

PAC Meeting April 11

Zoom Attendance - 17

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

2. Treasurer's Report

Main account: \$18,345.42

Gaming account - \$671.06

Stripe - \$2,014.09

Total funds as of today: \$21,030.67

After everything spoken for, we have \$3900 left over.

3. MTP Merch

Are we interested in purchasing school logo'ed merchandise? Our last order was in 2022. There were issues where people paid for items that were never picked up.

Some ideas:

- very small run to gauge interest with more to come following year once sold out
- model of direct order store (would be more expensive)
- could take a deposit then if not picked up by a date, it becomes general inventory
- digital or screen printed (screen printed lasts longer, more expensive and digital will not last as long as it will fade after several washes)

We will go forward with this plan and the first step will be to select a logo. We will then get price quotes for a variety of items, both screen and digital printed and can decide as a PAC at that point what we would like to do.

4. AGM

Last year the AGM date, along with Executive elections, was changed to June. This gives us the opportunity to form an executive before summer so they can meet during the summer to plan for the next year.

Nominations will soon be open and you can self-nominate if interested. If you are interested, please reach out to the current executive to find out more!

All executive positions will be available. In June all positions are dissolved and even current exec members must re-nominate themselves if interested in continuing/participating in an election.

5. Teacher/Staff/Executive Funding Requests

Ms. Pendry's MTP Reading Link Challenge

The first ever MTP Reading Link Challenge is going well. Six teams of 6 students have registered from grades 3-5. Tentative event date is Thursday May 31st 1-2:15 pm in the gym (families of participants will be invited to attend).

Ms Pendry is looking for 1 or 2 parent volunteers to help with marking answers and timing during the competition. This would involve sitting at a table and sorting and marking pieces of paper from each team that are delivered to the scoring table after each question (there are 3 rounds of 12 questions). If any parents have any prize, recognition or event ideas/talents they

would like to help out with, please let me know. If any parent would like to design the participant certificate, please contact Ms Pendry.

Mount Pleasant Reads

Mount Pleasant Reads! This inaugural event will have to be scaled back. She is asking to reduce the previously approved funding request to \$350 from \$1200.

I will likely only be able to run this event with the Grade 7s this year. Funds would be used to purchase lit circles titles which would go into the book room for future student use, 10-15 books that would go into the library, and prizes.

Ms Pendry's reduction in funding request from \$1200 to \$350 passed with 100% approval.

Treena Sly - Bill Reid Art Gallery Storytelling in the Gallery 90 Minute Program for Division 8, Grades 2/3

Amount Requested - \$172.50

Immerse your class in the oral traditions of the Northwest Coast.

This program focuses on three big ideas:

- The symbols of identity, using art in the gallery as an example, understanding the importance of Indigenous storytelling and community and belonging

This program uses a mixture of storytelling (both oral and from a storybook), play, and art exploration. All stories from books read during Storytelling are illustrated and authored by Indigenous artists and writers.

This program supports our Turtle Island Indigenous Art and Social Studies Units

Big Ideas - Canada is made up of many diverse regions and communities, Indigenous knowledge is passed down through oral history, traditions, and collective memory, Indigenous societies throughout the world value the well-being of the self, the land, spirits, and ancestors, Learning about indigenous peoples nurtures multicultural awareness and respect for diversity.

Content - diverse characteristics of communities and cultures in Canada, including at least one First Nations community and culture, cultural characteristics and ways of life of local First Nations peoples

Art Big Ideas - People connect to the hearts and minds of others in a variety of places and times through the arts, Creative expression develops our unique identity and voice, The mind and body work together when creating works of art, The arts connect our experiences to the experiences of others

Content - visual arts: elements of design, symbolism as a means of expressing specific meaning, a variety of local works of art and artistic traditions from diverse cultures, communities, times, and places, traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and arts-making processes, a variety of local works of art and artistic traditions from diverse cultures, communities, times, and places

A super awesome experience for our students to see the art they have been studying and inspired by up and close and personal!

Passed with 100% approval.

One year of MTP PAC website hosting - \$340.

Passed with 100% approval.

6. Teacher Reimbursement Procedures

We are trying to set up a procedure for next year's PAC. We have presented two alternatives keeping in mind what was discussed at the last meeting. We are trying to make sure there is a clear rubric to follow for the rest of the year and then for next year.

