



CYPRESS PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cypress Park Parent Advisory Council

PAC Meeting September 24, 2024

The meeting was called to order by PAC Chair N. Quilty 5:35pm.

N. Quilty gave the land acknowledgment.

IN ATTENDANCE

Vice Principal C. Hulme, PAC Chair N. Quilty, Treasurer R. Vernon, Secretary E. Baldwin, Member K. Boyd, Member J. Cave, Member R. Cheng, Member H. Cave, Member B. Perez, Member N. Jafari, Member D. Howard, Member S. Manhas, Member S. Stojkovich, Member M. Dosen, Member N. Hincks, Member M. Salehi, Member L. Ghassemzadeh, Member A. Shahi, Member S. Rezaei, Member M. Maleksabet, Member A. Babarika, Member A. Zadeh.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

N. Quilty reviewed the meeting minutes from June 2024. The approval of the minutes from the June 2024 PAC meeting was motioned by N. Hincks and seconded by B. Perez. All members were in favour. The June 2024 PAC meeting minutes were approved.

MEET THE TEAM

PAC EXECUTIVE TEAM:

- PAC Chair: N. Quilty
- Vice Chair: R. Yada
- Treasurer: R. Vernon
- Co-Treasurer: M. Sichani
- Communications: E. Baldwin
- DPAC Representative: N. Hincks

All parents are members of the PAC.

PROGRAM COORDINATORS:

- Experts-in-Residence: R. Baggio
- After School: B. Campbell
- Hot Lunch: M. Mohajerani
- Garden Committee: K. Boyd
- Lunar New Year: R. Cheng
- Social Media: D. Howard

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES:

- Kindergarten: E. Baldwin and S. Stojkovich

- Grade 1: D. Howard and N. Jafari
- Grade 2: R. Cheng and N. Rekabdar
- Grade 3: G. Nazeri and M. Barriga

TOP 10 PAC INITIATIVES

1. Conduit for Communication with the School
2. Funding Experts in Residences Program
3. Community and Cultural Events
4. Amplification of Classroom Supplies
5. Organizing Hot Lunch and Spirit Wear
6. Events, Raffles and Fundraisers
7. Teacher Appreciation Lunch and Gifts
8. Community Partnership and Socials
9. Outdoor Classroom and Garden Maintenance
10. After School Programs such as Artmania, Saplings, Steamoji, Multi-Sport, Martial Arts and more!

BUDGET OVERVIEW

LAST YEAR REVIEW: Last year the PAC raised \$47K, which was 110% of its goal of \$43K. PAC purchases (operating costs) were \$79K. Note that operating costs include hot lunch expenses (approximately half of the operating costs). We are starting the 20204/2025 school year in a strong financial position.

CURRENT YEAR: funds raised to date are \$3,600. This is 10% of our annual goal of \$37,000. Funding futures, raffle and summer BBQ are the strongest fundraisers. N. Quilty noted that the gaming grant application has been submitted.

Why are we asking parents to donate money to public school? R. Vernon explained that 80% of the Ministry of Education's budget goes towards staff salaries and wages, HVAC and other basic items. Therefore, there is not a lot left in the budget for other operating expenses. That is why the PAC fundraises each year – to pay for consumable expenses (such as classroom supplies), and other items such as experts in residence. If anyone has any questions about the budget, please feel free to contact the treasurer, R. Vernon. The PAC would like to be as transparent as possible. She also noted that there is typically \$35K left in the bank accounts at the end of the year as a buffer for the following year.

There are 3 PAC bank accounts:

- 1) **Gaming Account:** The PAC can apply for the gaming grant which is a lump sum of \$2K. These funds must be deposited into the gaming account. There are limitations on what we can spend the gaming funds on. The raffle proceeds are also in the gaming account as we need a licence from the gaming ministry to sell raffle tickets. Raffle proceeds are also deposited into the gaming account.
- 2) **Community Account:** If you pay through Square, the funds go directly into the community account, and we can use for this cash for any type of purchase.
- 3) **Trust Account:** School Cash Online donations are deposited into the trust account. Parents that donate through School Cash Online will receive a tax receipt.

PAC PURCHASES

Operating costs year to date are \$6,526.87. They include the following:

1. Adrienne Gear Books (\$666.75) – book package with lesson plans for teachers
2. Library Books (\$483.47)
3. Teacher's Wishlist - Wooden Animal Blocks, Pump for water table, wooden blue water and green hills (\$154.50)
4. 4 Stools for Grade 2 (\$267.86)
5. Larger soccer nets for outdoor play (\$62.71)
6. Basketballs (for PE and outside) (\$223.91)
7. First Aid supplies: ice packs, bandages of all sizes, alcohol wipes, cotton swabs (\$362.67)
8. Baskets for library books (\$66.52)
9. 5 min Sand Timer (\$26.00)
10. Welcome Back Coffee Morning (\$17.29)
11. Sand for sandboxes

As there are new staff this year, the staff spirit wear budget needs to be increased by \$304.86. The PAC voted on whether to approve the budget increase. N. Quilty made a motion to increase the budget. All parents were in favour, and none were opposed. The motion to increase the budget for staff spirit wear purchases to \$404.86 was approved.

