



Trafalgar PAC Annual General Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Attendees*

School Admin: Daniel Belanger.

PAC Executive members: Jack Strulovitch, Jennifer Wong, , Kristen Jensen, Irazu Derby Lugo, Mike Zhou, Erin Majid, Grace Yu, Long Tran, Michelle Xue, Juliet Dog

Other attendees: Ari, Jeven Randhawa, Karin, Wong Sik Fung, Nick, David Cacchioni, Alex, Cristal Egan, Austin W, Cecil Yuen, Caroline Howson, Manie Ho, Dawn Jung, Jillian, Christina, Vincent Lee, Emily L, Kathy, Diane Villanyi, Andrea Maley

*Apologies if any names are missing or incomplete.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Admin Update
4. Introduction of New Members by Acclamation
5. Big Budget - this is where the money goes
6. Direct Appeal
7. Hot Lunch Update
8. Choir Update
9. Band
10. Welcome Back Picnic
11. Coffee Mornings are Back!
12. Questions?

Meeting commenced at: 7:02

1. Welcome and Introduction

Welcome by Jack Strulovitch. Welcome to new Co-Chair and new members. Welcome to the first PAC meeting. Welcome new families. Thank you to the admin.

2. Land Acknowledgment

Land acknowledgement by Jack Strulovitch.

3. School Administration Update

Monsieur Daniel's updates:

- Thank you to the PAC for inviting us to the meeting.

- Thanks to the returning PAC members and welcome to the new members.
- We have 20 divisions and 465 students for the new school year. 60 children in late french immersion. English teacher Mr. Fleming has left the school and Mrs. Pond/Ryan is the new English Grade 1 teacher. One teacher has returned full time after mat leave. New PE teacher on 3 days, Tues-Weds, Madame Leisure is teaching Grade 3, Ms. Neighbour is the 5-6 teacher. Madame Sofia is teaching for 2 days and we are still looking for a teacher for French immersion for the other 3 days. Temporary opening in Kindergarten as well. We have a new person in the office, Monday and Wednesday.
- Thank you for your patience and understanding for allowing time for the children to get to their new classrooms. A major reason behind this is because in our catchment, we had 30 students we had to place in other schools. 40 students were on the waitlist in our catchment not including crossboundary. We had to ensure all students had a place. There are still some schools who have not placed their students as of yet.. Thank you to all of those in the different organisations.
- Parents interested in being class parents, contact your teacher.
- If you look today in your child's backpack you will find some important forms. You can submit some online. Please reach out if you need help.
- I would also like to talk about the school fees. Justine has already put out the information in an email. If you know any families that need help with these fees please contact me. We will work with the PAC to help the families not have any financial burdens.
- Cross country is to start next week. There is a new policy for jerseys. We will send home a form that has to be completed by the family. This form will make sure that the jersey's are returned. There will be a fee for the jersey's as well. Thank you to the PAC for helping with the new jersey's for the teams for the school year.
- We will be having our assembly about kindness as this is a very important topic in our school.
- The ministry has said no more digital devices in the school. Children can bring them to school but not use them within the school. If a parent needs to communicate with their child they are to call the office. Students will not be able to use the phone in the classroom. There are many reasons behind this, we can not control all students as they take photos and there is a privacy policy behind this. First time we catch a student with the phone it will be taken away. There will be further actions taken with further offences.
- Grade 7's will start meetings with teachers soon. We will not forget about graduation, camp, and field trips.
- Welcome to the kindergarten families.
- There will be a great day with a full day tomorrow. We will support within the classroom and staff around the school.

Madame Katrina's updates:

- Hello my name is Madame Katrina. I am the vice principal. Welcome back.
- We had our first assembly today. We went over the school code of conduct, VSB school code of conduct, school boundaries, new members of staff, and supervision aids. Children can go to the aids or the principals for any questions or concerns. With the code of conduct, we are Spirit Wolves so we howl. We are open minded and open to new ideas. Everything we do revolves around the howl and school rules have been highlighted.
- Meet the teacher night is this Thursday, September 12, same day as the Back to School picnic. Free pizza from the PAC at 5:00. Meet the Teacher will take place in the gym. There will be two sessions in the gym. All are welcome to attend to meet their new teacher or returning teacher.

