



CYPRESS PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cypress Park Parent Advisory Council

PAC Meeting October 24, 2023

The meeting was called to order by PAC Chair N. Quilty at 7:01pm.

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 A. Lobashkov, Member K. Millius, Member B. Campbell, DPAC Representative J. Calleja, Member J. Perez, Member R. Baggio, Member L. Ghassemzadeh, Member M. Mohajerani, Member F. Farahani, Member G. Nazeri and 2 anonymous members.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

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

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The PAC has raised 15% of our \$43K goal. Funds raised to date are \$6,336.05 for this school year.

PAC PURCHASES

The PAC has spent \$21,481. PAC funds were used to make the following purchases:

1. Literary Learning Resources (RAZ Kids, Reading Across Canada, Adrienne Gear - \$3,000)
2. Teaching Resources (Math tools, Storytelling puppets \$3,850)
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)

2023 Previous PAC Purchases

1. 2x Imagine Playstand (\$2,082)
2. 4x Pop-up Soccer Nets (\$173)
3. 80x Brain Break Bean Bags (\$115)

4. 16x Mini Basketballs & Whistles (\$85)
5. 8x Every Child Matters Orange Shirts (\$201)
6. 8x Spirit Wear – Teachers Uniforms (\$342)
7. 10x iPads, Apple Care & cases (\$8,212)

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

R is for Raffle tickets are for sale right now. Each student was given 2 booklets. Each booklet contains 10 tickets. Tickets are priced at \$10/ticket. The PAC had to apply for a gaming license, so if tickets are lost, there is no replacement. Early bird draw is on November 9th. The final draw will be on November 30th. A special reward will go to the student that sells the most tickets – the student will get to choose their own reward from an amazing list of prizes.

This Friday is the **Fall Fair**. The PAC is looking for parent volunteers. The PAC needs parents to set up, monitor the bouncy castle, bring snacks and bring cakes. Cider will be sold across the street at 4339 Morgan Crescent. There is a link on the fall fair flyer to sign up to volunteer.

Funding Futures – the 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 program has already purchased 4 tables for the kindergarten class, and books. Thank you to those that have already donated.

Brewing Success - this is a new gift card fundraiser this year. The PAC has partnered with the following local businesses:

- Isetta: Across the Street
- Casa Mia Cucina: Across from WV Community Center
- The Orchard: Gleneagles Golf Course & Parent Social location
- Kick Back: Generously agreed to donate back 15% of all gift cards that we sell
- Please e-transfer to info.paccpp@gmail.com with the amount you'd like to purchase and which shop.
- Raised: \$242

If you buy a gift card through the PAC to one of these local businesses, you then e-transfer the cost of the gift card to the PAC. The PAC will give you the gift card, and the business will kick back part of the proceeds to the PAC fundraising initiative.

The next **Parents Social** will be on November 16th from 7-9PM. It will be at the Orchard. There is a babysitter volunteer – contact the PAC for more information if you are looking for a sitter. Reminder that the Orchard has agreed to donate 15% of gift card sales to the CPP PAC.

There will be a **Family Movie Night** on November 30th. Showing the Polar Express movie. Students can dress in their pajamas. Doors will open at 4:45PM. Parents are reminded to monitor and sit with their children during the event.

There will be a **Holiday Fundraiser**. A variety of festive indoor and outdoor arrangements, poinsettias and wreaths will be for sale. You can order between October 26th – November 13th. Pick up will be on November 28th from 2 - 4PM. The PAC receives \$5 - \$10 on each item purchased. Growing Smiles will provide the plants.

EXPERTS, AFTER SCHOOL & GARDEN

The following experts programs are planned for the remainder of the year:

- Earth bites: this was supposed to be this week; however, the instructor is in the hospital. The program will be postponed until a later date.
- Health: Field hockey will run on November 1st and November 3rd.
- Self-Expression/Dance: Jess Dance will be held the week of December 11th.
- Health: Class skating trip Grade 3 will go with the West Bay Grade 3 class on February 29th.
- Science: Marine Beatty Box will be in January.
- Science: Whale Flipper Beatty Box will be in April.
- Nutrition: Earth bites Spring/Summer will be in April and June.

If anyone has any ideas for next year, please email the PAC.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

This term Steamoji has been running on Thursdays. There has been lots of positive feedback from students and parents. The students have been using 3D pens and coding a car. The next session will include robotics.

For Term 2, Martial Arts has been confirmed to run on Wednesdays. The PAC is also looking at Lego Robotics; however, this program is only available on Fridays which is not preferred by parents. Another option would be to continue with Steamoji. Steamoji this term had 20 students registered. The feedback from the instructor is that 12 might be a more suitable number for next term.

