



PAC MEETING – JUNE 7, 2018

MINUTES

PRESENT: Nathalie, Jasmine, Michelle, Megan, Cintia, Kristina, Michele

5 parents in attendance (+ 2 drop-in voting parents)

ABSENT: Sara, Lyndsay, Maren, Arissa, Joanna, Deanna

I. Call to Order

1. Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.
2. Approval of May 4, 2018 minutes – first by Kristina, second by Michele.
3. Motion to amend the agenda (scheduled community safety speaker unable to attend – defer to a PAC meeting in the fall of 2018) and adopt the amended agenda to reflect this change – first by Sarah, second by Kristina.

II. EC Administration - Principal's Report

1. Acknowledgement of generosity of parents this year – tables around the room display STEM materials (keva blocks, math manipulatives, currency exchange, snap circuits, bloxels, little bits, to name a few) that have been purchased as a result of parent fundraising to support curriculum and extra-curricular clubs (such as robotics and tinker clubs). We also had a very generous family purchase the 15 chromebooks from the teachers' wishlist which ensures that all students will have access as needed.
2. Proud of Gr 7 Exhibition (our second at the school) – their theme was 'how we express ourselves' – evident that social justice is very important to this group. Within Exhibition, students must demonstrate math, art, and research and draw connections between those subjects and the theme.
3. 3-yr capstone project – our target was helping students become better at questioning. Emily, Renelle, Kristina, Michelle and Manu (gr 7) will be presenting the capstone project to two district leaders. Everyone welcome to attend – 1pm Wednesday, June 13 in the Library.
4. Grade 7 transition at Sentinel was last week.
5. Band registration open for Grade 6/7 students. 22 students registered so far. User-pay program. One 8:10am start practice/week, and one in-school practice session.
6. Successful track meet. Last year's PAC (and all district school PACs) committed to contributing \$2500 of our gaming grant toward the place for sports track upgrade. Field will ultimately be replaced with turf and four-lane track will be upgraded.
7. District school sports have just finished for the year (cross-country, volleyball, basketball, ultimate, track and field).
8. Quebec trip planning and organization underway. Details will be shared with parents next week (including costs). Students will be going during Carnaval. PJ will also be attending at the same time; two

events have been organized that will include students from both schools. Michelle will seek a parent volunteer to spearhead grant applications for the trip. PAC has budgeted \$5000 again this year toward the trip, to be divided equally among participants. Students also fundraise throughout the year (bingo, Christmas craft fair, etc).

9. Sports Day – all parents invited to the volunteer tea.
10. Staffing updates: we will have at least two new staff members joining us next year (we are adding one division, and we will have one maternity leave). Details will not be finalized until September.
11. Friday June 8 is 'cookies to conquer cancer' – bring your toonies. Beth Austin and her daughter will be doing the ride to conquer cancer.
12. The classroom gardener – we have had two generous family donations to pay for the programming component of a 14-month garden project (\$16,000) - these funds go in to a trust account and must be spent according to the directions of the donors. These donors in particular are very excited about a school garden project, and as such, we reached out to "the classroom gardener" who provides school curriculum around a garden project. They already work with VSB and Burnaby, and North Van is working to incorporate their program. It is a not-for-profit organization that provides the programming, curriculum, and teacher and student education component of a garden project – no infrastructure (building of beds, relocation of soil and materials, etc) is included. Because we didn't receive enough in targeted donations to cover the cost of infrastructure, the PAC created a doodle sign-up to have volunteers sign up for jobs to complete the infrastructure requirements. We had 6 people volunteer for some time/projects. More than 6 parents suggested directly to Michelle that some of the Soiree fundraising money be put towards the infrastructure costs as the garden project falls under the STEM umbrella.
 - a. One parent question – would student time spent on garden project take away specifically from time spent on math in the classroom? Concern about math readiness in the upper grades as students should be preparing for high school (math). Michelle's reply is that feedback from the high schools is that math readiness has not been an issue for our students; further, our teachers and students are committed to trans-disciplinary learning and that math will be integrated in to this project. See attached slide for teachers' views about the different disciplines involved in garden project and how it would impact students' learning. Second questions re: financials – what would our cost be after the 14-month period? PAC has a targeted 'beautification' fund that would cover the cost of additional soil and fertilizer as needed in future years.

III. **Treasurer's Report**

1. Sara unable to attend.
2. Nomination for Treasurer for next year – she will be up for election at the AGM in the fall.
3. Jasmine and Nathalie putting together annual report – to be presented in September.
4. Most line items are underspent relative to budget for this year. Fundraising targets were surpassed this year.

IV. **EC PAC Business**

1. Vote on infrastructure spending for potential gardening project (see www.theclassroomgardener.com)
 - a. Jasmine put forward a motion to spend \$14,000 to build the infrastructure necessary to support a school-wide, 14-month-long classroom garden program.
 - i. Those in favour: 12 + 2 (two parents voted in person at the beginning of the meeting)
 - ii. Those opposed: 0
 - iii. The yes vote has the majority and the motion carries that the PAC will spend \$14,000 on building the infrastructure for a classroom garden program.

2. Invitation for self-nominations for next year's PAC Executive; election will be at AGM in September. In particular, we need a District PAC rep for next year (DPAC meets once/month and liaison reports back to school monthly).
3. Welcome back tea – we need volunteers and Cintia will coordinate volunteers over the summer for this event. The event is on the first day of school.

V. **DPAC Report**

1. Joanna unable to attend.
2. DPAC and RCMP are providing funds for purchase of a second canoe for district primary students to use in indigenous learning with Bob Baker – teachers will book a date to access the program. The school district will provide life jackets.
3. Look for information regarding homestay students – places needed. About \$950 per month to host.

VI. **Traffic and Safety Report**

1. Report from traffic and safety rep – Deanna unable to attend.
2. Fall traffic and safety campaign – 'think of me' – start planning now.
3. Comment from parent: 'walk' light crossing Taylor Way is only 6 seconds – too short a time to cross safely. Details forwarded to Deanna.
4. Use summer to practice walk- or bike-to-school routes.
5. Guest speaker on community safety – defer due to scheduling issue with liaison officer.

VII. **Adjournment**

Motion by Ryan to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Erika. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm.

NOTE: All PAC meeting minutes are available on the EC Website. Quorum is 20 parent members. According to the constitutional change approved by the membership in previous years, if quorum is not obtained, the members present will constitute quorum and a binding vote will be held. Child-minding is not available at the meeting. *** The ECPAC recognizes that General Meetings are not the appropriate place to discuss school personnel, individual students or parents.***

NEXT GENERAL PAC MEETING:

SEPTEMBER, 2018 – DETAILS TO BE CONFIRMED