

Minutes of PAC Meeting

September 27, 2017

7:00 PM

Attendees:

Sandra Baumeister	Amy Burden	Antonella Green
Kim Manner	Valerie Manson	Zena Ray
Patrick Klassen	Jenn Clarke	Amanda Berrera
Val Windsor	Saji Varkey	Jennifer Hastings
Deborah Pettigrew	Courtney Marsh	Lucie Seba
Cori Vetra	Rash Sangha	Andrea Mori
Sarah Wheeler	Kristin Unger	Terri Burton

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.

Motion to accept agenda as presented (Deborah, Sandra), passed.

Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting dated (Deborah, Sandra) passed.

Zena welcomed everyone and announced Patrick as new vice-principal and explained that he comes with an experienced background. At Gray, his teaching load will be as Inclusion Team teacher working with youth with designated challenges. He also teaches on Tuesday afternoons in Ms. Feenan's class when she is working as Inquiry Coordinator. Patrick's background is working with behaviour challenges.

Zena welcomed School Trustee, Val Windsor, our school liaison.

Principal's Report

This year, it took longer than usual to get into permanent classes due to re-organizing and the need to have sufficient space for all the in-catchment kids on the waitlist. This year was a bit of an anomaly due to increase in number of teachers being hired. Many divisions were added to different schools leading to the reorganization.

This year, 555 students are enrolled so far at Gray. No non-catchment students are accepted. There are 23 divisions and one division has been moved over to McCloskey (supportive learning).

We have space for a new division but it would involve a lot of planning. If we grow next year, on paper we can add three more classes. Zena noted it is starting to feel crowded outside. Neighbourhood around Gray continues to change. The staffing assignments were announced in the September newsletter.

Question was asked about the sign in the gym that state the maximum capacity is 510. Zena explained that to her knowledge, that sign refers to 510 adults under the current fire regulations and that is the reason that Christmas performances have been split into two separate nights.

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First Pro-D day was last week and it was an opportunity for teachers to connect and work on goal-setting for their personal learning.

An update on learning grant amount of \$26,066, to enhance student learning was given as follows. The plan forwarded to the Ministry in July was that the money would be spent on Technology. Patrick has purchased 15 new Chromebooks and a cart to house them, seven iPad for new teachers/divisions, five more iPads for student use. The school now has 25 iPads in the school. Six projectors were purchased and some more dry erase sleeves. One thousand dollars will be given to Ms. Roder to purchase equipment that can be taken from the gym to the playground.

Zena now has a revised wish list.

Patrick explained the addition of a Reset Room at the school. Behaviour E.A., Paula McLeod, uses the room and it will be used as a sensory room where students can self-regulate and de-escalate. They can use the space to Reset and then go back to their own classroom. District provided the funds for items (tactile, sensory) for the room.

A question was asked about supervision in the room and it was confirmed that students will be supervised in the room. Another question was asked for clarification on how the room works in regarding to District policy on seclusion and restraint. Patrick gave scenarios on how a student may choose to use the room and that it is not a punishment nor a consequence.

Question was asked on how students are going to be made aware of the room. Patrick explained that the room is still in the process of being put together. In a classroom, students will be taught self-regulation and then, when there is an issue, they will be taken down to the room. Teachers will try not to put a 'label' on the room. If there is no E.A. in the classroom, a teacher uses a red card system and will get assistance from the office.

Zena's wish list was handed out and noted to be in order of importance. Review of the list led to questions, such as what are school-wide performances. Zena explained that it is when a performer or show is brought into the gym for presentation to the entire school. Another question was raised on whether teachers were interested in smart boards. Zena explained that teachers do not seem to have an interest in using them and that they use Google Classroom.

Terri asked if Zena was interested in pursuing the Best Buy technology grant and Kristin offered to work on it and then provide information to Zena for her review and submission.

DPAC Coordinator

Kristin noted that the DPAC executive for Delta is almost made up of new members. There are going to be a lot of changes and the focus will be on communication with individual PACs. Issues that parents and/or PACs have can be brought to Kristin's attention and that will be an effective way for parents to have their voices heard at the district level.

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They had several speakers at their first meeting of this school year. A review was given of the Academy and Choice programs that are available to students from Grade 7 to Grade 12. Kristin can be contacted for more information. There was also a presentation about Farm Roots Mini School which is an 8-acre farm in Boundary Bay and Grade 10-12 students can learn how to run a small farm. Gray students have attended field trips there.

