



CYPRESS PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cypress Park Parent Advisory Council

PAC Meeting November 28, 2023

The meeting was called to order by PAC Chair N. Quilty at 9:16am.

N. Quilty gave the land acknowledgment.

IN ATTENDANCE

Principal S. Slater, Vice Principal C. Hulme, PAC Chair N. Quilty, Vice Chair C. Antoni-Wilkinson, Treasurer R. Vernon, Co-Secretary B. Perez-Cahill, Co-Secretary E. Baldwin, Member K. Millius, Member B. Campbell, DPAC Representative J. Calleja, Member L. Ghassemzadeh, Member A. Barrow, Member M. Bazrafshan, Member S. Hussein, District VP of Technology and Innovation C. Wilson

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

N. Quilty reviewed the meeting minutes from October 2023. The approval of the minutes from the October 2023 PAC meeting was motioned by N. Quilty and seconded by C. Antoni-Wilkinson. All members were in favour. The October 2023 PAC meeting minutes were approved.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The PAC has raised 37% (\$14,718) of their goal of \$43,000. The total cash balance is \$26,961. The fall raffle has raised \$8,160 so far.

PAC PURCHASES

Year to date the operating costs are \$39,290. Purchases already made for the 2023/2024 school year include:

October/November Purchases:

1. Kindergarten Table Purchase: -\$2,105.67 - Thanks again to the Antoni & Wan Family
2. Dundarave Festival of Lights Tree: -\$300 - Thanks to Calleja Family
3. Jess Dance: -\$1,750.00 - Thanks to the Baldwin & Holmes Families
4. Raffle Ticket Printing: -\$212.80
5. Fairmont Chateau Whistler Prize: -\$348
6. Bank Fees & Outdoor Classroom: -\$58.75
7. Teacher Gifts (\$2,645), Hot Lunches (\$8,506), Gift Cards (\$2,202)

September/October Purchases:

1. Literary Learning Resources (RAZ Kids, Reading Across Canada, Adrienne Gear - \$3,000) - Thanks to Hincks, Baggio, Quilty Families
2. Teaching Resources (Math tools, Storytelling puppets \$3,850) - Thanks to the Hincks, Gouneili, Diaz Barriga, Little and Campbell Families
3. Health & Safety, First-Aid (\$450)
4. Physical Literacy (\$627)
5. Management: Gaming License (\$25) & Stamps (\$19)
6. Experts in Residence - Jess Dance (\$1,750) & EarthBites (\$550) - Thanks to the Baldwin & Holmes Families
7. 2x Imagine Playstand (\$2,082) - Thanks to the Antoni Family
8. 4x Pop-up Soccer Nets (\$173)
9. 80x Brain Break Bean Bags (\$115)
10. 16x Mini Basketballs & Whistles (\$85)
11. 8x Every Child Matters Orange Shirts (\$201)
12. 8x Spirit Wear – Teachers Uniforms (\$342)
13. 10x iPads, Apple Care & cases (\$8,212) - Thanks to the Antoni, Baldwin, Jakovljevic, Quilty Families

Most purchases this year have been made through Funding Futures. Recent purchases include the indigenous puppets – an indigenous leader came to the school and used the puppets to help tell stories to the students. Students will continue to use these puppets throughout the year for projects.

UPDATES

Fundraising

The events listed below have raised the following amounts:

- Fall Fair: \$940 – cake walk & cider sales
- Gift Cards: \$377
- Holiday Wreaths: \$195
- Munchalunch: \$2,127
- Teachers Gifts: 91% to our goal. If you haven't already, please consider contributing \$40 per student. Thanks Josette for picking up the gift cards and arranging cards for the teachers.

Events

The Parent Social at the Orchard was a huge success! Thanks to Nikki for organizing and to everyone that attended.

