

# **GEC PAC Meeting Minutes**

## **Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

### **@ 6:30 in the Gleneagles School Library**



#### **Present:**

Kelly Kerklaan (Co-Chair, PAC)  
Kirstie Simpson (Co-Chair, PAC)  
Emily Gardiner (Vice-Chair, PAC)  
Amanda Clark (Treasurer, PAC)  
Shevaun Brown (DPAC Rep, PAC)  
Robyn Evans (Principal, GEC)  
Rachel Clearwater  
Souhad Alchami

Danielle Lavalley (Member at Large, PAC)  
Heather Nelson (Member at Large, PAC)  
Jess Jenkin (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)  
Anna Stewart (Secretary, PAC)  
Wendy Human  
Marie Engelbert  
Pippa Fry  
Lauren Gilchrist

#### **Meeting Called to Order @ 6:45pm.**

- KS welcomed members to the GEC PAC for September 21, 2022. RE provided land acknowledgement.

#### **Adoption of Agenda**

- The Agenda was modified and approved. An update from Rachel Clearwater on the Garden was added after the Outdoor Enhancement Update and New Business was changed to Other Business and moved before Upcoming Events.

#### **Adoption of minutes from June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.**

- The draft PAC meeting minutes from the last meeting on June 15, 2022 were distributed on June 21, 2022. There are no corrections; The minutes stand approved as distributed.

#### **Chair's Report (Kirstie Simpson and Kelly Kerklaan):**

- KS and KK welcomed and reminded everyone that all parents or guardians with children at Gleneagles are automatically PAC members. Parents and/or guardians are strongly encouraged to attend meetings, not only for information but also to influence what we do as a PAC and how we spend money. The more people that attend the better we are able to make decisions that represent our overall parent body. The exec will do our best to make each meeting meaningful and useful and provide a platform to raise issues and bring up ideas.
- A very brief description of what the PAC does - work together with the school to supplement what the school does with additional learning opportunities or experiences as well as raise funds for things not in the school budget. Examples:
  - Various workshops (tennis, and dance workshops, sexual education, technology, and science workshops), additional iPads, audio visual, flexible seating or workspaces, outdoor enhancements.
  - In addition, we host events like the Welcome Tea, a Pancake Breakfast, Teacher and Staff appreciation lunches, Book Fair, movie-nights, Move-a-Thon, bi-annual golf tournament.
  - We sell Spirit wear and organize a hot lunch program (which is also our biggest fundraiser).
- These extra activities would not happen without the funds donated by the parents at the school.
- PAC struggles to communicate effectively with the parent body so the School What's App thread was created. It is used for the dissemination of important information or reminders only, it is one way communication (you cannot respond). Opt-in only so parents must send an email to PAC Chair [gecpacchair@gmail.com](mailto:gecpacchair@gmail.com) to be added.
- PAC Meeting Formats – 3 different formats for the first three PAC meetings:
  - September 21 - In-person meeting at the school
  - October 19<sup>th</sup> - hosted at Shevaun and Rod Brown's house
  - November 30<sup>th</sup> meeting will be via Zoom.

**Treasurers Report (Amanda Clark):**

- For our Balance Sheet, we have a cash balance of just over \$144,000 as of September 21, 2022. This is a total of our three bank accounts, which includes our trust account.
- Our total liabilities are \$68,410, with the majority made up of outdoor enhancement accruals (basketball court and playground equipment, etc.), followed by hot lunch vendor accruals.
- Attached is the PAC budget which was approved at the June 2022 AGM. This budget covers September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023. To note, we have a \$500 donation for outdoor enhancement, we've currently raised \$905 for the October Golf Tournament, \$918 for Babysitting course, and \$3,490 for Hot Lunch. There are no other major items to highlight at this current time in the school year.

**Outdoor Enhancement Update (Kirstie Simpson):**

- Last year we started an ambitious initiative to improve the school grounds and add an outdoor learning space that would fit an entire class as well as some smaller group learning spaces. Most of the funds raised from personal and corporate donations went specifically towards this initiative. We were also successful in getting several grants and we received additional funds directly from the school as well as in-kind support from the community. This initiative is ongoing, but we have made some great improvements already, including most recently the installation of the outdoor classroom. A HUGE thank you to MacDonald Trucking and Excavating for donating all the boulders and installing them. There are still some finishing touches to be done.
- Some other improvements finished or ongoing include:
  - installation of a Gaga ball pit
  - two murals completed by Tracey Hayes (GEC parent). Tracey is currently designing a mock-up for a mural in the undercover area.
  - Garden improvements
  - New seating areas – thank you to Wally and his crew of dads who have worked hard moving the logs donated by the Gleneagles Golf Course.
  - Basketball court upgrades including new backboards and lines, the court will also be resurfaced next summer – thank you to Chris Kerr and his family and Orbis Investments for donating funds specifically to this initiative.
  - We are waiting for the installation of a saucer swing
  - Waiting for the installation of new beach logs in the playground area
  - Trees will be planted

**Garden Update (Rachel Clearwater):**

- Volunteers are needed to help with gardening. Please sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E48A4AF2AA7FC1-fall>
- Menu for open house is being made by Olive and Anchor with produce from GEC gardens.
- Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>- Students will be involved in the:
  - Harvesting of potatoes and kale for the soup and salad to be served at open house.
  - Harvesting of other garden produce and flowers for Harvest Table sale.
  - Weeding of Ornamental Beds, Music Room Garden, Butterfly Garden, Friendship Deck, Blackberries
- Oct 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunflower Clean Up, Bed Extensions & Bulb Planting
- Oct 5<sup>th</sup> - Planting Native Plant Green Buffer for Outdoor Classroom
- Big thank you to the summer watering team: *Ali Greig, Anna MacRae, Artie Chumpol, Catalda Van Dyke, Danielle Lavalley, Elisa Campbell, Heather Nelson, Jen Meire, Jenny Clark, Jill Fujibayashi, Michelle Deng, Nichola Vermiere, Paul Schmid, Paul Taylor, Rebecca Vernon, Robyn Markham, Sheona McDonald, Shevaun Brown and Teresa Price!*

**Hot Lunch Update (Jess Jenkin):**

- Hot Lunch is being offered again this year using the same protocols as last year. The food will be delivered pre-sorted by division, no parent volunteers will be involved, school staff will deliver and distribute the lunches to the students.
- We have introduced two new vendors to our lineup - Sushi Katsu and Foodie Kids. Subway and Fresh Bay Pizza remain the same from last year.
- We are aiming to include hot items (teriyaki, rice bowls, etc) from Sushi Katsu next term, but we are trialing with cold sushi first as they work out a way to deliver their hot items also pre-sorted by division.
- All our vendors (except for Subway) hiked up their prices this year and we pushed hard to negotiate these down and lock them in for the rest of the school year.
- Hot lunch ordering is now open and will shut at midnight on Thursday Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will communicate a “change window” in the newsletter just before Thanksgiving (Oct 6) for changes to existing orders and for new orders and then it will shut for the remainder of the session.

**Principals Report (Robyn Evans):**

- Welcome Back to the 2022-23 school year
- Thank you for your support in a smooth start up.
- Thank you for the work that was done around the school over the summer – it was so nice to come back to see the new murals on the emergency boxes, and the sunflowers that sprouted up along the fence over the summer. Thank you as well to all the parents who helped water the gardens over the summer
- Staff introductions and run through... see school website under: Our Staff for a complete list
  - Mr. Claridge joins us as our Intermediate Music and Band teacher on Mondays and Fridays
  - Ms. Sawyer joins us as our Outdoor Education teacher on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
  - We also have new TA's for Supervision: Ms. Engemann, and Ms. Clarke
- Upcoming events: it has been a busy September so far and will continue to be a busy first term. Please remember to read the ebulletin each week for upcoming events and dates.

**Other Business:**

- **Spirit Wear** (Kelly Kerklaan)- Spirit wear is available for purchase online. Options are limited in comparison with previous years due to availability and rising costs. Sales are closing tonight (Sept 21<sup>st</sup>).
- **Book Fair**- Marie Engelbert and Lauren Gilchrist will take over from Jessica Wolff Von Gudenberg. Thanks to Jessica for running it for the past few years. Expect updates soon on upcoming Book Fair dates.

**Gleneagles Ch'axay Elementary School  
PAC Meeting  
September 21, 2022**

- **Speed Bumps** – two neighbors have requested the district add speed bumps on Keith Rd, near the front of the school, to reduce the speed of vehicles coming through.
- **Movie Trucks using gravel field over weekends-** May happen intermittently and will be approved on a case-by-case basis. There was concern expressed that the school grounds could not be used by the community when this occurs. Robyn Evans took note of this objection and will take it in to consideration in the future.
- **Volunteers Needed** (Heather Nelson)- Use the sign-up genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0b4fa8aa22a2fd0-volunteer> to sign up for volunteer opportunities. Some classes remain without class parents.

**Upcoming Events** (Kelly Kerklaan):

- Terry Fox Run – volunteers needed to line the route
- Hot Lunch is starting on Sept 27<sup>th</sup>
- Cross Country Meet Tuesday Sept 27<sup>th</sup>
- Welcome Back Open House – Sept 27<sup>th</sup>
- Golf Game for the Kids Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Teacher Interviews – Oct. 12/13<sup>th</sup>
- Babysitting and Home Alone Courses – Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>
- Book Fair – date to be announced soon.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Next PAC meeting Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup> @ Shevaun & Rod Brown's house.