

École Cedardale  
PAC General Meeting - October 11, 2018

MINUTES

PRESENT: Michele, Cintia, Lyndsay, Naz, Kristina, Michelle  
+ 13 parents in attendance (Maren, Kelly, Sherry, Leanne, Azadeh,  
Sanaz, Kat, Corrine, Angela, Megan, Jasmine, Jamie, and Arissa)

REGRETS: Deanna

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**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 9:26am.

Approval of September 17, 2018 minutes - first by Jasmine, seconded by Azadeh.

Adoption of Agenda - first by Jasmine, seconded by Azadeh.

**2. EC Administration - Principal's Report**

There are a couple of decision items up for discussion. We've had a pumpkin patch for the past several years. Typically we have had small pumpkins which the kids are able to carry home. Over the last few years, we've had a parent sponsor the event. Unfortunately that parent is not able to sponsor the pumpkin patch this year and, as a result, the cost of the pumpkins would come out of the PAC funds (approximately \$600 to \$800 for 300 pumpkins). Additionally, the farmer can no longer supply the pumpkins at a reduced cost. Lyndsay's family has traditionally been in charge of transporting the pumpkins to the school from the farm. Michelle has approached the teachers about the pumpkin patch and they are lukewarm about the pumpkin patch; if the pumpkin patch is there, they will take the kids out to choose a pumpkin. Suggested we change gears and instead of a pumpkin patch, have a pumpkin carving contest where kids carve the pumpkin at home and bring them in for a contest.

Michelle did reach out to a contact at Walmart in North Vancouver and we do have the option to buy the pumpkins through them but they cannot store the pumpkins for us and logistics is still a problem - where do we store 300 pumpkins? It takes a tremendous amount of effort to get 300 pumpkins out on the field.

Megan raised a concern about having a field full of pumpkins with the threat of bears in the neighbourhood. Megan does not want pumpkins out on the field as she had a bear go through her yard two days ago.

Michelle suggested that we can take it back to the kids to discuss. The Me to We Club will be decorating the classroom doors again this year - they could incorporate a pumpkin decorating contest into their fundraiser.

Jasmine - suggested getting each division/class a supply of gourds instead of pumpkins or look at growing pumpkins in the garden next year for the school.

Teachers for the senior classes thought about doing a Master Chef challenge where kids had a cook off where they had to use pumpkin in the recipe.

Michelle thanked the PAC community for the garden. Thank you to Arissa for bringing the idea to the PAC Executive. The grade 1 and 2 classes are very focussed on a bug hotel; they like the idea of someplace for the bugs to live and for the pollinators to visit. Kids are very happy to have their hands in the soil.

Questions always arise from the parent community as to what happens on a Pro-D Day and Curriculum Day. There is one day in October which is a provincial professional development day; development for teachers across the province. Teachers choose what area they want to develop, i.e. literacy, art education at the art gallery, self regulation, Reggio, Montessori. The Curriculum Day was implemented by province. There was a revamp of the K-12 curriculum and a curriculum day is a way of giving teachers time to review the curriculum and work on curriculum.

Fresh Grade - most of the teachers have just been given their FreshGrade info. That will be going out to the students in the coming weeks. Megan - will everyone be using FreshGrade? Michelle - everyone will have FreshGrade, it is not optional.

IXL passwords went out this week. IXL is an online math platform that has been purchased by the district for math review at home but also reviews the concepts being taught in class. Really great practice for the kids. Teachers are sent the statistics of what is being done by the kids. Parents can also view their child's progress on IXL.

PIXAR event - staff are excited to be going. Thank you for the PAC for sponsoring that.

SFA's are starting next week. Provincial snapshot of where the kids are in reading, writing and math.

Cross Country just ended - had a great turnout. Kids performed well.

Basketball is about to start up.

Coding (grade 4-7), yoga (Fridays at 8:30am in the library, all grades welcome), choir (grades 3-7), debate club (grades 5,6 and 7), Me to We Club (grades 3-7).

Triad conferences (Parent - Teacher - Child conference) coming up on the 24th and 25th. Grade 1 and 2 is looking at a modified triad. Students prepare for the triad conferences in advance by goal setting, which should be done pre-meeting. Conferences run for 15 minutes each.

36-38 kids will be going to Quebec. Tickets are booked and everything is booked and ready to go. There are two grade 7 teachers going as well as two parent chaperones;

Ian Hodge will be the male chaperone, Michelle LaBounty also going as a chaperone. One family couldn't make it due to a financial barrier but another parent stepped up to make the donation to make sure that all the kids could go. They go in February during carnival.

Arissa - can the grade 6 start fundraising now? Michelle - they can start fundraising at any time, it's up to the parents to take that on.

This year's PAC budget for the Quebec trip is \$7,500.00; this amount was upped from the previous year of \$5,000.00 because the number of kids attending was higher this year. Parents have the option of spreading the payments out over several months through cash on line.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Michelle discussed the Treasurers' Report as Naz just received the financial reports and has not had the time to review them thoroughly.

Michelle - technically the budget was supposed to be closed in June but there were various cheques that came in over the summer.

PAC financials explanation - the PAC is not technically a not-for-profit but it is to be operated as though it were one. It should not be carrying a balance. PAC still has to pay PST. PAC operates as a household account would. There is a guesstimate as to what the income will be and what the expenditures will be. Every year the PAC has made more than they anticipated and has spent less than they expected to. Last year we had an unusual year in that there were a number of private families that came forward to cover some big ticket items. One family paid for all new Chrome Books and another family paid for the garden. This meant that those targeted funds weren't spent using PAC funds.

Several years ago, the decision was made to put the equivalent of one or two years operating budget into a GIC. Currently the operating yearly budget is approximately \$27,000.00.

Megan - was under the impression that Fun Lunch was funding the operating budget. Kristina - Fun Lunch has only funded the operating budget for the last 2 years.

Every year the treasurer applies for a gaming grant. This grant money must be spent on specific items - last year the grant went towards the "Place for Sport" (field at West Van Secondary) and towards a projector for the school. The year before, the gaming grant funds went to the sports court.

What has resulted, is that we currently have \$66,809.00 in the bank which can be spent immediately.

Megan - when we fundraised last year it was under STEAM does that mean part of that

money needs to go to STEAM. Are the funds targeted?

Jasmine - the Cheque Drive (aka Fall Fundraiser) had to be under a specific umbrella, ie. STEAM. Those were targeted funds.

Megan - concerned about if the money that is currently held, does it have to be targeted to what it was raised for?

Michelle - All those funny little accounts have been dealt with.

Kelly - Those funny little accounts happened because the parents would write a targeted cheque i.e. Kagemi or school beautification.

Michelle - The teachers are now brainstorming for a big ticket item, something with lasting value. First, out of this \$66,000.00 is this years' operating budget, and the other item to take into consideration is that several years ago the PAC made a decision to put \$1,000.00 aside, per year, to go towards equipment replacement, and this year the PAC voted on increasing this years' amount to \$2,500.00 towards tech. Need to dig historically to find out what amounts should be set aside from this \$66,000.00 amount before any decision is made as to how to spend the excess funds.

Michelle - wants to strike a committee which would include parents and teachers and which will report to the PAC. Planned Expenditure Committee - would discuss/ brainstorm as to how the funds can be spent.

Big ticket item suggestions have been - (1) outdoor classroom (2) sustainable greenhouse (3) solar panels.

Arissa - can the money be spent on Mr. Maker Club being added to the curriculum for a year. Since the money was raised over the last several years, it only makes sense that it should go to something that benefits the kids that were at the school when the funds were raised.

Michele - would like to make a motion to strike a Planned Expenditure Committee. First by Arissa, seconded by Sanaz. Passed unanimously.

#### **4. EC PAC Business**

Election of Secretaries and Member-at-Large

Michele - would like to make a motion to elect Kelly Linn and Leila Goharian as co-secretaries. First by Sanaz, seconded by Kat. Passed unanimously.

Michele, would like to introduce everyone to the QR code which will link everyone to the PIXAR Event details.

## PIXAR Update

To date 40 families have bought their Pixar tickets.

The first PAC newsletter has gone out. Will continue to use the Hawks Highlights to publish information. The PAC would like to utilize the class parent to distribute information. There is a video coming out regarding the PIXAR event; Hawks Eye News interviewed Michelle and there is footage taken at Science World which will be incorporated into the video.

Post it notes going out in the coming weeks with a QR code with information on the PIXAR event.

Many committees have already been started, as follows:

- Entertainment Committee
- Food & Beverage Committee
- Live Auction Committee
- Silent Auction Committee
- Marketing & Communications Committee
- Ticket Sales Committee

Would like to strike two more committees:

- Speaker Series
- New Families Committee

A sign up sheet will be going out in the Hawks Highlight for volunteer opportunities.

Maren - how much will the PIXAR event cost?

Michele - venue has been covered by the corporate sponsors, ticket sales are to cover the food and beverage and admission (corking fee).

## **5. DPAC Report, Traffic & Safety Committee Reports**

Deanne could not make the meeting today.

Need a volunteer for the District Traffic and Safety Committee. Also need a co-DPAC representative. DPAC meetings take place the first Wednesday of every month at 9:15am. Michelle says that attending the DPAC meetings gives you a good insight into what initiatives are going on district wide. The district is very strategic at what is happening at the different sites. Next meeting is November 7 at 9:15am.

Kristina is still looking for more morning volunteers to do the call-backs from 9:00am until 10:00am. Call-back volunteer follows-up with parents whose kids are late or not at school.

## **6. Adjournment**

Motion by Azadeh to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Sanaz. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:29pm.

NOTE: All PAC meeting minutes are available on the EC Website. Quorum is 15 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.\*\*\*