R IS FOR RAFFLE

So far \$8,160 has been raised (52%). Ms. Flower won the early bird draw. The deadline for ticket return and payment is November 29th. The final draw will be on November 30th at the family movie night. There will be a special reward for the student that sold the most tickets. Please return your sold ticket books and e-transfer your full ticket amount (\$200) to info.paccpp@gmail.com. In the notes, please add your child's name, grade, tickets numbers & "Raffle".

MOVIE NIGHT

Family movie night is Thursday November 30th at 4:45pm. Students are encouraged to wear their pajamas, bring a stuffie, and a cozy blanket to sit on. Hot chocolate will be provided. You can order pizza and pasta on Munchalunch. Parents are asked to please sit with their children.

Thank you to - Bianca, Neda, Sylvia, Caitlin, Kristi & all the volunteers. Please let the PAC know if you would like to volunteer.

DUNDARAE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The grade 3 and kindergarten classes will be decorating a tree in Dundarave on December 1st. They will take the bus to Dundarave. The grade 3 class has put together a tree design.

However, they still need:

- 3 strands of red lights
- 1 strand of white lights
- 2 strands of white garland for the trim on Santa's suit
- 1 strand of black garland or black fabric for Santa's belt

CYPRESS PARK CHRISTMAS HAMPER

This is a new community outreach initiative this year. Cypress Park is supporting two families from Queen Mary School in North Vancouver. Kindergarten and grade 3 are in charge of Family 1, and grades 1 and 2 are in charge of Family 2. Here is the link to sign up:

<https://bit.ly/CP-hamper>

Please bring your items wrapped and labelled by December 14th. If all the sponsorship spots are filled, the families have also asked for extra gift cards to either Save-On Foods or Walmart.

VIP PARKING

The 2 VIP parking spots are available to bid on for Term 2 (January – March). Please send your bids to info.paccpp@gmail.com. The deadline to submit your bids is December 22nd. This is the last year that VIP parking spots will be available at Cypress Park.

BREWING SUCCESS & GIFT CARD SALE FUNDRAISERS

So far brewing success and fundscrip has raised \$377 for the school. Fundscrip is now available to purchase gift cards. With 300 retailers, you can find gift cards for everything including: groceries, gas, pharmacy, home improvement, department store, restaurants, clothing, movies & books, travel and more. All gift cards come from the retailers themselves. In addition, if you would like fit cards to: Isetta, Casa Mia Cucina or the Orchard, please let the PAC know as it received a 15% kick-back to the school. If you'd like to purchase, please e-transfer to info.paccpp@gmail.com with the retailer, card amount, card quantity, your child's name and grade and we will put in your order. Gift card delivery is usually approximately 5 business days.

Thank you to Jason, Nikki, Dan, Ran, Mahsa, Caitlin, Shery, Eva, Jenny, Nick & Kirsten for buying gift cards!

FUNDING FUTURES

Our mission is to raise \$20,000 for school resources and equipment, experts-in-residence programs, student-in-need fund, health education, social and cultural enrichment initiatives and

so much more. The new sponsored kindergarten tables just arrived and have been an excellent addition to the classroom.

Thank you to the Wan Family & Ellie, Antoni Family & Nicholas both for the generous sponsorship of 4 new kindergarten tables, Manhas Family & Jeevan, Dosen Family & Avery, for the new book series, ALL in Grade 1!

And thank you to Sonia and Jen for a very special Diwali celebration for the students this year. Diwali will be added as a category to the Funding Futures page for next year. If anyone has any other line items or wish list items they would like to see added please let the PAC know.

LUNAR NEW YEAR

2024 is the year of the Wood Dragon. The school will celebrate Lunar New Year on February 8th from 1:00pm-2:30pm. The event will be in the school gym. There will be 8 stations for students to enjoy: calligraphy, dragon and lion dance, a photo booth, food, music, arts and crafts, storytelling and toys. The PAC is looking for 14 volunteers to run the stations. In addition, if anyone has any traditional clothing or items that could be used in the celebration, please let the PAC know.

Thank you to - Roz, Ran & Christine.

