

PAC Meeting Minutes

Sept 28, 2022

7:30pm start

Attendees: James, Nicole, Kalen, Caroline, Naomi, Anna, Robin, Jessica, Gordon, Brett, Tia, Nicky, Alyssa, Krysty, Shahira, Nusha, (17 people), Lindsie, Yeng, Laura, Angelina, Jennifer, Benelda, Travis, Pamela, Katja, Annie, Anna, Christina, Aween, Wendy, Lori, Michael, Wendy, Benelda, Tamara, tiffany, Miriam, Megumi,

Laurent Brisebois

1. **Land Acknowledgement** (Shahira), James read poem by Randy Lundy

2. **Minutes**

- Will share PAC meeting minutes after this meeting

3. **PAC Introduction** (Shahira)

- Every parent is part of the PAC, your choice how much/ what you want to do
- Many positions open within PAC – will review later on

4. **Administration Update** (Laurent)

- Successful start to year, very busy
- Sept 30 big deadline for funding, class composition to school district – met timeline
- First performance today – Wacky science show. Goal to have one per month. Always looking for new performances
 - Kid perspective – all presenters are male. School will ensure there is a balance.
- Tomorrow National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, lesson planning to engage kids. Kim Kondra, Indigenous education coordinator – putting together resources
- Received cedar paddle students carved with Randy Tait last year, displayed by office in shadow box
- October starting class reviews – how to maximize learning environment for each student
- October/ November FSA – different perspectives on those tests, likely hear from BCTF who are opposed to tests. School follows guidelines from Ministry of Education but respect parents decision, if they do not wish child to write FSAs that is fine.
- Laura Secord School Growth Plan – getting updated template from the school district. Will hold focus groups in the fall. Help to identify who are learners, assets, what are gaps, how to celebrate diversity, reconciliation. Have to complete by May for approval.
- October 7 – Terry Fox run. Will send information home and in school weekly memo.
 - Similar to last year, get a link to donate directly to Terry Fox foundation or kids can bring money directly if they want, we track Laura Secord donations

- Cross country on now, volleyball start October 24 (4 teachers volunteer), likely 4 teams in total (junior and senior)
- Interviewing next week for teaching component (30%), hopefully hire a teacher to cover 30% (covers gifted program – likely to restart mid-October), Laurent will cover the administrative work for now, do not have timeline for hiring administrative portion.
 - Gifted student program – those with “P” designation. Challenge to work on personal, enrichment projects to go above and beyond curriculum. Groups work with teacher once or twice a week, work on projects to do extra learning.

5. **Financial Update** (Kalen)

- What has changed since our last PAC meeting in June – reviewed June 16 to Sept 29 expenses
- School has asked PAC for funding to support technology, equipment, curriculum, etc.
- PAC has a policy of only covering half (matching funding from school) – PACs need to play active role to ensure schools are funded adequately.
- \$65K of PAC funding is in term deposits, remaining \$32K is in cash
- Question on cost of Evans Lake – school unable to apply for district subsidy because did not confirm camp was happening in time.
- Why do we have such a large surplus
 - Most of the funding was because we didn’t expend much during the pandemic
 - Next AGM – some special projects we are proposing to support
 - Secord – very much a “have” school, able to fundraise. Very much saving mindset.
- Why don’t we support grad ceremony for Gr 7s
 - Used to have award ceremony – stopped during covid, will resume this year
 - Have supported Evans Lake day for Gr 7s but parents want to have a role too

6. **Class Reps** (Anna, Naomi)

- Have reps for all classes for English stream
- Looking for reps for some classes for French stream
- Suggestion is to send fewer emails from PAC – have been inundated with emails during COVID
- Class rep asking for emails of parents – have forms requesting consent to collect and share personal information

7. **Anti-racism Committee Update** (Nicole)

- Last year’s top-rated activities
 - Monthly newsletters
 - Coffee connections outside the school
 - Anti-racism workshop
 - Moosehide campaign day
- Orange Shirt Day/ National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
 - Tomorrow after school – decorating hearts for the school fence

- Local events Friday – Grandview park, Tsleil-Waututh Nation, Oppenheimer Park, Trout Lake
- People are welcome to join

8. **Food Committee Update** (Vicky)

- Farm to School grant update, deadline is Nov 2022 to apply
- Two lunch days – work with teachers to do farm to school lunch, healthy fresh food into the school, part of learning
- Have parents willing to support but need two teachers who are able to assist
- Also staying connected to Coalition for Healthy School Food – advocating for universal food program across Canada
- Parents interested in this issue are welcome to join food committee – contact Vicky

9. **Other**

- Neema – organizing the Winter Warmer
- Tracy – mental and physical self-defense workshop during school hours
- Tracy, Anna, Carolin – trying to get hot lunch up and running.
 - \$6.50/meal, add on \$0.50 for fundraiser (could be used to subsidize families that can't afford full cost).
 - Need school buy-in, talking to staff Oct 6.
 - C'est Mon is the company, can use their website.
 - Could launch as early as oct 10.
 - Start with Monday and Wednesday, could add on Friday
 - Email PAC exec to get going
- Michael – organize a ride don't hide at Laura Secord
- Shahira – Kiwassa neurodivergent program
- Passing on new positions
 - Book fair
 - Pumpkin patch
 - Open on exec: French class reps, secretary

10. **Closing** 9:05pm