condition - nothing soiled or torn. We also do not accept dishes, books or toys. Please pack up your donations in standard garbage bags, weighing between 15.5 - 17 pounds each and drop them off in the gym hallway. We will also accept partially filled bags. Every full bag nets us \$2.50 from Big Brothers Renew Crew and last November's drive raised over \$600 for our school. A great cause, a great fundraiser and it costs you nothing! Thanks in advance for your contributions.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Spring Luau Bookfair was a huge success. A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped out with this busy event. We are pleased to report that we had sales just over \$7000. Mrs. Waterman was able to pick an enormous selection of books for our children's library in the amount of \$1200.00. The library also received approximately \$1800 in funds to purchase more resources for the library. The scholastic bookfair was a success once again because of the support of our Holly Families. See you at the fall fair.

## DIGITAL CAMERA REQUEST

The school is looking for some digital cameras that can be signed out by teachers and used by the students in various projects. With continuously evolving technology, we are confident that there may be many of you who have older digital cameras that you are no longer using. If so, please consider donating them to the school - our children will put them to good use!

## UPDATE TO HOLLY PAC'S CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

At our General PAC Meeting the more significant changes to the updated constitution were reviewed. The old constitution was repealed and the new constitution was implemented with a majority vote. If you would like to view the new constitution it is posted on the Holly website. Thank you to Jenifer Gentle for all the time that went into this project!

## MABEL'S LABELS

These are great labels that are colourful, easy-to-use, fun and virtually indestructible - dishwasher, microwave, laundry and kid-tested! Mabel's Labels also offers personalized stationary products, shoe labels, bag tags, household labels and more. To order, go to [www.hollyelementary.mabel.ca](http://www.hollyelementary.mabel.ca). Holly PAC receives a percentage of all orders placed through this site. Orders can be placed throughout the school year.

## COBS BREAD REMINDER

Don't forget!! Holly is registered with Cobs Breads "Dough Raiser" Group in Ladner. Don't forget when paying for your purchases to tell them that you are with Holly Elementary. The PAC will receive 5% back on all purchases for the year!

## DELTA PAC ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

*Highlights of Delta Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Meeting - March 12, 2012  
Attended by Janice Ayach, Holly DPAC Rep*

Presentation from Neil Stephenson - District Principal for Innovation and Inquiry

Neil discussed the need for *Inquiry Based Teaching and Learning* and different ideas of how to make the vision happen through this process. He spoke about "Inquiry Based Learning" as authentic learning, deep understanding and having value beyond school. In order to facilitate this the teachers will be having professional development in small groups, reflecting on practice and figuring out what works and what doesn't.

Student Inquiry looks at student engagement, focusing on factors in actual life. Different teaching strategies to be used are PBL (problem based learning) as well as Inquiry based learning. Each school has *Coordinator's of Inquiry*. At Holly we have Ms. T. Carleton as well as Mrs. S. Parmar.

Neil shared many examples of teaching strategies used at his previous school - Calgary Science School.

Next meeting April 16, 2012 @ 7 pm, DMEC