EXPERTS IN RESIDENCE

- Health: Field hockey was on November 1st and 3rd. Students really enjoyed the program. Lacrosse and martial arts are upcoming. If students enjoy the martial arts session they can always sign up for the after school martial arts program in Term 2. In addition, the grade 3 class are going on a skating field trip on February 29th.
- Self-Expression/Dance: Jess Dance is coming to CPP the week of December 11th. The final performance will be held on December 15th at 2pm.
- Science: Marine Beaty Box (April 3-24) and the Whale Flipper Beaty Box (May)
- Nutrition: Earthbites Spring/Summer (Apr & June)

R. Baggio and Mrs. Anderson have launched a parents expert program. So far they have received 16 responses. In addition, parents have been to the school to talk to the students about forestry. They will continue to build the Cypress Park community experts directory and hopefully expand this program.

Thank you to Ms. Hulme & Roz for running these projects & Rebecca for running the finances.

GRADE 3 WEST BAY TRANSITION

Last year there was only one integration point between the Cypress Park and West Bay grade 3 students prior to grade 4. This year, parents and staff are trying to do something every term to make the transition to grade 4 at West Bay smoother for all students.

Term 1

- Pen pals with the Grade 3s at West Bay. Connected to “Who We Are,” can explore: How do you get to know someone? Students have really enjoyed this project.
- Willy Wonka Dress Rehearsal (Wed, Dec 6) – Cypress Park Grade 3’s are going to West Bay to watch the dress rehearsal.

- Connected with WB Class Rep (Francis) for casual meet-ups

Term 2

- Joint skating with all Gr 3's (Thurs, Feb 29)

Term 3

- A visit to West Bay

More to come...

- Playground visit or picnic at WB Grade 3 families after school
- CP Family Orientation with Scott in the WB library

Thank you to Christine, Scott, Roz & Alex for coordinating.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The following after school programs have been planned by the PAC:

Term 2: January 10 – March 13 2:30-3:30pm

- 1) Wednesdays: Martial Arts - Email joelgmma@gmail.com
- 2) Thursdays: Steamoji's Robotics – Email registration form to westvancouver@steamoji.com

Term 3:

- 1) Tuesdays: Yoga
- 2) Thursdays: Sportball

Thank you to Mahsa & Josette for organizing.

DPAC UPDATE – presented by J. Calleja

In the last meeting held on November 1st, the main highlight to note is a presentation by Deputy Superintendent Liz Hill on the Enhanced Framework for Student Learning for the year. Here are some the notable points of focus for the year:

- Career Development: Transitions into Kindergarten, Grade 7-8 transitions & into and out of Post secondary. The goal is to understand how to best facilitate and understand what children need as they transition and understand what they are doing when they leave our system. This will be facilitated through teacher sharing, collaboration, structured networking, partnerships with childcare and working with parents on post secondary plans.
- Intellectual Development: This is focused on strengthening numeracy competency, not just math, Moreso, interpreting info, applying mathematical understanding, problem solving, analyzing and coming up with solutions. This will be supported by further instructional development for teachers. Providing teachers with key resources and implementing an elementary math team of expertise.
- Human & Social Development: This is about creating a sense of belonging for each student and improving mental health. It's a focus on physical literacy and physical activity for sustained long-term health. Focus on co-regulation strategies. Implement a food program focusing on the physical, biological, and academic readiness of students.

- This Enhanced Framework for Learning is part of the broader “Strategic Plan for 2023-2027” which can be found at Strategic Plan 2023-2027 Released | West Vancouver Schools. Note: The initiatives for the above were derived from student and teacher opinions.
- Time was also spent on How to Navigate PAC Meetings with Confidence: Mastering Robert's Rules of Order: How to run effective meetings, host important discussions, move motions, accurate record keeping, and ensure respectful conduct. If we feel our PAC needs instruction, we can get some free help from a DPAC member.
- Increasing Social Awareness in kids: The district is sourcing a speaker to help parents with socialization skills, this is an initiative put on by the district's DE&I group.
- On November 1st, the district is launching of strategic plan for the next 4 years – much of the focus is on career development, intellectual development and human and social development.

