

MTP PAC Meeting Notes Date: December 11, 2024

Time: 6:00 PM (In-Person)

Location: Mount Pleasant School

Agenda & Notes

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

- The meeting called to order by Megan
 - Emphasis on meaningful acknowledgment of unceded Indigenous territories - by Ariella.
 - January PAC meeting confirmed for Jan 15th - 1 week later to allow people to settle back into their routines.

2. Treasurer's Report (Gill)

- Current Balance: \$14,695.07 (main account) + \$5,100 (gaming)
- Total funds as of today: \$19,795.07

3. Recycling Program (Treena Sly, Teacher - Special Guest)

- Proposal for intermediate students to participate in a life skills program involving grocery shopping, cooking, and recycling.
- Challenges: Reduced recycling opportunities. Requested PAC support.
- Pilot Program: Cooking for six students, \$25/meal. Proposed \$300 for two sessions per student.
 - Grade 6 Students - How are they selected
 - Children with designations, who receive assistance from Resource Teachers.
 - Intermediates because they want to be independent at this age
 - Subjects covered: Math and Science, among others
 - Recycling is to be brought to school for tangible learning.
 - email Ms. Sly for recycling: psly@vsb.bc.ca
 - Shopping:
 - SAVE ON FOODS - Richard is the manager
 - Nesters
- **Motion:** Miranda motioned to approve \$300 funding. Kathy seconded. Motion carried.

4. Funding Requests

- **Tech Funding Request** (Gavin):
 - School proposal:
 - Purchase 20 iPads annually over five years to replace aging equipment. (Lifespan of a device is ~ 7 years)
 - Microsoft - class action suit 2017 IT department got money back from school
 - 25 surfaces - we can have from this law suit

- Epson Projectors - Epson projectors - ultra/short throw - and a couple of interactive devices
 - Lifespan can last 10 years, bulbs are \$300.
- Purchase products based on only what VSB have vetted.
- Total cost: \$10,340 annually.
- Additional considerations:
 - Procurement is at the end of April
 - Explore financing options for gradual purchase.
 - Parent Suggestions:
 - Direct ask campaign to be launched in January.
 - Connect with Neil at the BIA
 - (Alex) Community Fundraiser request - if the community donates \$5000, then PAC will match funds for technology upgrades (totalling up to \$10,000).
 - **Motion:** Lisa motioned, and Dorian seconded. Motion carried.
- Monthly Pizza Lunch for Technology (Jan 17 or 24) - Lisa
 - **Motion:** Lisa motioned for funding lunch up to \$800, and Miranda seconded. Motion carried.

5. Subcommittee Updates

- **Fundraising** (Lisa):
 - **MTP Day: Seeking a lead;** planning to commence shortly.
 - No lead volunteer identified; urgent need for planning.
 - Event can be as big or as small as volunteers would like.
 - Previous events raised \$10,000–\$12,000.
 - New coordinators encouraged to step forward.
 - Includes a silent auction, food donations from Save-On-Foods, and other activities.
 - **Purdy's Winter Fundraiser:** Generated \$1,468.29 profit (Megan).
 - **Craft Fair:** \$2,700 profit.
 - Feedback: Pricing slightly high for adult crafters.
 - Majority (2/3) of vendors interested in returning.
 - **Market Day** (Dorian):
 - Potential partnership with Columbus Meat Market (Dorian).
 - Other Options: Neufeld Farms, Peaked Pies, Raise the Funds BC.
 - Decision pending based on feasibility and interest.
 - **Tree Chipping:**
 - Scheduled: Sunday, January 5th (10:00 AM – 4:00 PM).
 - Volunteers needed!
 - Donations accepted even without trees.
 - Promotion and advertising via Signal and social media.
 - **Movie Night:**
 - Scheduled: January 31st, budget of \$700 approved.
 - **Motion:** Approve \$700 funding. Motioned by Miranda, seconded by Megan. Motion carried.

