

# PAC General Meeting - Minutes

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**October 9th, 2019**

## ATTENDEES

Tania Pan, Michelle Ross, Sheenagh Trembath, Zohreh Ansari (Sherkat), Michelle Morgan, Linda Gour, Daniel Wallman, Dagmar Roth, Rowena Veylan, Samira Enayati, Kate Simon, Sogol Sheikhakbari, Sarah Yassmi, Steph LeComte, Raquel Love, Lisa Black, Lisa Romero, Dina Daraee, Saiko Tachibana, Cindy Nairne, Chelsea Duhs, Tara Zielinski

## 1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER (Lisa B.)

Meeting called to order at 8:57am by Lisa B.

Lisa B. welcome everyone for attending the PAC Meeting which was held in the new location of the Teacher Staff Room. Each attendee was encouraged to introduce themselves with a brief mention of their children enrolled in PJ. The group was quite excited to hear about one other and enjoyed a laugh relating to each other.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Lisa B.)

1st Linda G, 2nd Sogol S.. Approved.

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF September 11th, 2019 (Lisa B.)

1st by Steph L., 2nd Cindy N.. Approved.

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Lisa B.)

None.

## 5. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (Tara Z)

### FSA Update

The FSAs are underway and the Grade 4 & 7 students are working hard. Tara Z. explained the newly format and change in the timeline of the FSAs have meant that the assessments will be a bit of a challenge this year. The Grade 4's will potentially have a bigger disadvantage as the students have had close to zero hours of instruction in English. The FSAs focuses on Reading, Writing and Numeracy, many terms used for testing will be unfamiliar to the students.. The test is also offered in French but is more suited to a Francophone school setting. Tara Z. as been working hard with teachers and students to make the process smoother. Tara Z. has brought attention to this disadvantage our children face with the FSAs. Parents have also expressed some upset this causes the students. Tara Z. continued by saying how proud she is of the students and teachers, even with the challenge our numbers are still really good. She is committed to ensure students and teachers feel capable and fully supported and celebrated.

### School Goal-Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

The 3 year school goal has started and parents at Curriculum Night had a preview with Tara's well received and informative presentation. Tara Z. talked about the process by 'Learning In Sprints' a learning framework made known by Simon Breakspear. She added that the students have been developing an inability to cope in situations. The challenges educators are seeing is progressively becoming worse for students. Tara Z. and staff hopes with the new school goal the difficulties will decrease. What they want to see for/from students.

### Emergent Themes

- Take Ownership
- Demonstrate Resilience
- Sense and Demonstrate a Sense of Community
- Are Physically Literate
- Are Regulated
- Demonstrate Empathy
- Effectively Use Executive Function Skills and Strategies
- Are Independent

Tara Z. informed the group about goal for students to independently demonstrate social, emotional and executive function skills to contribute and respond to their community. The objective of this is to develop and apply problem-solving and self regulation strategies. The second objective is to effectively execute executive function skills to foster ownership and independence. Tara Z. and staff have noticed a big decrease in these areas with students and parents. This September she has noticed a large inability for parents to encourage independence with children and 'Let go at the door'. Some behaviours are more noticeable with the Grade 4,5 and 6 students with the inability to problem solve, organize themselves. They are not able to visualize future planning without tech or parent assistance, this could be due to the amount of sleep these Grades are currently getting. Parents had questions about the language and key terms used in the school goal. Tara Z. happily clarified and acknowledged that parents will need to be educated on the subject. She is hoping to have a 3 part parent learning session about 'what the school wants to achieve', and 'how parents are involved'. She would like to have a panel of speakers that consist of educators, experts and staff. Tara Z. has been in talks with the district and our school goal is quite cutting edge and groundbreaking. This topic is becoming very important in the education system and student climate.

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- Great BC Shakeout-October17th at 10:17am a Province wide event.
- Early Release-Wednesday 23rd at 1:15- note the different time from last year- Teacher / Parent meetings sign up is online.
- Regular Dismissal- Thursday 24th at 2:50- continued Teacher/Parent Meetings
- No school
  - Monday 14th -Thanksgiving
  - October 25th -Provincial Pro-Day
  - November 11th -Remembrance day -volunteers needed to present wreath for PJ.
- October 28-30th-Grade 6 Outdoor School-staff and students excited about that.
- October 31th- Halloween Parade/Assembly- due to fire and safety concerns the 'parade' will look different this year. Grade 7's will host a 'Haunted House" in the learning commons-\$2 per ticket-intermediate only.
- Quebec Fundraising- Purdy's, Bake Sale on November 7th, Recycling Drive, Car Wash (Tara noted that this years Grade 7s are excited to fundraise and contribute to their trip)
- November 1st- PJ Day- Students are encouraged to wear PJ's to school which will be fun the day after Halloween.