In Term 3, the PAC is organizing Sportball and Yoga.

GARDEN COMMITTEE

A big thank you to the Garden Committee for cleaning up the pumpkins. Thank you to Sara for asking the gardener across the street to blow the leaves. The Committee is hoping to plant spring bulbs soon.

DPAC UPDATES

J. Calleja attended the 1st DPAC meeting. What is DPAC? DPAC is It acts as a voice for parents, a connector, provides parents with information about what is going on district wide. This session they covered how we run a PAC – how do we get volunteers or get parents connected.

There was much discussion on safety. As it relates to CPP, we should review our parking safety. All the parents that live East of the school are encouraged to park on Marine Drive. Parents shouldn't park across the street on Morgan Crescent as it leaves no room for service vehicles. The PAC discussed whether we could get a gate installed on Marine Drive so it was easier for those students that were dropped off on Marine Drive to access the school. This could encourage more parents to park and use the 15 parking spots on Marine. S. Slater and C. Hulme will look into whether or not we can install a gate there.

There is a secretary role open at DPAC. Let J. Calleja or the PAC know if you are interested.

All schools in the district are going to get \$10K to plant trees.

Community centres are asking for ideas on programs you want to see at the community centres.

ADMIN UPDATES

C. Hulme provided the VP Report. So far this term there has been:

- A very successful open house. It was nice to have students there leading their parents through their classrooms. Positive feedback from both parents and teachers.
- Parent teachers conferences had great attendance.
- The Grade 3 cross country team had 75% of the class join the program. Thank you to Ms. Boddez for running the program.
- Fire and earthquake drills went smoothly.
- Thank you for all the funding futures support in the last month – lots of new teachers resources were purchased. The staff feel supported by the parent community.
- Thank you to experts in residence program coordinator R. Baggio.

Some upcoming events include:

- Will have first universal snack program as part of the district feeding futures initiative. This is a ministry initiative for all schools in BC. C. Hulme is the coordinator for the West Vancouver District. There will be 6 parts of the program. For primary school ages, there will be a healthy snack delivered once per week until June. The first session is this week. Parents are asked to continue to supply a snack, until the teachers get a better sense of who is eating the snacks provided to ensure students don't go hungry. C. Hulme will assess to see if snacks from home are necessary; however, as it is still in pilot stages, back up snacks are encouraged. Whole Foods is the partner vendor for our district. C. Hulme will put the snack menu in the e-bulletin so parents can assess whether or not they might need to bring a back up snack on those days. All snacks are locally grown. The program is also funded by the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Looking forward to field hockey and dance programs.
- Skating field trip for Grade 3 – This will be with the West Bay grade 3 classes in hopes of building connections.
- On December 15th there will be a dance performance. Parents will be invited to watch.
- There is an IB parent info session with our IB Coordinator Mrs. Anderson on November 9th from 6-7PM. This is for parents only.
- Parents are invited to attend the Remembrance Day assembly on November 10th at 11am.

Digital technology

In WV Schools technology is used to enhance, support, and extend learning. Apps are approved by the district to ensure they are safe, privacy is maintained and they meet learning objectives. Teachers use technology in a limited way with timeframes and ensure that the use of technology in the classroom is purposeful.

Parents asked whether or not there was any teaching around ergonomics while using iPads. So far no, but it is something C. Hulme will look into. Also bear in mind that the students have such limited time on the devices.

iPads and technology are used in the classroom with a balanced approach. As students use technology, digital citizenship is taught. Technology as a tool needs to be taught early so they have a strong foundation as they become teenagers. We want kids to look at tech as a tool, not just a toy. Tech in the classroom does sometimes make it easier for teachers, but that benefits the students. In a busy class of 20 students, it can be challenging for teachers to access all students. Gives them the opportunity to connect to students 1 on 1.

In the older grades, teachers have the option to have district VP of digital citizenship come to the classroom and teach. There is also a West Van liaison officer that sometimes teaches the older grades about cyber bullying (grade 7).

Sexual Health

The goal is to give students practical information. Teachers want our spaces to be safe, welcoming and inclusive. There will be a sexual health educator coming to the school in February. There will be an online session for parents discussing what will be covered in the classroom before the student session. It will be age appropriate content to learn about body science. The educator will be speaking to different ages at different times. Parents can always opt out of the session provided they teach their children appropriate body science.

Schools aim to be inclusive of everyone's identities; however sexual orientation is probably not part of a primary school environment. Inclusivity and acceptance can be taught every day.

The sexual health session will be done at same time as West Bay so all kids have the same information,

The next PAC meeting is November 28th at 9:15am.

End of meeting – 8:20pm.