Superintendent, Doug Sheppard, talked about the movement of teachers in schools and that a lot of other school districts still have ongoing movement. Zena noted that Gray received a .25 FTE position for indigenous literacy and the position has not been filled yet.

Kristin noted that Delta S.D. is the first in the province to meet requirements for seismic upgrades.

The DPAC offers money to each PAC to be used toward a parent education night. PAC discussed having speakers on math (Carol Fullerton), or sexual health educators. DPAC report completed.

Valerie announced that there will be a Pow Wow on October 14th at Kwantlen on 72nd Ave. Everyone is welcome and it will run from 9:30 AM to 9:30 PM. Kristin will put information into the newsletter.

Hot Lunch Coordinator

No report given.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Position is now vacant. Patrick asked for help with doing an inventory of the emergency bin. Rash, Sandra, Antonella and Deborah offered to assist. The inventory needs to be completed by October 15.

Deborah agreed to have her name stand to fill the position of coordinator.

Deborah was voted in through acclamation of members present.

Great Shake-up will take place on October 19, 2017.

Fundraising, Special Events Coordinator

Terri provided a document that summarizes events and planning for the school year.

Reviewed success of the Welcome Back barbecue and whether we should use M&M to barbecue or have parent volunteers do the food. Terri noted they ran out of food through the event.

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Question was raised about asking for each class/division to have a parent in place to act as a liaison between parents and the PAC.

Review Entertainment Book fundraiser and the ongoing M&M Meats fundraiser.

Cobs in now on board and anyone making purchases there can mention Gray and 5% of sales are returned to the PAC.

Kaboom noted that the Gray community has been very supportive of the fundraiser. Owner is giving back 100% of enrolment fees to Gray.

Discussed corporate sponsorships and Terri noted she has a letter available. She also noted that she will pass on almost \$3,000 in personal money from her volunteer hours through her company.

Review the list of events and fundraisers that will take place for the rest of the year. Terri thanks all the parents that volunteer.

Terri received information about a community individual that wants to hold a CPR and water safety session that can work as a fundraiser when parents pay for the event but she will not charge a fee. Amy would like to get references on the individual before deciding to go forward.

Treasurer

Lucie is in her last year at the school and would like to have someone shadow her. Review dollars owed for the playground.

Motion: to provide \$150 to each classroom that will be used for teacher expenses at their discretion. Terri, Amy, passed.

Motion: to provide \$2,000 for the Principal's Wish List and the requirement that the first \$1,000 is put toward the Hardship Fund. Terri, Amy, passed.

New Business

Reviewed status of the playground and that the current delay is a result of there being no retaining blocks available at this time. The provider is making them up specifically for Gray. Colin has noted that the retaining wall should be done by the end of September.

Questions and discussions were held around the new parking in the front of the school. Zena explained that the parking lot has not been large enough for some time so when the parking spots were added, the first consideration had to be given to provide handicap spots closest to the entrance. Barriers are in place to stop kids from using the space in front of the school./cont'd

Students are not allowed to play at the front of the school (for the past two years) as there is not enough supervision for that area.

Discussed ongoing parking and traffic issues. Zena noted that our school liaison police officer is very supportive. Dividers cannot go on the street as it will restrict access to residents. Parents can still use the drop-off area.

A notice will go home to parents, asking them to acknowledge they have read and understand expectations around morning and afternoon drop-off, pick-ups.

Zenas asked if the PAC would be willing to pay for a security guard on Halloween night. The eight-hour shift would cost \$180.

Motion: to use PAC funds in the amount of \$180 to pay for a security guard on Halloween night. Sandra, Terri, not passed.

Terri decided she would give some of her volunteer money to the school to pay for the guard and no motion required regarding that spending as it is a personal donation.

Deborah asked if there was anything in the works to have Al Pichler do another musical at the school and suggested she could contact Al herself. Zena explained that it is a very large commitment and teachers need to be on board before a decision can be made to ask him back.

Val Windsor thanked the PAC for the invitation to attend the meeting and commented that the PAC seems to be active and great. She wished the PAC all the best and noted that each school she attends meetings at have ongoing traffic and parking concerns.

Next meeting will be held on October 25, 2017, and 9:10 AM in the staff room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM.