

PAC Meeting May 11th, 2023

1. Call to Order, President's Remarks and Welcome

2. Treasurer's Report:

Current Balances: \$9,821.94 in our main account, \$3,303.56 in our gaming account
Total: \$13,125.50

Lisa followed up with Gaming and since the application for this year's funds was late, we definitely will not receive any money.

Proposal for \$300 for graduation party items for Grade 7s from Carly Singh was received.
Megan C motioned, Miranda seconded
Passed with 100% approval.

3. End of Year Plans

School-Wide Field Trip:

Thank you to Loree who has taken this on and has been researching Grouse Mountain.

- the students could fit in about 3 activities in a 9:30 to 2:30 timeframe
- self guided tour: \$17.60/student (1:10 ratio for complimentary chaperones) for a total of approximately \$4,330
- guided tour (same chaperone rate): \$25/student for at total of approximately \$6,150, includes a First Nations presentation in the feast house
- we would have to pay for the extra chaperones (although some adults could meet the students up there, travelling in their own cars)

A discussion was had regarding bus rates, but since a request for a quote was not put in, we do not know the rates - Loree will look into this.

There was concern regarding whether or not Grouse would hold the gondola so the whole school could come down the mountain together as well as concern that if the bus rates are high this may come in over our \$10,000 budget for this trip.

Plan B idea could be renting out a movie theatre, perhaps the Rio.
Maybe splitting into primary and intermediate due to differing movie preferences and could potentially have a split day, swapping with bowling at Grandview Lanes.
K's and 1's could take the public bus, the other students could walk.

Megan L and Loree can run point, further investigate the bus costs and if prohibitive then look at movie/bowling.

Teacher Appreciation Lunch will be run by Lauren and Kathryn

Direct Ask for Funding

Other elementary schools go to parents directly to ask for donations for funding. In the past our focus has been more on building community so the PAC has not wanted to ask for money via donation.

Do we as a community feel it is appropriate to put out an email to parents to donate to PAC in September?

Discussion points:

- this might not be welcoming to newcomers and new families
- would it dilute other fundraising efforts?
- some schools do this as their one big ask and raise quite a lot of money
- could look at October vs September so it isn't so soon after school begins
- we could do a Thanksgiving drive in October and phrase the ask in terms of equalizing - giving money so that all kids at our school, regardless of SES can benefit
- another option is for a passive ask - we could have a button on the website as well as at the bottom of our emails and parents could click and donate whenever they choose

This can be discussed at greater length in September.

4. AGM planning

Our AGM usually takes place in September. There are few issues with this. The period from the end of June until the end of August ends up being lost planning time as the new executive is not yet in place. Also, our first PAC meeting of the year is the best attended and it is the least inspiring meeting of the year, due to the procedural and dry nature of elections.

A proposal was made to move the AGM with elections to June.

As of the AGM, all executive roles will be considered vacant (ie no grandfathering of positions) and nominations will be made via email (by self) and everyone will need to be voted in. An email asking for nominations will be sent out, with elections to be held the second week of June at the AGM.

Ariella motioned, Miranda seconded. Passed with 100% approval.

Mike will speak at Welcome to K on the 25th of May and will invite new parents to the AGM (as new K parents are considered "enrolled" and thus part of PAC) and Jonathan will also send an email invite out.

Do we want the AGM to be via Zoom or in person? Is there a possibility of a hybrid meeting for this special meeting to try to include as many as possible?

We will send out a non-binding poll to see what people want.

5. Fido Committee Update

MTP Fido Committee supports the continued closure of the East gate.

Kirk and Jonathan put up some extra dog signs and righted one of the signs that was upside down.

Kirk has put in a request to Parks and Rec regarding a suggestion for a new dog park at Dude Chilling but has had no response.

Freedom of Information request - one parent has asked to see what funds have been received by the school for the use of the gravel field between now and 2018. The idea behind this is that perhaps some of those funds could be allocated towards field upkeep.

Kirk has started 311'ing delinquent dog owners and encourages us all to do the same.

YMCA - he spoke to them to see if they would start reporting dogs - they will start reporting.

Field repairs - would love to get a bunch of kids together with a barrel of soil to come in and fill up the holes, especially in view of dog owners.

He will be asking about removing or minimizing field closures this summer

Funding for new dog signs - there is only one left and they would like funding from PAC for more signs and will get back to us with a budget.

Ideas - a sharing thread on instagram, perhaps child-led stories about experiences with dogs/dog poop to try to get community support.

6. JEDI Committee Update

They lost 2 of their 3 members so it is back to just Ariella at this point
They held 2 parent drop in/gatherings and are not sure if more will happen in June
Ariella has heard nothing about the buddy bench. The last she heard was that it was dropped off at the VSB. Jonathan will follow up with them.

School garden idea from DPAC meeting. This is all about engaging students through community gardens. There was an expert in place-based and land-based learning. There are lots of free webinars on things the schools can do around gardens and gardening.

An idea presented is that if PACs and parents invest the kind of money they invest in playgrounds in gardens it is much more cost effective in the long run.

Is there a way we could fund a hose that could be used to keep the kids' gardens watered over the summer? There is water access by Strong Start classroom. Jonathan says this is OK. We could pass the required water key from parent volunteer to parent volunteer along with a scrunchy hose in a bag over the summer months.

Mike motioned for \$150 budget for a garden hose and bag to keep it in, Miranda seconded. Passed with 100% approval.

7. MTP Day Update

The games were booked today. Planning is going well. Money from a developer sponsor went to get a bunch of fun games (no bouncy castles, no animals is new policy), and a photo booth. They are waiting to hear back from Buy Low regarding their donated food ask. There will be a silent auction this year.

8. Playground Equipment Update

The long awaited recess play equipment for each classroom should be arriving by end of May/beginning of June.

9. Principal's Report

The money received for use of the gravel field has been going towards such equipment as iPads (this is why he has not had to ask the PAC for iPad funding for quite some time).

Numbers projections for next year:

275 students
13 divisions
3 K classes

Growth in K is due to overflow from other schools

Jonathan presented class size limitations and reasons for creating split classes - this is due to required ratios of children with Special Needs to teachers.

The school plan for next year - teachers would like to focus on literacy and numeracy (the last three years their focus was anti-racism and equity) for the next three years.

Meeting adjourned.