



## PAC MEETING –NOVEMBER 3, 2017

### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Jasmine, Nathalie, Cintia, Joanna, Lyndsay, Arissa, Megan, Kristina, Michelle  
7 parents in attendance

**ABSENT:** Sara, Maren

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#### **1. Call to Order, Approval of the Minutes and Adoption of the Agenda**

- The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.
- Approval of the Minutes from the September, 2017 PAC AGM. Motion to approve called by Jasmine; first by Eva, seconded by Cintia. Approved unanimously.
- Motion to adopt the Agenda for today's meeting by Jasmine. Approved by Cintia and seconded by Kelly. Approved unanimously.

#### **2. Principal's Report**

##### **FIAC (French Immersion Advisory Committee)**

Michelle attended a FIAC meeting – committee meets 3 times/yr – administrator and parent from all three French immersion sites plus district representatives – we are seeking a parent volunteer from EC. The role of FIAC is to consider the vision in process of FI – FI from a parent / student/ community context – where the district is going.

FI students represent 15% of all students in WV; EC has 271 students, which is an all-time high for our school. EC has 65 first-choice K applicants for next September (to date – registration is still open) for 33 spots.

Also from FIAC – one PJ PAC focus is on teacher recognition throughout the year – teacher retention issues in part because of affordability or lifestyle challenges, and with constant vacancies at all levels in education, showing appreciation to our teachers throughout the year is important.

Can WE Scare Hunger collected 1000+ containers of food for the Harvest Project. Students who brought food donations voted for their favourite decorated classroom door by placing their donation in that room's collection bin. There was a lot of excitement and competition around the doors.

Thanks to Ryan Charles and Rachel Lu who donated pumpkins and transportation for the EC pumpkin patch and to the many parents who also volunteered.

Triad conferences just completed – Michelle considering a survey monkey as this was our first time with this format. Some parent feedback is that the sessions were too rushed and that 15 minutes was not enough time.

Other parents thought there was sufficient time and that being able to see the interaction between student and teacher was helpful. Some parents also weren't sure of the premise and what could be shared or raised in front of the student. School is required to complete five reporting periods per year – EC does three written report cards and two interactive sessions. Teachers are always available throughout the year for individual meetings.

Family teams today – generally monthly, but this is the first of this school year. Family teams are cross-grade, multi-aged groups. Today they're playing board games (turn-taking, losing, fairness) – kids very excited.

Thank the PAC for the new projectors – now all of our classrooms have drop-down projectors – essential for just-in-time learning. We also now have the 22 collapsible tables for school events. These items were PAC expenditures.

Change at the district level: two new associate superintendents are in with a change in structure. Kim Martin (former Director of HR), Sean Nosek (former Director of Instruction and lead for FI).

All three grade 1-2 classes are over-capacity (each has 23 students whereas each should have 22). We have two years to meet the new class size and composition guidelines. We add a grade 7 class next year.

### **3. Treasurer's Report – Sara unable to attend – Treasurer's report to be delayed until December, 1, 2017**

### **4. DPAC Report:**

Sarah Ward executive function talk – there are youtube videos .

School website training on November 22.

Our district is a pilot for a project called Milo (a robot) – developed for children with delays in social interaction (anxiety, autism, etc). Kids are working with Milo and a learning support teacher. No students at EC. There are five Milo robots in the district.

A number of the schools are using the school's website or facebook page to update parents on fundraising or PAC expenditures – letting contributors know how their money was spent. Concerns around who would maintain a FB page.

### **5. EC PAC business:**

#### **1. Focus groups – two categories – 'PAC expenditures / wishlist' and 'things I'm wondering'**

All items from the focus groups today fell under the PAC expenditures / wishlist category:

- Speakers
  - Jessie Miller (social media)
  - Saleema Noon (every year; ikid, igirl, iguy)
  - Sharon Ward

- Earthquake preparedness for parents (what to do; how to manage anxiety around this)
  - Art supplies; art instruction / programs; fine arts
  - Mental health education (illness, resiliency)
  - Outdoor classroom or learning space
  - OWL
  - Gym – stage, viewing risers, increasing capacity (xmas concerts, special events), sound system
  - SOGI 123
  - More after school activities including younger kids
2. Quebec bursary committee – Lyndsay and Sara are our parent volunteers. Going forward, we will look to have a grade 7 parent or the parent of a student in grade 6 involved. We have identified a number of bursaries that may contribute to the parent portion of the Quebec trip (currently about \$2500 per student). This will not impact the PAC contribution to the Quebec trip expenditures.
3. December 1 there will be a grade 7 Christmas Craft Fair (3:30-6pm) – specifically to raise funds for Quebec trip. Fair will include crafts, baked and savoury goods, pictures with Santa, games. In January, grade 7s will be doing a movie night to further fundraise for Quebec. Some of this fundraising will be put toward the grade 7s' legacy piece.

#### 6. **Adjournment**

Motion by Eva to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Joanna. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 am.

**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:**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017 @ 9:00 A.M. IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY**