



CYPRESS PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cypress Park Parent Advisory Council

PAC Meeting Minutes September 15, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chair K. Millius at 12:03 pm.

IN ATTENDANCE

Principal M. Labounty, Vice Principal S. Bell, PAC Chair K. Millius, PAC Treasurer D. McKenzie, PAC Member B. Perez, PAC Member R. Baggio, PAC Member E. Baldwin, PAC Member E. LeBlanc, PAC Member E. Little, PAC Member N. Quilty, PAC Member E. Keyes, N. Arseneau, M. Mohajerani, N. Zamani, N. Meghijiani, R. Vernon, B. Yang, B. Campbell, W. Au, S. Cahill, J. Perez,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes from the June 14th, 2022, PAC meeting were motioned and approved.

PRINCIPAL AND VICE PRINCIPAL REMARKS

Mrs. Michelle Labounty

Brief introduction from Mrs. Michelle Labounty, the school's new Principal. Mrs. Labounty will be overseeing both, West Bay Elementary as well as Cypress Park Primary School. She will heavily rely on each school's VP.

Mrs. Labounty has been on the district for over 23 years, and worked at multiple WV schools: West Bay, Glen Eagles, Ridgeview, Irwin Park, and most recently Cedardale, where she was the Principal for 9.5 years. As such, Mrs. Labounty was key for the beginning of the IB Program at a French Immersion School.

On a personal level, Mrs. Labounty has 2 children aged 16 and 18, and her whole extended family is somehow into the Education field (she is married to an educator, her brother and sister-in-law are educators, and their parents are also educators).

Mrs. Labounty has an open-door policy and everybody is welcome to contact her via email (MLaBounty@wvschools.ca) or phone (604 981-1260).

Vice Principal S. Bell Update

Mrs. Bell started by thanking the parents attending the call and the great turnout. She encouraged parents to continue being involved. The PAC is an important part of the school community, and having parents present and involved is very important for the school and sends the right message to the kids.

- **Enrollment** – There are 76 students at the school this year, including 20 new KG, 18 G1, 19 G2, 19 G3. School is at full capacity. Please note that capacity is shared between West Bay and Cypress Park.
- **Facility Upgrades** - All of the school classroom windows on the back side have been replaced with double pane glass. Project is 98% completed, pending some minor painting and touch-ups. Upgrade will support cold winters and well as reduce heat during the summertime.
- **Back garden** – Project has been running for some time. More details to come from the Garden Committee. The school would like to thank the garden committee and the parents for the support provided over the summer. A number of parent volunteered and took time out of their schedules to ensure the plants were watered and weeded, while school was closed. Great example of school community involvement. Hope the support can continue.
- **School Maintenance** – Thank you as well to Mr. Payette who takes care of the school during the summer and ensures the school is clean and ready for the students to come back. He has now switch back to working evening hours.
- **Staffing announcement** – As was mentioned on the e-bulletin, we have some new faces in the school:
 - Ms. Boddez – New Grade 3 teacher. The previous teacher, Mrs. Ross, needed to extend her leave.
 - Mr. Gemmell – Physical Literacy new team member
 - Mrs. Parker – School’s new counsellor. Mrs. Curling, our previous counsellor, moved to the Sunshine Coast. Mrs. Parker has already met with the students and teachers.

Mrs. Bell will continue teaching part-time G1, G2, G3, as well as supporting the library space.

- **Events**
 - **Cross Country** – The school is happy to be included in the district’s cross country meets. The G3 students have started training as of Sep 15th. There are 3 meets in the district and these will take place at Ambleside the following 3 Tuesdays. Ms. Boddez and Mrs. Trotter will be running that team.
 - **Running Club** - For families that are not in G3, the school will reopen the running club to show support to the G3 while they train. Starting next week, every Tuesday and Thursday morning, the school will open the running club to students and parents who wish to join at 8:10 am, just before school. To start with, the club will run slightly different than last year’s: There won’t be popsicle sticks and the school will not be measuring kilometers. The idea is to get kids back into running, training for the Terry Fox run. The school will be running this till Oct 4th.
 - **Terry Fox Run** – This event used to be a full school event but was cut down due to Covid. The school will be going back to their full event. Students will run off-site around the school, passed the tennis courts and then back down along Marine Dr. back into the property. The school will pair Kindergarteners with their big buddies; however, parent volunteers are required to make sure this is a successful and safe run. Please kindly contact Mrs. Bell if you can support this event.
- **Other events**