Thank you to Josette for taking the time to attend and report on these meetings.

ADMIN UPDATE – presented by C. Hulme and S. Slater

- IB information night: there was a great turnout for IB info evening lead by Mrs. Anderson. There were lots of Cypress Park kindergarten families in attendance. It was great to have R. Vernon share her experience with IB and her perspective.
- Thank you to those families that attended the Remembrance Day assembly. There was lots of positive feedback about the students' presentations and artwork.
- Thank you for supporting Funding Futures. The library is now well stocked, the new modernized tables are great, and the puppets help anchor units of inquiry.
- The Dundarave tree will be a nice excursion and students are looking forward to it. Thank you to those parents that have volunteered to bring hot chocolate.
- The Diwali celebration was very exiting for the students – thank you Sonia and Jen.
- In this weeks e-bulletin, there will be additional information about the hampers, as well as the first edition of Cypress Park News. This is an 8 minute video that was written, created, produced and edited by the grade 3 class.
- Thanks to West Bay for hosting our grade 3's next week for the Willy Wonka production.
- Reminder that the dance performance will be next week on Friday the 15th in the gym.
- On December 18th Ms. Oancea is leading a singalong in the gym at 2:15pm.
- There is a new reporting policy for term reporting. A letter will be sent home explaining how to access my portal download learning updates. There will be 2 learning updates throughout the year: term 1 and term 2, then term 3 is a summary of the learning for the whole year. If a unit is blank, it is because it is covered in a different section. Areas of future growth and learning will be at the bottom.
- The proficiency scale will also be included in the report. The goal is for students to be in the proficient level. Emerging doesn't mean failing, just beginning to demonstrate proficient areas. Please make sure you can download the reporting on December 8th – if you need help Elisabeth can help reset your password. Kindergarten and new families will receive an email on how to access their portal.

K-3 TECHNOLOGY IN WV SCHOOLS – presented by the District VP of Technology and Innovation, Cari Wilson

Goals for the District:

- 1) Build digital citizenship:
 - o Students knowing that a password is private.

- Students knowing that online you don't tell people your name or address or age.
 - if you see something online that bothers you that you go straight to an adult and tell them.
 - Teaching them a foundation and ensuring that they are mindful of what they are doing online and what they are sharing.
 - Teachers talk about balance with the students – limiting time on device.
- 2) Build digital literacy:
- This means that by grades 4-5 students understand how to send a proper email, what the protocol is, that texting format is different than an email or a formal paragraph, how to put something in a file and different file types.
 - For grades K-3, this piece is very simple. It ensures that they can turn on an iPad, they can they use the camera, and they can swipe.
- 3) Creation vs consumption:
- Students use technology to create, such as the Grade 3 class creating the Cypress Park News.
 - When using to create, students are usually completely engaged. It also helps them build their literacy and citizenship skills.

There is an app called Book Creator that is used in the district. It allows students to create digital books. They can add pictures, videos, and recordings of their own voices. Students can make digital books that is a record of their learning throughout the year. Apps used in schools are vetted and approved by the district. Technology use is intended to be purposeful, measured and aligns with district goals. The focus in primary years is on iPads. This is a tool that students of this age group can use easily – they're intuitive and the apps are simple. Parents can also access and use the same apps at home. Raising kids in digital world not easy – teachers, school and parents need to work together with similar goals. Modelling for students – kids will do what they see adults doing. Its up to both parents and teachers to model the behaviour they want to see in the students. If they ask to go on sites, don't say yes or no, say lets talk about it – discuss how and why we use technology. It can be scary when kids use technology. The more we talk about it and teach around it the less likely they are to get into trouble.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, you can reach Cari Wilson at: cwilson@wvschools.ca

A big thank you to Cari Wilson for her presentation today.

Next PAC meeting: December 19th 7-8PM at N. Quilty's house.

End of meeting - 10:10am