

**Gray Elementary PAC Meeting**  
September 25, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

**In attendance**

Amy Burden	Ruth Kaune	Lucie Seba
Paula Hutton	Sandra Baumeister	Mike Keller
Zena Ray	Claire George	Jennifer Hastings
Jennifer Marieiro	Sarbjot Locham	Lori Guiton
Kim Perry	Linda McCague	

Mrs. Hastings was introduced as the new K/1 split teacher.

Motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2013 meeting.

**Principal's Report**

Zena Ray introduced herself and explained her recent history in the school district, as well as welcoming parents to bring forward any questions or concerns that they may have.

In response to general parent concern over combined grade classes, Zena explained how kids' placements are decided. For the most part, split classes work well for most kids and they are educationally sound. Teachers are experts in teaching and put the kids and their developmental needs first. Claire further explained that teachers need to fit the enrolled number of kids in the school into the number of divisions that they are given funding for. As well, some misbeliefs were addressed in how kids are put into their classes. If a child has an experience that was not great, the school staff would look at the causes and make considerations for the next year.

Zena addressed concerns from parents and students alike regarding students feeling excluded from their perceived 'grade' field trips. Teachers are responsible for their own fieldtrips and they are organized according to what is being taught in the class at that time. There is no intent to exclude certain groups as teachers are generally collaborative when planning their trips, however if a group has a trip planned, the other group will be doing something at a later time. Parents are encouraged to pass on this information to other parents that express concerns.

Terry Fox run will happen on Friday, after recess. The classes have been collecting toonies all week.

Volleyball is starting up now for Grade 7 students. The leadership class at Sands will hold a tournament at a later point. Grade 6 student will have a more informal program in place

Grade 7 camp will take place next week at Camp Jubilee.

A reminder was given for parents to return their confirmations about the notices sent home regarding updates to information on the Parent Connect website.

Information was given on new staff members at the school.

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School District has approved the cost of a security guard to walk around the school on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Zena received a notice from Delta Police on the Block Watch program, in hopes to resurrect the program in the community. Notice to be posted on the school website as there is an option for a Block Watch Coordinator.

Technology grant update was given on the project for the use of IPAD Mini's. Teachers and students will learn to use the equipment together. Each class currently has an IPAD mini and stand. Air servers are being set up for the teachers to be wireless in their rooms. Updates will be given throughout the year.

**DPAC Report**

Courtney sent out a recap of the recent DPAC meeting. At Gray, Ms. Juanita Hewitt, will be the Coordinator of Inquiry again for the second year, and will be facilitating discussions around the statement:

Question: Can a consistent understanding of levels of reading achievement be built through collaborative inquiry of 'at risk' students.

Outcome: Eliminate 'at risk' students through identification and planning.

**Treasurer Report**

Ms. Hewitt presented the \$500 scholarships to Sand students, Simryn Mann and Ravish Sharma. The PAC received thank you cards from each.

Lucie handed out report on last school year's final financial report. As well, the first month of this school year was presented.

Gaming grant received this year was \$8, 860.

Motion was made to allot, from this year's gaming grant, \$15.00 per student to be used for fieldtrips. Motion was accepted.

Motion was made to disburse \$150.00 to each Division to support the teacher's individual programs. Motion was accepted.

Effective this month, the signing officers for Gray Elementary PAC will be Amy Burden (Chairperson), Paula Hutton (Vice-chairperson), and Lucie Seba (Treasurer). Cheques will require two signatures from any of the three persons.

Motion was made for Ruth Kaune to purchase a new BBQ to replace the one that is currently being used for PAC-sponsored events. Motion was accepted.

**Hot Lunch Update**

Deborah Pettigrew had to resign due to upcoming work commitments. Amy announced that Jessica Mann is interested in taking the position and will be available for October meeting when a vote will need to be taken.

There will not be a hot lunch until October.

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As well, Amy announced that Lori Guiton is willing to accept the Newsletter Editor position. She will connect with Kim Perry to get any necessary information.

Motion was made to vote Lori Guiton in as this year's Newsletter Editor, to replace Kim Perry for one year, which is the balance of her two-year term. Motion was accepted.

**Emergency Preparedness**

Mike has a wish list of items needed/wanted for the emergency bin. He will update the list and associate an estimated cost to the items so that the PAC can vote to disburse fund, during the next meeting.

Mike will meet with Zena and Claire to discuss and consider the necessity of charging families \$5.00 for replacement of food and water items in the emergency bin.

**Fundraising/Special Events**

Gift card fundraising information was sent out today by email notice. Zena asked that any PAC notices be copied to her email as well as she does not get paper copies of the notices. Barb updates the website, however, September is a very busy month for her. Updates can be tabled for consideration in October.

Family BBQ was held last Thursday evening. The attendance was lower than in previous years, but was considered a success by teachers, families, and the PAC.

Linda McCague has agreed to another weekend of photos for the annual Family Photos fundraiser. The event will be held on the Nov. 2/3 weekend. Ruth will send notices out for families to book a time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

WE Day will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Free The Children Foundation sponsors this annual event which is a concert at Roger's Arena and includes speakers that address social justice and global awareness with respect to children around the world. Students that attend will make three commitments: to help the school, to help the community and to help internationally.

Kim noted that parents should be reminded that attending PAC meetings does not mean you are required to join something, as all parents are currently voting members. Attendance at the meeting allow for parents to participate in discussions, as well as receive information from the school staff.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Post-note: Al Pichler is scheduled to return to Gray this fall to produce another play that will show some time before Christmas.