FUNDING FUTURES

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 from last years funding futures include:

- Furniture: Tables for K, Gr 1 and Gr 3, Stools and Baskets (\$6,550)
- Experts: Beaty Boxes and Science, Dance and Music, Field Hockey and Fencing (\$1,880)
- Creative: Imagine: Light Table, Watercolor Paper and Yarn (\$2,465)
- Reading: Adrienne Greer, National Geographic and series (\$2,040)
- Community: Lemonade, Hot Chocolate, Movie and Ice Cream (\$255)
- Cultural: Nowruz and Lunar New Year (\$300)
- Teacher's Wish List: Reading Tools, Classroom Supplies (\$495)

The highlight of the week is the book barn (book library) to be built in the forest near the fairy doors. To purchase a book barn costs \$1K. N. Quilty asked parents if anyone would like to build it. Member A. Zadeh noted he might be able to build it. Member M. Dosen noted she could organize some parents to build it.

The PAC discussed whether the posted cost on funding futures was the actual cost, or whether it included extra funds for other items. N. Quilty demonstrated that the funding futures posted cost was the true cost of just the sponsored item.

Member D. Howard noted that she is working on a "how to" voice over video for navigating the funding futures site. It will be made available to parents soon.

N. Quilty walked through the experts in residence programs that happen during school hours. She explained that the sponsorship approach allows parents to put their money towards the programs they are interested in – almost like a voting system. A member asked what happens if a parent sponsors one portion of an item in the funding futures list, but the whole cost of the item doesn't get sponsored? N. Quilty explained that the PAC tries to accommodate the program by using funds from other sources such as raffles proceeds to pay for the remainder of the cost.

Parents are reminded every week in the ebulletin about funding futures. Programs sponsored are for all grades. This year, the Young Actors project will be coming to the school. There will be a musical performance lead by Andy the Musical Scientist.

Spirit Wear is also available for purchase. It takes the vendor 5-6 weeks to deliver. The PAC purchased spirit wear at the end of the last school year, and some of it is still available for purchase. Otherwise, new orders will take a few weeks to be delivered.

EXPERTS IN RESIDENCE

BOOKED

1. Music/Science: Andy the Musical Scientist (Oct 11)
2. Theatre/Performing Arts: Young Actors Project (Nov)
3. Language: Les Petits Chefs – French Cooking Course (Fall)
4. Health: Field hockey (x2 in Dec) Need 2 sessions to teach the game and then allow them to play
5. Science: Forest Beaty Box (Jan)
6. Science: NEW Ancient Fossils Beaty Box (Apr)
7. Nutrition: Earthbites (x3 in Spring)
8. Science: Stream of Dreams (May 19 and 20)
Partially funded. \$20 will be paid through SCO by parents. Fish on fences. Ask for everyone to pay \$20 on SCO. They will come June 19 and 20.

PENDING

9. Health: Class skating trips (TBC - pending rental) WV recreation centre doesn't currently have enough staff to facilitate a field trip.
10. Health: 2x Fencing and 2x Lacrosse (TBC)
11. Science: High Tech and High Touch (TBC)
12. Health: Martial Arts (TBC)

Thank you to Ms. Hulme and R. Baggio for organizing.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

ARTMANIA – Tuesdays (Full 12 Students)

- Details: Nature Art and Emily Carr,
- Cost: \$270 (1HR Program, 10 sessions)

SAPLINGS – Thursday (6 Students) Can still register

- Details: Saplings Outdoor Program
- Cost: \$470 (2HR Program, 13 sessions)

FUTURE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- TERM 2 Tuesdays: Lights Up (Confirmed!)
- TERM 2 Wednesdays or Thursdays: Fencing, Martial Arts or Artmania
- TERM 3: Steamoji's? (Tues), Multi-Sport (Wed)

Thank you to B. Campbell for organizing.

WELCOME BACK PICNIC

Wednesday, September 25th, 2:00PM.

Please join us for a fun community gathering – bring your blanket and meet other parents while the kids play. Looking for volunteers, please let your class rep know if you're interested.

Please bring picnic Snacks to Share: eg. fruit, crackers and cheese, granola bars, popsicles. The children will use the gym for warmup, and the picnic will be held in the undercover area after the run.

FALL FAIR

Friday October 18th. This event is free to everyone, and activities include:

- Apple and Cider Tasting, Popcorn and Snacks
- Carnival Games, Fall Photo Booth and more!
- Target Goal: \$1000
- Duck Fishing: Nets (1) Cakes, (2) Apples, (3) Used books, (4) Pokemon Cards
- Bake Sale: Everything is \$10
- Bunnies and Chicks: \$350 student project – negotiate?
- Pumpkin Patch: Connections anyone?
- Wine Wall: Do we have 20-30 bottles that we could donate from around the house?
- Ciders and Beers: \$10 for 2

The PAC is looking for parent volunteers. Discussed the different games that could be offered. Determined the fishing pond game would be the best option, as well as a wine wall or raffle. S. Stojkovich offered to ask IGA for pumpkin donations. There will also be a free photo booth.

R IS FOR RAFFLE

We need donation for prizes in the next 2 weeks (by October 15th). Prizes need to be included in the application for the gaming license. N. Quilty walked everyone through the raffle flyer that will be handed out. Each family will receive 2 booklets to sell valued at \$200. If you are unable to sell your tickets, please return them to the PAC so they can be redistributed to another family to sell. The top 3 students that sell the most tickets will receive prizes.

- Launch Date: Thurs, Oct 17, Early Bird: Thurs, Nov 7
- Final Draw: Same night as Movie Night - Wed, Nov 27
- Target Goal: \$12,000

DONATIONS SO FAR...

1. Little Kitchen Academy: Kitchen Academy Course
2. Fresh Bay Pizza: 8 Medium Pizzas
3. Artin Stone Co: Marble Cheese Platter
4. YVR Dogventures: Dog Walking Services
5. *Laserdome: Laser Tag Sessions

6. *Frankies: Balloon Garland and Party Package
7. *Kids Books: Edgemont Gift Card
8. *Steamoji's: 3 Lite Memberships
9. *North Shore Bike Park: 5 Ride Passes (Any Age)
10. *Park Royal: \$100 Gift Card
11. *Bella Ceramica: Painting Party for 10

TEACHERS GIFTS

Send your e-transfers today. So far, 11% raised (\$360 total). 9/80 students have contributed.

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.

HOT LUNCHES

66 hot lunch orders made so far. \$50 total per hot lunch day. \$1,860 funds raised. A big Thank you to M. Mohajerani for organizing.

VIP PARKING

\$1000 raised so far. Thank you to the Miller and Hincks families as well as the rest of the bidders for their generous donations and bids. Reminder: please do not park in these 2 VIP parking spots with the yellow and teal hearts. This is a great fundraiser for our school, and we want these generous families to get good use of their donation.

SPIRIT WEAR FRIDAYS

Order deadline is Sunday, September 29th. Order your Cypress Park Spirit Wear Today. T-shirts, pullover and zip-up hoodies are available in both Navy and Grey. 25 pieces ordered. \$329 raised so far.

PARENT NIGHT SOCIAL

Anyone interested in leading this initiative? Thanks N. Hincks for organizing last year.

GARDEN COMMITTEE

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

District does not cut or weed grass. The district gardener takes care of all schools in West Vancouver. However, she was on sick leave last summer. So mostly the safety concern areas are addressed, and the rest is left to parents to garden. One parent asked about the rotting stairs near the tennis courts. N. Quilty noted that this is not within the CPP boundary and encouraged parents to write the City of West Vancouver to get the stairs replaced.

THANK YOU

To all our volunteers.

ADMIN UPDATE

C. Hulme presented the Vice Principals report.

2024/2025 school year enrolment is 73 students. There are still a few openings in some grades. There are several new staff members at Cypress Park this year:

- 1) Ms. James – the grade 3 teacher
- 2) There are 2 EA's that help in all classes – Ms. Gelinis and Ms. Jeung
- 3) There is a new counsellor that will be at Cypress Park on Wednesdays Ms. Ashley
- 4) The ELL teacher – Ms. Chan, will be at Cypress Park on Tuesdays

There will be an ELL welcome tea at Cypress Park. The invite will go out to families soon.

There have been 2 cross country meets for the grade 3s. There will be one more next Tuesday. Ms. James has been running cross country this year.

The Terry Fox Run is tomorrow – grade 3s will be leading the school assembly. Students will start warming up at 1:45pm and then head to the field for the run at 2pm. Parents can wait on the field. The course will be the same loop as the fun run. Volunteers will be stationed around the field. Food tables will be ready in the foyer and can be set up in the undercover area while students are in the gym.

This Friday – wear orange shirts to recognize Truth and Reconciliation. There will be no school on Monday. Teachers will have lots of meaningful conversations with students about truth and reconciliation. In primary school, the conversations include Phyllis Webstad and her orange shirt. How we now wear it to remember that some children can't wear theirs.

Parent information night is this Thursday. S. Slater and C. Hulme will open with a 15-minute information session in the gym to review the 3-year FESL. Just parents are asked to attend this year. M. Espenhain, the IB coordinator will share information about what IB looks like. Then there will be two 15-minute blocks of times for parents to go to their students' classrooms (2 sessions for those parents that have more than 1 child at the school).

Feeding Futures: This program is a ministry directive with a 3-year funding stream. We are in year 2 of the program. The program gives money to all schools in the district to offer students healthy food snack options. The program follows the BC food guide. C. Hulme is the program coordinator for the district. This year there is a basket full of healthy snacks in the Cypress Park learning commons. The messaging to students is that if you are still hungry after the snack you have brought from home– come to the basket anytime. There is also a district fund for any families facing food insecurity. It is an anonymous program, and if you or someone you know is in need, please contact: feedingfutures@wvschools.ca

There will be a winter concert in December. There will also be a Remembrance Day assembly. More information will be available soon.