

Holly PAC Newsletter

Holly Elementary - Home of the Holly Hornets

December 2011



PAC Meeting Schedule 2012

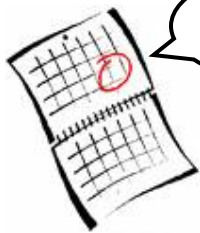
January 24

February 21

April 10

May 8

7pm IN THE LIBRARY



Tuesday, January
24th is the next
PAC meeting

Happy holidays from our family to yours!

Time has flown once again. It seemed like only days ago that it was September with the children settling into their new classrooms and now Christmas is nearly here. We've had a chance to see many great things happening in our school thanks to our supportive and enthusiastic administration and teachers and our parent community. Thank you for your part in helping make Holly the special place that it is. The amount of parent participation throughout the school has been amazing! There always seems to be a steady flow of volunteers around the school.

Thank you for supporting the fundraisers at the school this fall, including a couple of new ones, spirit wear and the pancake breakfast. The children are showing their pride wearing their Holly Hornet clothing and the pancake breakfast was a wonderful way for families to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season. The money raised at these fundraisers, as with the others, helps to support many enhanced activities at the school including grade six camp, field trips, Stand By Me, and technology additions in the classroom. We look forward to upcoming events at the school this spring, including our ever popular spring fair.

We wish you and your families a happy, restful and safe holiday season!!!

PAC Executive



TOY DRIVE FOR DELTASSIST

This year's Christmas Toy Drive, benefiting the Deltassist Stockings for Kids program was a tremendous success. The children and families of Holly have once again shown their caring and thoughtfulness towards the community and those less fortunate. We were able to fill 2 SUV's full of toys to take. Our school is one of the top contributors towards this program, great job everyone!

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Holly Elementary is continuing with our tradition of supporting our community by participating in the annual Deltassist Christmas Hamper Project. Please donate dried non-perishable food or canned goods. Boxes are set up in the hall by the gym for the donations. Items most needed include canned or dry goods such as fruits, vegetables, fish and meat, pastas, soups, fruit juices, cereals, peanut butter, rice, baby food and diapers. Due to health regulations, home canned goods cannot be accepted. Families are being asked to bring a donation to the upcoming Christmas concert.

PAC Executives for 2011-12 Year

Jennifer Griffiths, Co-Chair
tjgriff@dccnet.com

Lorelei Dake, Co-Chair
leidake@yahoo.ca

Jenifer Gentle, Vice Chair
jgentle@telus.net

Jan Wachowski, Secretary
jwachowski@gmail.com

Rose Kroeker, Treasurer
rose_kroeker@telus.net

Janice Ayach, DPAC Representative
mjayach@telus.net

WOW!! – PLAYGROUND FUNDS REIMBURSED

Excellent and exciting news!!! According to a Ministry of Education News Release on December 7, 2011, “Christmas has arrived early for parent advisory councils (PACs) in 102 elementary and middle schools across 31 school districts, as nearly \$2.4 million in playground funding is being returned to PACs that have recently purchased playground equipment for their kids.”

Holly is listed as one of the schools being reimbursed - in the amount of \$19,800!

Education Minister, George Abbott, says “Parent advisory councils work hard throughout the school year to raise money to support students and their learning, and it’s great to be able to give back some of their hard-earned dollars.”

It is great to get back some hard-earned dollars!!! At future PAC meetings, discussions will be held as to what projects we should fund with this money.

SPRING FAIR

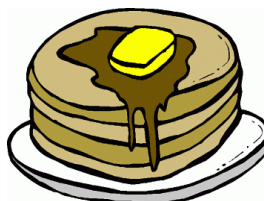
Mark your calendars - our major fundraiser of the year will be a SPRING FAIR on Friday, May 11. We will begin preparations in January with a meeting of those that are interested in coordinating, including sub-committees. If you feel you have time to share with coordinating please email Jennifer Griffiths (tjgriff@dccnet.com). Any time that you are able to commit would be appreciated. Many hands make light work!!

FOLLOWING UP ON FUNDRAISING...



BIG BROTHERS CLOTHING DRIVE

Thank you to all those families who purged their closets and donated bags of clothing and accessories to our Big Brothers Clothing Drive. We collected 244 bags of items, which raised approximately \$610 for Holly! And a big thanks to all the parents who sorted and tagged the bags and to Ms. Parmar’s grade seven class who loaded them onto the Big Brothers truck on pick-up day - we couldn’t have done it without all of you. Start saving up for the spring drive now!!



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Thank you to all of the Holly families that came out for our first Pancake Breakfast with Santa! Over 350 people attended breakfast - enjoying over 400 pancakes, 375 sausages and over 100 cups of hot chocolate! (Not to mention the fruit, juice and Starbucks coffee - thank you Ladner Starbucks for the donation!) And from the look of the lineup, Santa was a busy fellow all morning long. (Your photos will be delivered to your child’s class before the Christmas break). So many parents and students volunteered many hours to make this event possible - we cannot thank you enough. The PAC raised over \$900 from the effort but most importantly, it was a fun and festive way to start the holiday season at Holly. A huge thank you to Tanya Sadlo and Stephanie Robie for organizing this successful event!

HOT LUNCH

January's Hot Lunch day is Wed. Jan. 25th and it will be a hot dog day. The pizza day has been switched to February because of the Scholastic Book Fair needing the MultiPurpose room which is the usual place hot dogs are prepared. If you ordered items for your child, please remind them prior to the date of what exact items were ordered for them so they know what to expect. There have been a few instances of children saying they didn't receive their food items because they assumed their parents had ordered something, when in fact they had not been ordered. Thank you! - Hot Lunch Team!

MABEL'S LABELS

These labels 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. Holly PAC receives a percentage of all orders placed through this site. Orders can be placed throughout the school year.

Delta Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)

*Highlights of the Delta Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Meeting - November 21, 2011
Attended by Janice Ayach, Holly DPAC Rep*

Edcamp Delta - Connect ED - January 12, 2012 from 9:00 - 4:00 at Delta Secondary School

- Meet the changing needs of educators
- Participants nominate and vote on the session topics
- Network with other educators from Delta and beyond
- YOU are a student, parent, educator or just keenly interested in education. IT IS FREE!

Register online - <http://edcamp.deltasd.bc.ca>

BC EDUCATION PLAN

Check out the website: www.bcedplan.ca "The World has changed....the way we educate our children should too". Please take a moment to watch the three minute video. Delta School District is mentioned quite a bit in this video - show casing our VISION on education.

Superintendent, Dianne Turner discussed how the New Board Members and Trustees would be orientated to the district. The Inaugural meeting occurred on December 6. Trustees will be assigned their liaison schools in January and introductions and visits to all schools will occur shortly thereafter. Encouraged PAC's to invite Trustee to PAC meetings. The New Board of Education Members will be attending the next DPAC meeting. If you have any questions you would like asked --please feel free to send to mjayach@telus.net.

SPC (School Planning Council)

At the next PAC meeting, we will be electing representatives for the School Planning Council. Three representatives are needed, one of whom must be a member of the PAC Executive. If you are interested in this position, please attend our next meeting on Tuesday, January 24th or let one of the PAC Executive members know.