



CYPRESS PARK  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Cypress Park Parent Advisory Council

### PAC Meeting October 29, 2024

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

N. Quilty gave the land acknowledgment.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Chair N. Quilty, Vice Principal C. Hulme, Secretary E. Baldwin, Member B. Perez, Member L. Ghassemzadeh, Member B. Campbell, Vice Chair R. Yada, Member A. Babarika, Member H. Cave, Member S. Stojkovich, Member M. Mohajerani, Member A. Rahimi, Member V. Xu

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

N. Quilty reviewed the meeting minutes from September 2024. The approval of the minutes from the September 2024 PAC meeting was motioned by S. Stojkovich and seconded by B. Campbell. All members were in favour. The September 2024 PAC meeting minutes were approved.

#### **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

CURRENT YEAR: funds raised to date are \$8,257. This is 22% of our annual goal of \$37,000. This is up 10% from last month. Largest fundraisers this year include the gaming grant, fall fair, funding futures, munch a lunch and VIP parking.

#### **PAC PURCHASES**

Operating costs year to date are \$15,989. They include the following:

Experts in Residence: (\$1,134)

- Dynamo Fencing (\$630)
- Musical Science Performance (\$504)

Literacy: (\$644.31)

- Raz Kids (\$565.03)
- Adrienne Gear Resource (\$9.40)
- Library Book (\$47.49)
- Literacy word mats and spelling game (\$44.77)
- Fabric for imagination play stand (\$38.06)
- Orange shirt day art activity (\$34.09)

Teachers Wishlist: (\$391.17) District staff specialists recommend the items below:

- Play stand for K (\$118.66)
- K Explorations (\$166.78)
- Floor decals for physical literacy (\$33.58)
- Visual timer (\$21.83)
- Connect 4 board game (\$15.94)
- Velcro dots for carpet spots (\$15.78)

Sensory and Self-Regulation: (\$179.13)

- Under desk bike pedal exerciser (\$67.19)
- Noise Cancelling Headphones (\$89.56)
- Chair bands for self-regulation (\$23.51)
- Sensory toys (\$88.90)
- Pinwheels for breathing/self-regulation (\$13.43)
- Chair socks for noise for 24 chairs (\$65.47)
- Storage for library and sensory toys (\$95.12)

Events: (\$88.73)

- Lemonade (\$8.36)
- Cups for lemonade and hot chocolate (\$22.16)
- Fall Fair Rubber Ducks and Nets (\$58.21)

Furniture and Office: (\$24.63)

- Table for Gr 3 (\$695.34)
- Lamp (\$18.45)
- HDMI Cable for the projector (\$24.63)
- DVD player for movie night (\$22.95)

September: (\$6,456.01)

- Classroom Supplies (\$3,000)
- Auxiliary Learning Supports (\$850)
- Cheque for Vice Principal Spends (\$500)
- Adrienne Gear Books (\$666.75)
- Library Books (\$483.47)
- Teacher's Wish List (\$154.50)
- 4 Stools for Grade 2 (\$267.86)
- Larger soccer nets for outdoor play (\$62.71)
- Basketballs (for PE and outside) (\$223.91)
- First Aid supplies (\$362.67)
- Baskets for library books (\$66.52)
- 5 min Sand Timer (\$26.00)
- Welcome Back Coffee Morning (\$17.29)
- Staff Spirit Wear (\$404.86)

## **FIELD TRIPS VS EXPERTS-IN-RESIDENCE**

Reasons why we are leaning towards experts in residence programs:

#### Traditional Field Trips:

1. Parents asked to individually opt-in and pay out of pocket
2. Some students aren't allowed to go – consent forms etc.
3. It's usually only 1 class that gets to participate
4. It's on a single day
5. Transportation is surprisingly expensive – \$1,000 to rent a school bus for a return trip. Even if we could fit the whole school on a single bus (which is not possible 50-70 seats), at 3 excursions this year so far between and 4 classes that would have added an extra \$3,000 to our costs.

#### Experts-In-Residence:

1. PAC funded
2. All students are able to participate
3. We bring the experience to the students and all classes get to participate.
4. Our experts are also often brought in for multiple days so that our students get the most out of their new skills and experience.
5. By bringing the experts to us, we also save on transportation costs and the time of travel.

Thanks to your generous sponsorships through Funding Futures, this year alone, we've already brought in Andy the Musical Scientist (thanks Bosa family) and Dynamo Fencing (thanks Yada family). Next month, we're excited to bring in Young Actors for 3 session and a French language cooking course by Les Petits Chefs.