Tara Z. thanked the attendees for coming to the meeting and staying well informed. Lisa B. thanked Tara for her informative report.

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT (Dina D.)

Dina D. acknowledged the printed out copies of the Budget for 2018-19 that the group at the table was able to look over and view. Dina D. continued by explaining the budget to date.

- So far we have had 2 Gelato Days the first one was a hit we sold 241 cups and 201 cups on the second the total profit is \$282
- School Supplies was a success and we made \$1510. Dina D. extended thanks to the organizers and volunteers. We will be receiving the cheque for those funds in the next couple days.
- Fun Lunch has started earlier this year and is running smoothly. We have not received payment on that but Dina D. suggests that all is going well.
- BBQ party we applied for the Raffle License and now the report will need to be prepared to show how we have processed the donations and raffle ticket money. The report is sent in the first few weeks of September.
- Dina D. informed the group about our Gaming Account she explained that we have two bank accounts, one is operating which we use for most of our transactions. The second account is supported by the Government and from which we receive grants that can be eligible for use in certain criteria. Dina D. let the group know that around late spring we need to apply for next years grant money. Also we need to prepare the gaming summary including all the transactions and submit that info to the gaming branch. The Gaming Report is assessed and we receive these grants at the end of September. We were expecting to attain around \$8,300-8,400 based on this years student enrollment numbers but only received \$7,560. Dina D. looked into the lack of money attained and found that the Government calculates the amount based on current enrolment in June, not the numbers based in September. Dina D spoke to the branch involved in the assessments and she was informed that we will receive a larger amount in the following September. As the Grant we received was lower than expected we had to revise the budget and make a few changes to balance it. Tara Z. noted that she was going to look into the process. NOTE: Tara Z. has looked into the Gaming Grant Timeline and the funds are always allocated in June and no rational for this was able to be provided to her at this time.

Dina D. brought forth to vote in the budget and asked the group to look over the provide budget reading material. She asked if there were any questions. Rowena V. asked about the 'Gala' budget and Dina D. and Lisa B. clarified any concerns on that. It was also added that the 'Pizza Days' were not worked into the budget and will be put in the Fun Lunch component of the budget. It was proposed that the Family BBQ would be every other year and to have a larger fundraiser to take its place this year to pool the volunteer efforts and funds on one event. More to follow on that. The GIC account was brought up as well a question was raised about the interest and earning that could be different. Lisa B. fielded the question by

explaining the relationship we have with the Bank we use for PAC. Lisa B. will look into possibly changing or upgrading the account.

The Budget was brought forth to be voted on.

## **7. VOTE FOR 2018-19 BUDGET (Dina D.)**

No further questions on the budget were raised. The vote was put forward. The vote was unanimous. The Budget was approved.

## **8. VOTE FOR PAC CHAIR POSITION (Kate P.)**

Kate P. explains that we have a nominee for PAC Chair. Lisa B's name was put forward. Kate P. describes to the group that Lisa B. is an experienced candidate and that she is enthusiastic to take the role on for us this year,

Lisa B's name was brought forward to vote on for 2019-2020 PAC Chair.

1st. Kate P. 2nd. Chelsea D. the nomination for Lisa B.. The vote was put to the table. The vote was unanimous. Lisa B. is the PAC Chair for 2019-20 year.

## **9. VOLUNTEER CALL (Lisa R.)**

### **Santa's Workshop**

Volunteers are needed in the next couple weeks to start the process of collecting and sorting the donations for Santa's Workshop. The table was asked to save and prepare donations for regifting at the workshop. The list to volunteer should be up soon. The roles are described in detail on the sign up sheet. Lisa R. describes roles that include sorting and collecting, set up and the day of help like helping the students shop, purchase and wrap. Lisa B. explains that volunteers should mark it on their calendar if they are able to volunteer and to commit to a role. She adds if they are unable to attend to try to find a replacement, this way the Workshop runs smoothly. Lisa B. and Linda G. explain the excitement for the students to shop and purchase a gift for family members at Santa's Workshop. Lisa B. also clarifies that the Workshop is a Charity Event. Half the money will go to a local Charity and the second part of the money raised will go to purchase a tree at the Dunderave Festival of Lights which is a fundraiser for the Harvest Project.