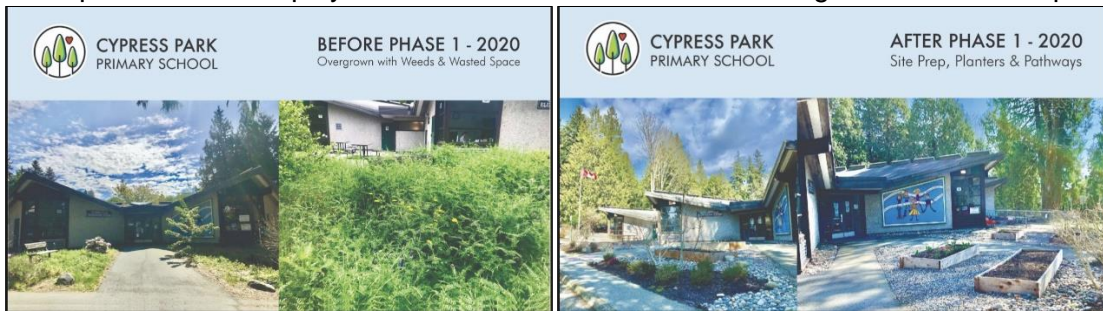
- School closure Monday Sep 19th
- Photo Day – Sep 20th
- Orange Shirt Day – Sep 29th

IMPORTANT REMINDER - Please make sure you read over the e-bulletin that is emailed every Thursday. The bulletin contains important dates and announcements.

PAC EXECUTIVE UPDATE

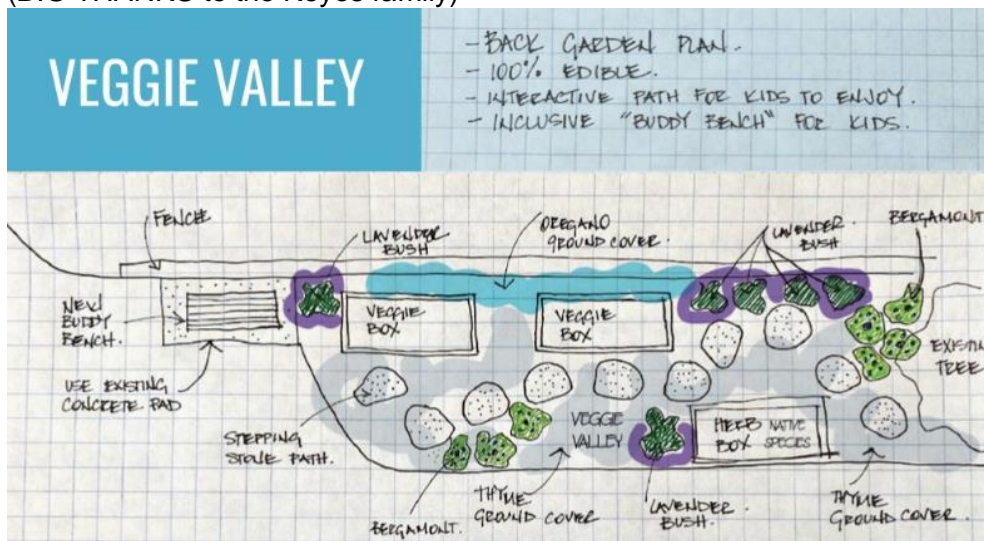
Project Greenthumb (N. Quilty)

Phase I of the project started in 2020. It included cleaning the site so that kids have a safe space to run and play. Results can be seen in the following before and after photos.



Phase II

- Veggie Valley – Planters were installed in the back of the school for an all-edible garden. Planting & the installation of the donated pavers will complete the vision (BIG THANKS to the Keyes family)



- Earthbites – This partnership project with EarthBites will engage the Grade 2 and 3s in a Fall Harvest Project, where the students will have the opportunity to plan winter greens, herbs and garlic, as well as prepare the beds for winter.

- Plant Share – Pots are available for people to take home and bring any extra plants they may have in their yard that they may want to share. The plan is to have all the donated items plant on October 5th. Volunteers are needed to help after school drop-off.

PLANT SHARE

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE PLANTS THAT YOU COULD SHARE?

We're looking for hardy, shade loving plants to add to the front gardens.

FERNS - DEER & SWORD FERNS ADD GREENERY ALL YEAR LONG

HOSTAS - SHADE-LOVING PERENNIAL WITH BEAUTIFUL FOLIAGE

JAPANESE FOREST GRASS - ORNAMENTAL GRASS THAT THRIVES IN SHADY CONDITIONS

BLUEBELLIES - SPRING BLOOMING WITH BLUE-VIOLET BLOOMS

HEATHER - TINY, PURPLE OR WHITE, WINTER FLOWERS

LAVENDER - EDIBLE, FRAGRANT, WITH SMALL PURPLE FLOWERS

- Maintenance – The committee is in constant need of volunteers that would be willing to help with some gardening, weeding. The school will circulate a Fall Gardening sign-up Sheet. Please support our efforts to have a pleasant, safe place for our children.

