

# PAC Meeting March 14 - in Person

12 in attendance

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

## 2. Treasurer's Report

Current balance is \$20,589.47

Gaming balance is \$671.06

Square deposit - \$652.01

**Total Funds - \$21, 912.54**

## 3. Teacher Funding Requests

### **Butterfly Funding Request**

*A request for funding which will be used to purchase butterflies and lady bugs for all the primary divisions (7 to 13). The cost will most likely will be closer to \$400 depending on habitat purchases.*

*The lady bugs and butterflies will be used to engage students in a variety of cross curricular content including science, art, social studies, math and language arts, and to help foster and create awareness of the nature around us and encourage stewardship of the land we share with human and more than human beings.*

Megan moved to approve, seconded by Lisa

### **Vote: passed with 1 abstention**

A thank you from Grade 7 Teacher, Jug Sidhu, regarding our funding of crepes for the Intermediate students...

*I wanted to thank you and PAC for the kind donation towards the Crepe Day here at MTP. Div 1-3 were able to practice their French and Div 4-6 were able to live their Maker activity. We would not have been able to offer crepes to our students without your donation. This allowed us to then offset the cost of a crepe and include the 138 students who were able to participate.*

A discussion was had regarding funding requests and the intention of our bylaw which states...

*9.11. The PAC executive may, from time to time, consent by executive role to spend up to \$200 on items that are urgent, time sensitive or essential. In the event that the amount is over \$200, the PAC Exec must consult with the PAC members by email survey.*

The original intention of the \$200 limit was related to expediency.

If a request is put in by a teacher, that could be planned out, should the Executive be able to approve it or should they go back to have it approved at a meeting?

PAC's decisions to spend funds is a way of influencing what the focus of the school is. We could look at making up pots at the beginning of the year for such things as Art, Science etc.

We would like to clarify that the bylaw stands as per the original intent.

There was much discussion on this topic. Topics included revisiting our prior decision and give a set amount of money as a budget per teacher or a set amount of money per student head to each class.

Should we attach a timeline to all funding request approvals?

We could also give teachers a discretionary fund that is not scrutinized.

We could survey parents as to what they think the focus of spending should be.

We can look at all options for next year - the decision was made to revisit this discussion at the end of this year.

#### **4. Updates/Recaps/Discussions**

##### **Movie Night Debrief**

The movie night itself went well, attendance was down compared to our Halloween movie night. Parents seemed happy with the movie only and no dance. One parent thought we could have timed the intermission better by gauging how the kids were doing and once they started to show signs of restlessness, have the break. The lower attendance could have been due to the choice of movie, that it was not Halloween themed, or perhaps to the proximity to Spring Break. We made just under \$944.51 which was good for such a low-lift, easy to organize activity.

**Artist in Residence Program** is in a deficit now and is in danger of potentially being lost district-wide. Could we consider supporting this program as a PAC? We could make a donation or pay for some supplies. The VSB pays for a share and the school has to raise some funds to cover this program as well.

We have our AGM in June - we can push this to the AGM for discussion.

This program will be starting up once again at MTP after Spring Break. Indigenous artists will be working on outdoor and plant themed art with the students

#### **5. Subcommittee Updates**

##### **Events and Fundraising -**

**MTP Day** - Some new people have volunteered to be involved in the organization. It will look similar to last year's MTP Day. Differences will include shifting some money into performances for this year. A Craft Fair (for adult crafters only) will be added to the gym as it is an easy way to make money. It will be from 11-3 on Sunday, June 23.

**Budget** - last year our cost was \$8500. They received this money from developers and they made about \$20,000 for the day. They have a donation commitment from one developer.

***They are asking for a budget approval of \$8500.***

Motioned for \$8500 max budget approval with the goal of bringing in at least 14K profit.

Motioned - Matthew moved, Dorian seconded - **passed with 100% approval**

**Staff Appreciation** - since 2020 they have had Edge Catering come in to provide boxed lunches for the teachers and staff (they order off a menu), sandwich/salad, cookie/chips/ salad and drink. Put up a thank you display etc.

They are wondering if we should continue on or if we should give the staff the option to have a say in what they would like. There is a direct ask that goes out to parents to donate money for this. In the past the PAC has chipped in the rest. Historically, we've spent about \$1000. Jonathan agrees with asking them to see which option they would prefer.

*They will send around a poll via Teams with Jonathan's help.*

**Trivia Night** - Laura Secord school had a catered and licensed trivia night, which included child care. Could we do a trivia night in May? If we limit this to one area, the gym, Jonathan would be willing to stay late but he is not sure if he is allowed to do so. The hours would be 6:30 to 9:00. The 24th of May would work best for this.

**FIDO** - some schools are now locking their fields at 3pm because of the dog problem. Is this something that we are interested in pursuing? General consensus is yes.

**Student Support Subcommittee** was created in September. Melisa has explored different options on how to help students and families who need help but in all reality the subcommittee part failed as it is just Melisa working on this. She thinks that going forward, she can write up a summary of what she has learned from her conversations with different people. There is a gap, a lot of the families who need extra support don't have the capacity to advocate for themselves.

Inclusion BC has advocates who can work with families.

The subcommittee can be put to bed at this point and she is happy to continue to be the point of contact going forward.

## **6. Ask the Principal**

*I regularly see parents parking illegally and in extremely dangerous places around the school when dropping off and picking up their kids. I just saw a parent park diagonally across the corner at 7th and Guelph on the sidewalk. In one of your upcoming emails to families, could you please make a point to mention the importance of parking safely and legally? (By the way, your new emails with all of the events/information in the body of the email, rather than sending us to the school website, are AMAZING! A huge improvement.)*

This seems to be a battle ongoing at many elementary schools and yes, Jonathan will address this in an upcoming newsletter to parents.

**Principal's Report** - Thank you to the Fido Committee for all of their hard work. It would be great for the school if we can get control of the dog situation.

They've had themes of Ramadan, Black Excellence Month and Pink Shirt Day recently. A thank you to PAC for the Pink Shirt Day travelling road show from Community Policing.

Thank you for the Extraordinary Safety Meeting - we now have a boundary for kids - there is a line in the pavement on the north side of the tennis courts and they are not permitted to go past it. The kids have been excellent about this new boundary. The supervision aids are also going every morning and sweeping the intermediate (purple) playground. They are doing this every day. It is also good for kids to know there is a boundary. They no longer have to wonder about how to navigate strangers.

Spring Break is coming up.

May 24th would be best for a Trivia Night or replace it with a Movie Night if the Trivia Night doesn't happen.

***Meeting Adjourned.***