## **School Dance**

Lisa R. calls for volunteers for the PJ School Dance that will be in a couple weeks the sign up is online. Lisa B. thanked Lisa R. for her work coordinating volunteers.

The meeting had a change in topic. Linda G. put forth to remind everyone about the upcoming Kindergarten Outdoor Learning Space Grandopening. Michelle M. the Community Garden Coordinator graciously continued the topic and described the event on October 18th. at 3pm. She explains the information can also be found in the E-Bulletin. The planting of some larger trees will be done by City Crews but more plants or monetary donations are welcome. Michelle M. asks to refer to the list set by the committee for the appropriate plants and also to help track the number of plants still required. If there are any other questions Michelle M. asks to contact her by email. Cindy N. asks about the process of E-transfer of donations. It is explained that the school can only accept cheque or cash at this time and donations can be placed at the office. Michelle M. will also look into E-Transfer through her to facilitate any monetary donations.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS (Lisa B.)**

### **Traffic Safety Initiative**

Lisa B. described the dangers our kids are facing around Traffic Safety. The frustration surrounding this topic is evident with all attendees at the meeting. The problems faced are unfortunately parent caused. Safety is being endangered by the lack of respect for common rules and school traffic etiquette. Lisa B. explains that the City will put forward \$300 to a school for traffic safety. The group brings forward the idea other schools have implemented like a Rainbow Crosswalk to not only be inclusive but to bring visual attention to drivers of the crosswalk. Tara Z. added that a parent who is also a police officer is actively present at the school on Monday. Constable Rockhill is also looking for parent volunteers to assist in traffic safety. Tara Z. also mentioned that other safety programs are implemented in other provinces and are part of the school's mandate, which is not the case in BC. Kate P. suggested that the \$300 Traffic Safety grant may only be available for a Traffic safety education program. Cindy N. suggested possible flyers to be handed out to parents to remind about traffic safety rules. Chelsea D. asked about the process of getting the current crosswalks repainted. More to follow on this topic.

### **Sentinel Scholarship**

Lisa B. talks to the table about the special scholarship that the PJ PAC would like to gift to a PJ Alumni student enrolled in Sentinel. This \$1000 bursary would be taken from the capital expenditures. It would be given to a student who will graduate in 2020. Sentinel Secondary has asked that PJ should set the parameters of the scholarship bursary.

1. Student must be a PJ alumni
2. Does community service in french. (tutoring or volunteering at french speaking events)
3. Is continuing post secondary education in french

This scholarship would be presented to the Sentinel student at either the Grade 7 graduation by a Grade 7 or at the Sentinel Graduation. More to follow on that topic. Email Lisa B. with any ideas or thoughts.

Black\_lisa@hotmail.com

## 11. QUESTION/COMMENTS (Lisa B.)

Lisa B. addressed the flyer that was available for attendees to view and read over. The flyer was about a free event that is being put together by the West Van school community and will take place at the Kay Meek on October 22nd, at 6:30. The event is called Creating a Free Range Community for Children of All Ages. Lisa B. and other parents share their experience of allowing some independence for their children outside of the home.

Kate P. asks about a possible preload of information (books, websites) for parents regarding the 3 part series that focus the school Goal. Tara Z. explains there is some great material for parents and children and there will be more to come on this topic.

Lisa B. brings forward the possibility of having speakers on Fridays throughout the year. That the PAC would like to book educational speakers to keep parents informed of a multitude of subjects. The table agreed this was needed and was popular last year. Due to the change in meeting venue it does not allow enough time for both events.

Steph L. asked about possible resource library that another parent had told her about. Tara Z. said that this may have been an older system that is no longer in use.

Tara Z. agreed that parent education is very important, including topics like Vaping, that is causing a medical crisis in schools. Lisa B. notes that the ADs for Vaping are popping up everywhere and the regulations should change. All agreed. Tara Z. continued and informed the group that the medical services are called on a daily basis to Secondary schools because of Vaping. She notes that parents must be educated on the topic and to start talking to their younger children about the dangers associated with this. More to follow on the possibility educational speakers coming to the school

## 12. ADJOURNMENT (Lisa B.)

1st Dina D., 2nd Kate P. ,Meeting Closed at 9:58am.