- The Terry Fox Run/Walk is next Tuesday, 1-3pm. Many parents participate in the run or walk. We will be meeting in the front of the school and will walk around the park.
- We will have our orange shirt day on September 27. This is a tradition not only of Trafalager but the VSB. We pay tribute to all those affected by residential schools. We encourage everyone to wear orange. Last year we had a sea of orange.
- Next Friday we will have our kindness assembly. Parents unfortunately will not be able to attend due to space but we will take pictures and have them on the newsletter.

4. Introduction of New Members by Acclamation

Thank you Vivian, Snow and Sophia, thank you for all of your hard work.

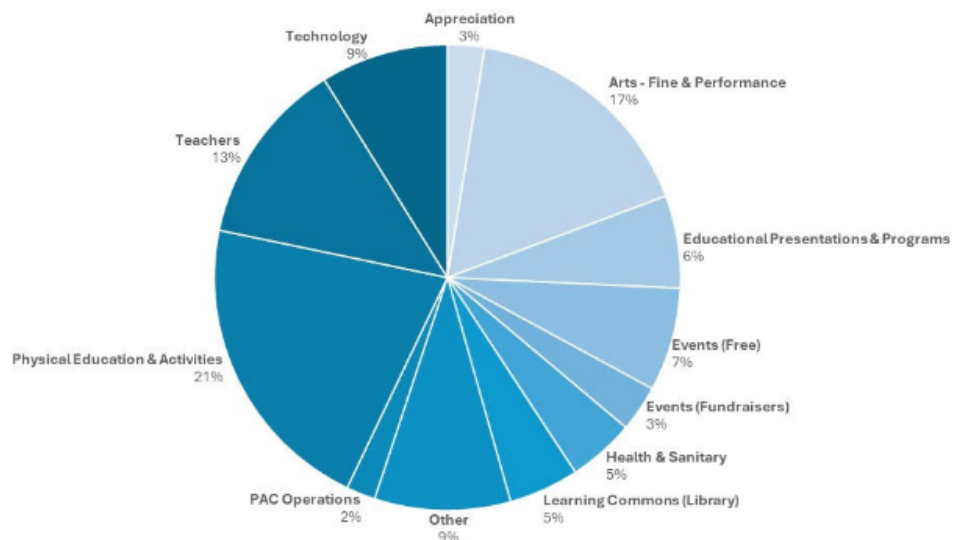
- Jennifer Wong - new Co-chair
- Mike Zouh - new Vice-Chair
- Erin Majid - new Co-treasurer
- Grace Yu - new Co-treasurer

5. Big Budget

Erin Majid - 38% of budget came from the direct appeal

Where does the funding go?

How your contribution will be spent in 2024/2025



6. Direct Appeal

Starts September 12th. Details will be coming out in the next few weeks. \$100 per child. Helps teachers with supplies, helps with school programs, helps with school events. \$25,000 is the PAC's goal. It is a one time ask for the entire year. It is very important to support the school. It is easy to donate with the QR code.

7. Hot Lunch Update

September 24th is the first hot lunch. Order opens on September 16. The previous week, on Friday, will be the deadline. Same system as last year. New items have been added to the menu. Team is always looking for volunteers contributing 1 hour per week or every other week. Friendly reminder, that the lunch does not provide utensils. Email with all the logistics coming out in the next couple of days.

TRAFALGAR HOT LUNCH TERM 1

Trafalgar Hot Lunch is back! We will offer a hot lunch option every Tuesday and Thursday when school is in session. We are pleased to announce that we will continue to have a partnership with Calhoun's Catering and Carino Catering. We have teamed up Fresh Slice Pizza (Alma location) this year.

Hot lunch ordering is done through the Munchalunch website:

NEW parents need to register here: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/trafalgar>

RETURNING parents can go directly to the login page: <https://munchalunch.com/login>

Please set up your account by logging into the above website and let the system guide you through. If you are already registered, please update your child's division.

Order & Payment: Hot lunch orders must be paid before the orders are submitted to the vendors. Must be paid within 1 hour or the order is cancelled.

