

Minutes of PAC Meeting

November 22, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Amy Burden
Valerie Manson
Zena Ray
Jenn Clarke

Andrea Mori
Sandra Baumeister
Val Windsor, Trustee
Sarah Wheeler

Terri Burton
Patrick Klassen
Amanda Berera

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Geoff from Cobs Bread (72nd) was introduced so that he could talk about the 'doughraiser' program. They like to be a part of the community. Every time a parent makes a purchase at that Cobs location, they can say they are with Gray Elementary and 5% of purchases will get donated back to the school. Geoff made the offer to assist the school with products for staff meetings, sports day and other events.

Principal's Report

A contest was held to have students submit ideas to name the three playgrounds. The names that were chosen are: Green Kingdom for the newest playground, Twisted Fun for the playground near the primary grades, and Tropical Climb for the oldest playground near the parking lot. Kindergarten kids are taking lunch at a different time so that they can use all the playgrounds. Schedules are worked out for use by other grades.

Next Tuesday, November 28, 2017, there will be a meeting to roll out Communicating Student Learning and explain the document and to communicate rationale. The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

For the Pro-D day on Friday, a team of eight teachers will be going to learn about Agile Schools and to talk about learning sprints. Pro-D will focus on assessment for the balance of the teachers that will stay at the school. A further discussion was held on the inquiry and assessment for learning and report process, what it means and how to develop learning targets.

School website has been updated. Every school is in processing of updating with a new look. PAC will be affected by having newsletters and documents on the pages rather than just links with the hope that information will be more accessible. Patrick and Barb have been working on Gray's website.

Gray has a growth mindset and each term; three teachers decide on three things that they can work on personally and that will be visible. One of Zena's goals is to run five loops of the gravel field. It shows kids that having a growth mindset is something that you will do for all your life and sends the message that teachers are learning too.

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Zena passed around the pictures of the two Sands students that were presented with a scholarship from Gray, along with thank-you cards. Students were Leah Wong and Harnoor Panesar.

DPAC Coordinator

Kristen's report was read by Terri and noted that the previous meeting included a roundtable session to meet with trustees. Changes to staff in the schools are ongoing as teachers take jobs closer to home. Bullying was discussed.

Val Windsor, Trustee, noted that she was able to sit with other PAC representatives from schools that she supports.

School District is one of several that are being studied regarding their practices on how aboriginal kids are educated, how to make it more equitable and how to give them a leg up.

Gibson received funding for a seismic upgrade. They will be the last school to complete upgrading.

Ministry of Education announced a funding review of the formula for transportation. Having bus service available can be a very big issue for parents.

Hot Lunch Coordinator

Ruth passed information to report that enrolment for hot lunch program is low. A discussion was held regarding how best to get parents to engage, paper versus online. Amy will ask Ruth if Backpack can be used for other events and coordinating volunteers.

Fundraising, Special Events Coordinator

Terri is finalizing prizes for top sellers of Entertainment. A school-wide freezie day will be held just before Spring Break.

Recap of Halloween Dance was that the event went well, the DJ was good and there were four bins filled for the food drive. Movie night also went well. Canned items were donated to Deltassist.

Gift card fundraiser is being processed and the first of two cut-off dates already took place. The second cut-off date will be on Dec. 22, 2017. So far there has been \$25, 000 in sales. Question was asked if purchases could be provided with receipts.

Purdy's fundraiser just ended and, with \$3,500 in sales, there will be a profit of approximately \$800.

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Gray Christmas Market is upcoming. There are 40 vendors signed up to participate. M & M meats continues to be an ongoing fundraiser. Kaboom donated a cheque for \$345 that represents enrolment of Gray students at the facility. Terri will relaunch the fundraiser in the new year. Bingo night is scheduled for Feb. 16, 2018.

Discussed holding a paint night for parents at the Delta Lion. Amy will check with the pub for available dates. Discussed the PAC promoting events involving alcohol and considerations for insurance. If the paint night goes through, it will be promoted as a community event rather than a PAC event.

If the school hires a Zumba instructor to run gym classes, the PAC will consider holding a family Zumba night during the same week.

Spring carnival will be held on Friday, May 25, 2018. Teacher Appreciation Lunch will be held on June 8, 2018, and the PAC will have take-out containers available so that teachers can take leftovers home.

Sports Day is June 15, 2018.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

No report provided.

Treasurer

No report provided.

Zena explained that she needs for the school hardship fund to be increased. Several students are provided lunch and snacks and field trips are paid for through this fund when parents are unable to. Patrick noted that there are times when teachers have paid for kids' snacks, field trips, etc. out of their own pockets.

For food programs at the school, the school district contributes to the Vulnerable Student Fund and then the balance of money needed comes from the school hardship fund.

New Business

A discussion was held around supporting needy families over Christmas. Amy noted that Remax is looking to purchase Christmas vouchers from M & M meats and donate to families in need. Amy will request five vouchers. As well, Zena noted that last year there were donations made for families at the school that were in need. It was driven by a parent that is no longer at the school. Zena and Nicole sorted through the donations and distributed.

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Andrea asked about Starfish Backpack which sends home a backpack with food for the weekend for students that may not have enough at home. Zena noted that the topic was on the agenda for her upcoming staff meeting.

An update was provided regarding the stability of the emergency bin, in response to a question that was raised at the previous meeting. Sandra gathered information from the City's Park Planner and it was noted that when the original playground was built at the location of the newest one, the ground would have been compacted well to support the playground pieces. The Park Planner felt that the emergency bin would suffer the same sinking as the parking lot.

Next meeting will be held on January 24, 2018, at 9:10 a.m., in the staff room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.