Treasurer's Update (K. Millius obo D. McKenzie)

Latest update on our bank account balances:

- Regular Community Account - \$13,682
 - Savings Account (gaming account) - \$6,917
 - Trust Account – \$4,991
- Total: \$25,590**

There is \$2,000 outstanding in invoices for the garden project. These should go through in the coming month.

Fundraising Committee Update (E. Baldwin)

- **VIP Parking stall** – Every year there are 2 parking stalls available to be reserved to two families that make the highest bid. These are the best spots for drop-off and pick-up at the front of the school. The name of the families that win are displayed on each spot for the duration of the semester (fundraising takes place twice a year). Anybody interested please email your bid to the PAC email address info.paccpp@gmail.com. Last day to submit your bid is September 22. The PAC has already received a bid for \$250.
- **Autumn Fair and Book Drive** – This community and fundraising event will take place on Friday, October 14th, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. The committee is setting up games for the kids, photobooths for the families and more. Two main objectives of the event: a) Get families back together, welcome our kindergarten families to the school, b) Raise funds for books for the school. The committee will get a wish list of

books from Mrs. Bell. Families will be invited to donate cash, or to put their names next to the book they want to buy for the school.

- **Parents night out** – Saturday Nov 19 at Isetta Cafe on Marine Drive at 7 pm. Please reserve the date. More details to come.

R. Baggio, last year's co-chair, took the opportunity to thank the Baldwin family for sponsoring last year's farewell event. For those of you that participated of it, you would remember all the fun, games and goodies. Most -if not all- of the cost of the event was donated by the Baldwin family. BIG THANK YOU from the school community.

After-School Program Update (K. Millius obo E. LeBlanc)

Elizabeth LeBlanc, PAC Member, has been working on sourcing activities for the kids.

This term the PAC has partnered with the Lights Up Theatre to run the program on Thursdays from 2:30 to 4:45 pm. There is a max. of 20 spots available. Registration cut-off is Sep 23rd. Classes start Sep 29th to Nov 24. Cost is 345\$ plus GST for the 9 sessions. Brochure went home in kids backpacks.

If successful, the plan is for the PAC to have more of these after-school programs in the future. The PAC is discussing potentially offering Lego for Term 2 and Sportball for Term 3. A second day a week might also be considered, depending on availability.

Hot Lunch Program Update (K. Millius obo S. Elmamlouk)

We have 2 providers, Panago and Well Fed. The program will be offered for Mondays and Thursday starting the first week of October. The Munch-a-lunch portal is open for registration now. The PAC will try something new this year and will keep the system open throughout the term for parents to make changes to their orders (with at least 2 weeks advance notice).

This program is one of the key fundraising programs for the school, and also a great way to relieve some stress for the parents. The PAC is actively seeking additional providers; however, it needs to be within the approved list provided by the school district. It has also been challenging to find availability as the lunches have to be delivered to the school at very specific times (during school lunch break).

DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council) Update (K. Millius obo E. LeBlanc)

There hasn't been a DPAC meeting this school year yet. The first session was an opening presentation and ceremony. The first official meeting will take place on October 5th. The PAC will report back on the next PAC meeting.

Please note that all parents are welcome to join these DPAC meetings. Each school gets one vote, but everybody can join the meetings.

R. Baggio was able to participate of the opening presentation and shared how focus was around Open Parachute, a program offered by the School District. Mrs. Bell will be discussing this on upcoming meetings. Although this program is open to Grade 6-7, there are some parent resources that may be applicable to our primary school family.

Information on DPAC upcoming meetings can be found here:
<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/dpac/resources/>

Other Items

- N. Zamani, one of the parents attending the meeting, offered her company's services for free to the school. She mentioned she can provide some marble, fix vanities, etc. N. Quilty from the gardening committee will be in touch with Mrs. Zamani to see if she can provide support with bench installation and some concrete work. K. Millius thanked Mrs. Zamani for the offer, as it is a way to reduce the costs for the school and is a clear display of the community spirit at the school.
- Next PAC meeting will take place on October 11th at 10:30 am. Idea is to have the PAC meetings on the second Tuesdays of the month at 10:30 am.

Ajournement

A motion to adjourn was made at 12:43 pm seconded and passed.