Order Deadline/Order Changes – Orders can be changed up to the Friday of the week prior to hot lunch week.

On Hot Lunch Day & Cutlery: Reusable cutlery from home should be brought by your child for their hot lunch meal. The school will not be providing cutlery as we are trying to minimise waste. Please remind your child/children to bring home leftovers and all the packaging.

Student Absences/Lunch Pick up: The school and the PAC cannot accommodate lunch pick ups (by parents or siblings) for absent students. This is a food-safe cautionary measure.

Please DO NOT contact the Trafalgar Office to arrange this. Hot Lunch is a PAC fundraiser and run by volunteers – please kindly consider it a donation.

The first term of the hot lunch will run from Tuesday, Sept 24 to Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024.

First term Hot Lunch ordering will open on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024.

The deadline to order for the first week of hot lunch is Friday, Sept. 20, 2024 at 11:59pm.

PS. Hot Lunch ordering will be closed on Friday by 11:59pm for the following week hot lunch.

Please send email to the Hot Lunch group if you have any questions at hlattrafalgar@gmail.com.

Question - list of providers?

Answer - We use the same local providers. All purpose catering companies versus Subway etc. One company for Tuesday and one for Thursday.

8. Choir Update

Choir to start at the end of September. Grades K-3 Tuesday Sept 24, grades 4-7 Thursday Sept 26. Fees are \$140. We will send an email tomorrow to all families, and will do this for the band as well.

9. Band

Jennifer:

We are very happy that the Trafalgar School Band will be running again this year, beginning in October. Registration is open now.

For those of you that don't know, the Trafalgar School Band is an extracurricular music program organised by parents, as the VSB no longer funds this kind of program in elementary schools. Our band instructors are both professional musicians who are really amazing with kids and make music and learning an instrument fun.

Trafalgar students who are in Grade 4-7 are eligible to play in the band. Junior, or beginning band, is open to any student who is interested in learning how to play an instrument, absolutely no experience required. Senior band is for students who have already completed junior band or have previous experience with one of the band instruments. Practices run before school, twice per week, for the entire school year. The band usually performs a few concerts at the school throughout the year, and competes at the Kiwanis Music Festival.

Registration is open now, info is in the school newsletter and Mr Grimm is letting kids know when he sees them in music class.

Some questions might be:

What instruments. Band students get to choose from a wide variety of woodwind and bass instruments - they can choose flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, baritone, oboe, and senior band students can try the French horn.

When: The senior band meets every Wednesday and Thursday from 7:45 to 8:45 am and the junior/beginning band meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 7:45 to 8:45 am during the school year. (Please note Thursday is a combined rehearsal where beginning band gets to play with senior band together.)

Where: The rehearsal will take place in the Activity Room.

Cost: The band is paid for by families and is based on the number of students enrolled. Last year the cost was \$485 - this covered practices, twice per week, for the school year. The fee cover the instructors fee, insurance, and room rental. Renting an instrument is also required.

Register here: (<https://forms.gle/pc1hAL1PkEBnF2bQ6>).

10. Welcome Back Picnic

We will be providing pizza and drinks September 12th from 5:00-5:45. And we need volunteers! Sign up here: [Trafalgar Parents: Welcome Back Picnic \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)

Question: Possible to get a speaker?

Answer: Yes, we will provide it.

11. Coffee Mornings are Back!

Process in setting up Coffee morning. Throughout the year we have 6-7 coffee mornings. A way to meet other parents. We had nice weather last year and are hopeful this year. Dates to come.

12. Questions?

Volunteers needed: Hot Lunch, Coffee Morning, Monster's Ball, Bookfair, Santa's Workshop

Question: Can we get more days for hot lunches?

Answer: Maybe we can add special days. We need to make sure we have enough volunteers. Consultation with the staff member. Consultation with PAC. Reach and agreement on if we can add more days. Maybe for specific day where we can add some funds. Lots of moving parts and people. We want to make sure everything will go well. We have a small kitchen and not much area for storage. Not this term

Question: Are students allowed to attend Thursday.

Answer: Yes.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:43.