

Minutes of PAC Meeting

October 25, 2017

9:15 AM

Attendees:

Sandra Baumeister
Patrick Klassen
Deborah Pettigrew

Terri Burton
Zena Ray

Amanda Berera
Ruth Kaune

Meeting called to order at 9:25 AM

Approval of minutes from previous meeting will be carried over to the November meeting.

Principal's Report

Zena explained that the school district facilities department is waiting for more concrete blocks for the retaining wall to support the new playground base. The supplier has the blocks on backorder currently. Zena would like to have the students participate in a contest to name the new playground and then to name the other two playgrounds at the same time. Sandra noted that the grand opening with Mayor Lois Jackson has been postponed until March 2018.

The emergency release drill was postponed because there are new emergency procedures coming out from the school district. The drill will be done in May 2018 during Emergency Preparedness Week. If an emergency happened today, staff are aware of the process to follow and would direct new parents and students that have not participated in previous drills.

Parents are reminded to update their Emergency Release information on file with the school through Parent Connect.

Last year, the Grade 7 students left a legacy fund of \$1,500.00 and suggested that it go toward a sound system. It turned out the sound system was repaired for a small fee. Deborah offered that her husband could look at the old, portable speakers as he is an audio engineer. Zena gave permission for him to look at the portable speakers.

The year before last, the Grade 7 students also left money and asked for it to be directed toward a new bench. The money is still available. Patrick and Zena decided they would use the money to buy a bench with a plaque on it.

The school year will represent the first district-wide implementation of the new report cards which will be named Communicating Student Learning (CSL). The template was adjusted to become more user-friendly and parent-friendly. Major goal of the CSL design is to be parent-friendly and to use plain language, to convey information that is clear.

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There will be a parent meeting in November regarding grading and to explain that letter grades will not be provided on the year-end CSL document. It will also be a night for educators to explain why it was decided and the education reasons behind eliminating grades which is mostly, in part, according to best practice and research. At any time, teacher will be prepared to provide letter grades for a student if this has been requested by the parent.

A discussion was held regarding the importance of reading and how education is evolving.

DPAC Coordinator

Kristin sent minutes from the previous DPAC meeting and some highlights were noted. Gray Elementary was one of the first schools to close boundaries to outside catchment for this year due to high enrolment.

A new pamphlet endorsed by the DPAC will be distributed to parents to suggest ways to improve how they talk with their children about their learning (What am I learning? How is it going? Where to next?)

The new Communicating Student Learning documents will have four indicators: Not Yet Meeting, Partially Meeting, Meeting, Excelling.

The DPAC is working on a website interface change and is asked for PACs to talk about their current PAC websites and what they would like to see improved.

Hot Lunch Coordinator

There will be a Grade 7 hot lunch fundraiser next week and a Grade 6 hot lunch fundraiser the week after that. Online ordering starts on November 16th and instructions will be emailed in the new few days.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Deborah went through the bin to inventory all items. Some items appear to be missing from what was previously inventoried. There is a shortage of two bins for the two new divisions. Deborah will put a print-out of inventory in each bin.

Deborah has the key for the bin at home.

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Fundraising, Special Events Coordinator

Entertainment Books are now done with 357 books sold. School will have a freezie day for beating the goal.

Halloween Dance will take place this coming Friday. Randy Mann (local realtor) will sponsor the DJ and the play list will be vetted in advance by Terri. The security guard is in place for Halloween night.

Christmas Market will be on December 2nd. There will be a bake sale held at the same time.

Gift card paperwork will go home in November. Purdy's Chocolates will be done December.

Treasurer

No report made.

Next meeting will be held on November 21, 2017, and 7:00 PM in the school library.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 AM.