

Grenfell PAC Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 13 2023 at 7:00pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Principal, 4 Exec, and 2 members at large

2. Principal's Updates and School News

We have a new limestone path installed in the front garden over spring break. Classes have been out planting potatoes in the garden. At the end of April, we will be picking up free plants from Urban Roots to add to our school garden. The plants will include various types of herbs, vegetables and strawberries.

Axé Capoeira wrapped up their week-long residency program on March 31 with a celebration of learning.

Sarah McLachlan Music Outreach: Students from Div 1 to 9 attended percussion lessons from the Music Outreach instructors. All students from grade 3 to 7 will be invited to attend private music lessons in the studio. Information and flyers will be sent out to families.

Windermere Scholarship Fund: Windermere Secondary has approached Grenfell asking for our PAC's support for a scholarship to be awarded to a current Grade 12 who is a former Grenfell student. A PAC representative has been invited to present the scholarship Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

PAC agreed to contribute a \$300 scholarship.

Student and Family Affordability Fund can be carried over to the next school year. Subsidizes in meaningful ways specific to the child.

Return To Eating Lunch In Lunchroom: as covid restrictions are slowly lifted, students are returning to eating lunch in the lunchroom. On Tuesday, April 11, there was a student assembly to review eating in the lunchroom. Students were reminded to use their "inside" voices in the lunchroom. Supervision aides carry "inside voice" visuals as reminder. After eating, students can return their lunch bags in their classrooms. There are bins in the lunchroom to collect unfinished juice boxes and milk cartons. All intermediate classes are allocated 1.5 tables. Primary classes have one table per class. It has been three days since start eating in the lunchroom, and so far, it has been going well. The noise level was manageable. We don't expect students to be eating silently. We encourage them to socialize while eating but keep the noise level low for the comfort of others.

Kids will have an opportunity to eat outside once the weather is nice.

Welcome To Kindergarten: Our WTK event has been scheduled for Thursday, May 11 from 11:00 to 12:00 pm. This year we have sent out 36 invitations to families and incoming Kindergarten students to attend the event. We have invited the librarian from VPL, school nurse (VCH), Multicultural workers to help with language assistance, and our Strongstart facilitator. We hope a Grenfell PAC representative, Janelle will attend this event.

Spring 4 Year Old Afternoon StrongStart Sessions: Grenfell strongstart will be running the Afternoon StrongStart 4 Year Old Program from mid-April to the second week of June. There will be two sessions per week for a total of 8 weeks. All staff and program costs will be covered by the VSB Early Learning budget. This spring afternoon programming will tie in nicely with the gradual entry support that the StrongStart facilitators are going to be offering once again in Fall 2023 . StrongStart Facilitators will be available to help support the kindergarten gradual entry for the first two weeks of school in September. We are fortunate to be supported by our Strongstart facilitator, Linda Digiovanni for these programs. The laptop charging cart has been received. It can charge 30 laptops at a time. Thank you to the PAC for their generous support.

Grade 7 Camp Fundraisers: The first fundraiser information, the Growing Smiles plant sale, was sent out after spring break. The Grade 7 Camp Committee is planning for a freezie sale in the next couple of weeks. The school will be collecting the second installment in early May. The second installment will be expected to be less than \$125 pending the outcome of fundraising. We have 49 students signed up to go to the Grade 7 Camp. Thank you to the generous support of Grenfell PAC, the cost of bus transportation will be paid for by the PAC.

Pickleball fundraising: The teachers would like to thank the PAC for the gift of \$300.00 for Pickleball Equipment. Our goal is to raise a further \$600.00 in order to have proper paddles for both Primary and Intermediate students, and for new pickleballs. We continue to collect empty bottles at school. Parents are encouraged to bring any empties in a clear bag to any Return-it Depot. Use the Express Drop off sticker machine and key in 604-713-4844 to print up to 6 stickers for your bag(s). Thank you for your support!

Dog droppings on the playground: we have been having issues daily with dog droppings left on the playground. Parents and neighbours are reminded that dogs are not allowed on the playground between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Upcoming Pro-d Day: April 24 is a district pro-d. Teachers and support staff have signed up for workshops offered by the district. Students will not attend school that day.

Performance: We have booked a performance for April 20 "Clean Up Your Act", a fun and educational presentation using fairy tale characters to educate students about littering and vandalism.

Student Learning Survey: this year all students in Grade 4 and 7 participate in the Ministry's Student Learning Survey. Parents of all ages are invited to fill out the survey. Survey closes on Friday, April 28, 2023.

Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

1. Under the section **Direct Access** – no logon number required select:

- District: **39 Vancouver**
- School: **Sir Wilfred Grenfell Community**
- Language: the language of your choice

2. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.

3. When you finish the survey, you will get a message "Thank you for sharing your views".

3. Discussion Topics and Updates

- **Treasurer's Report:**
 - **Gaming account:** \$9200
 - **PAC account:** \$4723 (after library and teachers wish list items)
 - **Fundraising from hot lunch:** still needs to be added to this total
 - Musical instruments totaling about \$2000 will come out of the gaming account.
- **Funding requests:** Follow up on any outstanding funding requests
 - Up to date with funding requests, discussed the grade 7
- **PAC Volunteers:** Looking for PAC Exec and Hot Lunch Committee volunteers
 - 2 responses from email sent a few weeks ago, discussed sending out the email again as a reminder
- **Walkathon:** Discuss this year's walkathon plans
 - Teachers will organize this
- **Other business as brought forward by parents, Principal, and/or Exec**
 - Hot Lunch procedures now that all kids are eating in the lunchroom, it was determined that the hot lunches will be delivered to the classroom by 11:45am with the exception of the kindergarten classes, their lunches will be delivered to them on the stage in the gym where they will be eating
 - Question regarding affordability fund and where it goes: Principal indicated that they have been using it for clothing and other needs in addition to groceries, so far Grenfell has subsidized approx. \$3000

4. Next Meeting

- May 18 at 7:00pm
- June 22 at 7:00pm

The PAC can be contacted at: grenfellpac@gmail.com