- **DPAC (Ariella):** Discussion deferred.
 - Hired a EI to help with the issue
 - Open positions noted.
- **FIDO Committee (Kirk):**
 - Concerns: safety (children bitten, afraid), cleanliness (dog feces).
 - Ongoing issues with off-leash dogs.
 - Reports filed with the city and BC Ombudsperson.
 - Facilities director - Ronald McDonald. No call back
 - Jeff Perman - 5 emails and 3-4 calls - no word
 - Escalated contact with Leslie - BC Ombudsperson; no resolution as of yet.
 - Current Actions: to escalate through newsletters and community engagement.
 - Brianne Ramirez - Animal patrol is engaged and wants to help but has limited availability (10 officers city-wide). **Supervisor is adding patrol between 7:45-8:45am and 3:15-4:15pm**
 - Newsletter call for community stories.
 - CBC's digital journalist, Liam Britten is interested in a story; potential January feature.
 - Schedule a special FIDO PAC meeting in the new year.
 - Proposed solutions
 - Permanent dog bans modelled after other schools (8 schools have succeeded with ban)
 - Increased signage and community reporting.
 - Starting an community email tree to contact government officials with requests and stories on how dogs are affecting the community.

6. Extracurricular Events

- **Spring Enrichment Activity Vote (Miranda):** Voting to be conducted at the January meeting for proposed activities.
- **Saleema Noon Update (Miranda):** Scheduled sessions confirmed.
- **Ethos Lab Update (Dorian):** Reported progress.
 - Primaries are scheduled 9-10:30 am on January 24th for on campus MPR for science lab
 - Intermediates are scheduled 10 am-2 pm on January 22nd and 23rd at Ethos Lab
- **Pancake Breakfast (Gill):** Plans underway - Dec 20,
 - Volunteers secured. 20 teachers will help.
 - Donations accepted.
 - Students and families will need to bring their own plates and cutlery.
- **Lunch Survey Results (Megan):**
 - The lunch survey results refer to the lunch survey that was sent out -
 - Generally positive feedback
 - Further exploration in the New Year (deferred due to lack of time)

- Parents expressed concerns about recent lunch changes. Please refer to lunch changes under Section 7 in the Principal's report.
- Suggestions include:
 - Increasing outdoor playtime and addressing seating policies.
 - Sensory accommodations for neurodiverse students.
- **Speakers for Parent Education** (Ariella): Suggestions requested.
- **School Merchandise** (Megan): Exploring new options. Current inventory and pricing updates to be shared in the New Year (deferred due to lack of time)

7. Principal's Report

- **Enrollment:** Approximately 240 students across 12 divisions.
- **Staffing:**
 - Courtney King has left; the position is now open.
 - Transitional SSA will stay until March. They have to apply for a position
- **Lunch Program:**
 - Addressed concerns about new procedures.
 - School decision - came about from teachers
 - Provide more instructional time for students
 - 25-30 min to eat lunch
 - Children have assigned seating and lunch music - sometimes music requests are accepted.
 - Primaries all fit at one lunch table.
 - Intermediates fit at 2 tables
 - Neurodiverse children - can make an exception - or ask the parents to come ask me.
 - Proposed initiatives: Wacky Wednesday and Pizza Friday seating flexibility.
- **Space Allocation:**
 - Strong Start remains essential due to increased enrollment after Florence Nightingale's Strong Start closure.
 - Airflow issues in two classrooms noted -
 - No windows and too hot in the summer.
 - Principal to explore classroom air quality improvements.
- **Extracurricular Activities:**
 - Volleyball season concluded
 - Basketball practices underway for January season.
- **School Events:**
 - **AIRS Project:** Community invited to view ongoing art projects. Miss Treena Sly is lead.
 - **School Teams:**
 - Volleyball season concluded
 - Basketball practices underway for January season.
 - Thanks to Ms. Pavelick and Mr. Little
 - **Assessments: Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA)** are completed

- **Camp Planning:** Gavin will keep PAC informed about any planning efforts required for the Grade 6 & 7 camps.
 - **Movie Night:** Ensure January 31 event is organized with approved \$700 budget.
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Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting date January 15th



QR Code for 5 year tech plan: (password is LionsMTP2300)