1. First - do we want to allocate funds per head or per class?
2. How do we approve these funds? We would like to be able to hold VSB accountable and have the money spent the way that we as a group want the money spent.

Supporting our teachers through this initiative is one of most impactful ways to use PAC funds. There are a lot of teachers who spend personal money on resources. More funds would be available on a case by case basis.

Further to this we recently had an ask (for board games etc) that resulted in a community ask (for donations of the requested items) and we were able to save money.

We have a sample rubric for requests above allocated amount. We would encourage them to try to raise the funds first through such things as parent asks, bake sale etc (PAC could assist).

It seems like our funds are being used as a first step rather than as a backstop.

Options for Teacher Funding Requests

Option 1 - Teachers submit a request, and the list is compared to a predetermined list of "acceptable items"

Step 1: Teachers submit a request online
Step 2: Executive checks to ensure it doesn't go above the allocated amount to the teacher, and compares the request to a list of acceptable items

Step 3: The Executive approves the request, without the PAC membership.

Option 2 - Teachers submit a request, and it is voted upon at the next meeting

Step 1: Teachers submit a request online

Step 2: Executive checks to ensure it doesn't go above the allocated amount to the teacher.

Step 3: The PAC votes at the next meeting

Sample Rubric For Teacher Requests Above their Allocated Amount

Step 1: Teachers Request funding for something

Step 2: The Executive asks what steps they've taken to fundraise

Step 3: The Executive suggests / assists with fundraising

- community asks
- email requests to parents
- help in running events (bake sales etc.) to fundraise

Step 4: The PAC votes at the next meeting whether to cover any shortfall

Poll

Would we like to fund per head or per division?

Result - 50% fund per head, 50% fund per division

Lisa clarified that this will not make that much difference financially.

2. Option 1 58%
Option 2 42%

Discussion about school supplies (above and beyond the basics that we paid for at the beginning of the year) - as parents, we feel that VSB should provide, the reality is the teachers get \$150 per year to spend per class and that is it. There is no supply closet.

An idea was presented to approach larger businesses in the area to ask for supplies or donations to go towards a supply closet.

Could we start a "support our teachers fund" and start canvassing for donations?

Ariella can raise this with DPAC - there has been an ongoing call for transparency in PAC spending so that we can hold the VSB accountable for what they are not providing.

Could we have this as an entry fee to an upcoming event - bring markers, pens, pencils to our next event (like a supply-drive)?

We could tackle it in a systematic and organized way. Advocate directly to Education Minister, through our votes.

If we do a supply-drive, invite the media and talk about why we are doing it.

7. Subcommittee updates

Events and Fundraising-

MTP Day update - They are plugging away with all moving parts and are hoping to meet with all team leads in the next month or so to make sure everyone is on track. They are still looking for talent - dance, singing, band, magician etc for the stage (someone who doesn't want a lot of money). Will be putting out a call soon for volunteers and are hoping people will keep that day free so they can help out for a couple of hours

Can we ask Jonathan or interim Principal to send out an email with a save the date?

Popsicles - end of year school treat - last year PAC provided popsicles for each student on the last day of school. Do we want to do this again this year? Last year we bought from Costco and handed them out to classroom teachers at the end of the day.

Seeking a \$200 budget for this- passed with 100%

Trivia Night - They are currently in the research stage and are **seeking approval for a \$2000 budget for trivia night. Passed with 100%**

8. Ask the Principal Questions

Jonathan was not in attendance however the questions that came in for Ask the Principal for this month were addressed.

There are holes under the North fence that some kids are going under to get out of the schoolyard. Ian Campbell, Interim Principal, has put in a work order for this with VSB. Can we keep an eye on this as it could be dog owners/dogs?

There is also a hole in the gate that they have chained closed on the East side of the gravel field. Every day there are kids who squeeze in and out of the hole left by the chain. Can we get that gate closed more securely? This will be passed on to Ian.

There was a question about some kids staying in the washroom reading books during both recesses and the possible need for supervision aids to monitor the washrooms. Ian has been doing rounds of the washrooms.

There is also a kid with a phone who hangs out in the washrooms during this time which raises other concerns. Phone use in and around the school is of concern to other parents. We will convey to principal that this is something that parents are concerned about.

Meeting adjourned.