These 3 excursions would have tripled our budget alone; therefore, we saved on travel costs and other costs. Teachers will still plan field trips connected to their unit of inquiry. Parents keep asking why there have not yet been any traditional field trips. Can we use parent drivers to keep costs down? Parents need to fill out paperwork and need a minimum coverage for insurance purposes. Is this new this year? We have always done field trips. The difference is whether it is parent paid or funded by the PAC. The teachers are also asking for parent experts to come into the classroom to talk about their field of expertise.

#### Booked:

1. Music/Science: Andy the Musical Science Guy (Oct 11)
  2. Health: 2x Fencing (Oct 24 and Nov 1)
  3. Theatre/Performing Arts: Young Actors Project (Nov)
  4. Language: Les Petits Chefs – French Cooking Course (Fall)
  5. Health: Field hockey (x2 in Dec)
  6. Science: Forest Beaty Box (Jan)
  7. Science: NEW Ancient Fossils Beaty Box (Apr)
  8. Nutrition: Earthbites (x3 in Spring)
  9. Science: Stream of Dreams (May 19 and 20)
- Partially funded. \$20 will be paid through SCO by parents.

#### Pending:

10. Health: Class skating trips (TBC - pending rental)
11. Health: 2x Lacrosse (TBC)
12. Science: High Tech and High Touch (TBC)
13. Health: Martial Arts (TBC)

## **FUNDING FUTURES**

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM - \$1,135

Our mission: 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.

Items raised so far this year:

- Experts in Residence: Music (\$200 – Thanks to the Bosa family)
- Teachers Wishlist and Books: Montessori Reading Learning Resources, Dragon Masters Series, Dog Man Books and Goodbye Autumn Hello Winter (\$160 – Thanks to the Manhas and Bosa families)
- Social and Cultural: Dundarave Tree of Miracles, Diwali, Grade 3 Party (\$875 – Thanks to the Sichani, Cheng, Mitchell, Manhas, LeBlanc and Jakovljevic families)

## **AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

TERM 2 (January - March)

### 1) LIGHTS UP MUSICAL THEATRE

- Tuesdays
- They have run sessions at the school before. This time, they will run longer programs. Registration will be sent out next week. One of the only after school programs where they have a performance at the end.
- Singing, Acting and Dancing
- \$365 (2.25HR Program, 9 sessions)

### 2) DYNAMO FENCING

- Thursdays
- This is the same group that came in as experts in residence.
- Fencing specific skills and strategies, and focus on balance, flexibility, and coordination.
- \$250 (40MIN Program, 10 sessions)
- Parents should call or go by their program to get fitted for the mask.

FUTURE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

TERM 3 options include Steamoji or Multi Sport.

Thank you to B. Campbell for organizing.

## **FALL FAIR**

- We had 43+ volunteers that setup, brought snacks, decorated, baked and brought cakes, wine, books, helped sell tickets, take down, clean up and more.
- The kids had so much fun, and we raised \$1,310 for student resources and programs.
- Thanks again and great work everyone for hustling to make the Fall Fair happen a day early, so that our students could enjoy some fun in the sunshine.

## **R IS FOR RAFFLE**

Winter fundraiser tickets coming home today. Each student will be given 2 booklets of raffle tickets to sell (\$10/ticket), and \$200 worth of tickets total (for both booklets). All booklets are numbered. Please do not lose these booklets. Because we had to get a gaming license, once

these tickets are gone, that money is gone. If you can't sell them then give them back and we will re-shuffle them to other families that can sell them.

- EARLY BIRD DRAW: Fri, Nov 15 – so sell and get your tickets in early for a chance to win.
- FINAL DRAW and MOVIE NIGHT: Join us for the LIVE Draw and Family Movie Night on Wednesday, November 27
- REWARDS: Special rewards for the TOP 3 STUDENTS with most tickets sold – YOUR CHOICE of any Non-Grand Prize.

More or Less Tickets? There are a specific number of tickets printed, and each booklet has a real value of \$100 for our school, so please don't lose them – we can't print any more and once they're lost, that money is gone. Families can contact their Class Reps or [info.paccpp@gmail.com](mailto:info.paccpp@gmail.com) and we will be happy to shuffle raffle books between families who wish to have more or less books to sell.

Return your Ticket Stubs and eTransfer Funds: Please return ticket stubs to your class rep or Natalie Quilty and etransfer the full amount (eg. \$200) to [info.paccpp@gmail.com](mailto:info.paccpp@gmail.com) with your "ticket # range, child's name and grade" in the description. Have fun selling.

### **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT - Inside Out 2**

Join us for the live R is for Raffle draw at Family Movie Night.

- DATE: Wed, Nov 27 (Doors open at 4:45PM)
- MOVIE: Inside Out 2
- LOCATION: Cypress Park School Gym
- DETAILS: PJ's, Blankets, Stuffedies, Hot Chocolate, Treats and More. Looking for Volunteers.
- PIZZA: Hoping to have pizza available to order through Munchalunch by Fresh Bay Pizza
- NOTE: Parents, please sit with your children

### **DUNDARAVE TREE - Festival of Lights**

- WHAT: The Kindergarteners and Grade 2s are decorating a tree in Dundarave. Thanks to all the sponsors.
- WHEN: Friday 29th
- HOW: Public transit to Dundarave

### **WINTER CONCERT - Music and Photos with Santa**

Help support our school and get your photos with Santa at the same time.

- WHEN: Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2-2:30pm (concert is free)
- WHAT: Winter Concert and Santa Claus
- COST: \$20/student includes a ticket to meet Santa, photo opportunity, digital prints and a keepsake gift.

After the concert, students will go back to their class to get dismissed. Set up will happen for the photos, then photos will happen after dismissal. So no ticket needed for concert, just photos. There can be sign up for timeslots starting at 2:40pm. Advanced tickets get a timeslot, if you buy the day of you will have to wait in line.

## **TEACHER'S GIFTS**

Send your e-transfers today. We ask that each student e-transfer \$40 to info.paccpp@gmail.com to make these gifts possible. In the description add "Teacher's Gift, Your Child's Name, Your Child's Grade". Please send before October 15th. 59% raised (47 students) so far.

## **GARDEN COMMITTEE**

A big thank you to K. Boyd and the garden committee for pruning, weeding and keeping our gardens looking tidy.

## **DPAC UPDATE**

- Resources coming soon on the DPAC website for PAC events (e.g. carnival games, lunar NY, etc.).
- The Foundry have said they will do 10 min presentations at PAC meetings.
- Their mission is to support young people in living a good life. Offer help around Mental Wellness, Substance Abuse, Life, School, Work and Tough Topics.
- Cypress Park has applied for a \$300 district School Travel Mini Grant.
- If granted, will go towards obtaining and installing "See Me" Flags at the crosswalk on Marine Dr and Morgan Cr.
- Kids can take a reflective flag from a holder on the crossing post and wave it when crossing the street, returning it to the holder on the other side.
- This helps our students in crossing the street safely and is an extra safety measure at a busy street.

## **WHAT IS DPAC**

DPAC is an advisory body of parent volunteers who promote parental views to the WV board of education. Acts as a "connector" to parents and PAC to understand what's going on at the broader district level and helps build the learning environment we want for our children. A big thank you to N. Hincks for taking the time to attend and report on these meetings.

## **ADMIN UPDATE**

We had a successful parent information evening in the gym. S. Slater gave an opening and M. Espenhain gave an intro about IB. Invited parents into their children's classrooms, where they got to meet the teachers and see the classrooms.

There were parent teacher conferences last week. West Bay was at the same time. Admin is open to having feedback on the scheduling as all the calendar planning happens in May. Parents noted that they would prefer to have the 2 schools half days on the same days.

The grade 3 cross country team had a race at Ambleside.

The school hosted an ELL welcome tea for new and returning students.

The students had a practice fire drill in their classrooms.

Feeding Futures program has included fruit in the grab and go basket. If any families are facing food insecurity there is a grocery gift card available. Just email [feedingfutures@wvschools.ca](mailto:feedingfutures@wvschools.ca). This is an anonymous email address.

Thank you to N. Quilty for highlighting the experts-in-residence programs and funding futures – teachers feel very supported here at CPP. Young Actors are coming for 3 sessions which is nice to be able to build on the skills students learn in each session. The second fencing session is this Friday.

The Halloween parade will take place this Thursday. Students will go to their regular entrance, hang up bags, do attendance. At about 5 minutes after the bell, the parade will begin in their costumes. If a costume has a mask, they can wear it for the parade and then put it in their backpack after the parade.

November 8<sup>th</sup> is the Remembrance Day assembly. Parents are invited to join. Doors open 10:45am. Grade 3s will lead the assembly.

Cypress Park is lucky to have two parents coming to teach the students about Diwali. They will be providing decorations and treats. Diwali starts this Friday; however, CPP will start their celebration on Wednesday. Thank you to Jen and Sonia.

If any parents would like to lead the Hannukah celebration at the school, please let C. Hulme or the PAC know.

Meeting ended: 10:08am