

Minutes of PAC Meeting

April 25, 2018

7:00 p.m.

PAC Executive Attendance

Attending: Andrea Mori Amanda Berera Sandra Baumeister
Kristin Unger Jenn Clarke Colin Warde
Deborah Pettigrew

Regrets:

Absent: Sonja Gustavsen

Other attendees: Warren Zerbe Patrick Klassen Jennifer Hastings
Courtney Marsh Teresa Hogenes Jayne Ircha
Valerie Manson Rianna Ganief Gabriella DeWinter
Sarah Wheeler Irfan Manzoor Rashpal Sangha
Kika Stogianou Terri Burton Antonella Green

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Agenda was accepted as presented.

Linda McCague attended the beginning of the meeting to announce that she would like to continue with her Family Photo Day fundraiser. She offers 10 minutes sessions, booked over two weekend days, with the proceeds of the sitting fees going directly to PAC. She also takes orders from parents and donates a portion of proceeds back to the PAC. The first weekend in November will be the best days. Jenn Clarke and Linda will be in contact with each other to set up the photo days and to get information out to parents.

Jeffrey from Cobs Bread attended the beginning portion of the meeting to present a cheque to the PAC in the amount of \$227.76. This money was raised through the Doughraiser fundraiser where customers announce that they are with Gray Elementary when making a purchase at Cobs and 5% of all monies earned is donated back to the PAC. Jeffrey explained that Gray Elementary raised the most money of all PACs that he works with. He offered that the donated percentage will increase to 10% if he hit \$200.00 again for this school year.

Jenn thanked Jeffrey for his sale price of 50% off the cost of buns purchased for the recent Welcome Back barbecue. Jeffrey offered that they would like to continue with the Hot Lunch Program at Gray.

Cont'd

Principal's Report

Warren introduced himself to the PAC members and parents attending. Gray is his fourth assignment as principal and he has been learning a lot from the staff over the first couple of weeks at Gray. He has a focus on having kids learn self-regulation and he also wants kids to have a good day at school.

Staffing issues are currently being worked out with teacher being in place as of tomorrow. The school is still looking for additional support staff.

Warren reviewed the District Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. He talked about the importance of having kids become connected to more than one adult to be successful. The District also focuses on ensuring students are able to read in Grade 3. District is looking at what success looks like at Grade 1 and 2 levels and determining learning targets and how teachers will make professional assessments. Teachers should know where the students are at with their reading by the start of Term 2.

Patrick noted that Ms. Roder passed along her thank-you to the PAC for purchasing new jerseys to supplement the current stock.

Warren presented an up-to-date Wish List and reviewed each item. Of note, Ms. Hewitt's class is heading up courtyard rejuvenation project, labelled as "Courtyard Hopes and Dreams" by her students. The major heavy work will be done by staff from the Grounds department. Kids are able to learn while they participate in creating and participating in age-appropriate maintenance.

Other funds requested are for new water bottle filling stations in the school. At present, there is only one filling station and it is heavily overused by students. There are water fountains around the school but they do not suffice for filling up bottles.

There is a new student in the school with accessibility issues, so an item was added to the Wish List to provide some kind of ramp to the playground to allow for wheelchair access. Parents noted that there may be funding available through Canadian Tire and BCAA. Warren noted that the parent of the student would be a very good advocate for helping others understand the child's accessibility needs.

A brief discussion was held about using social media to pass on opportunities for community members to donate some needed items. In the past, this type of request was met with very negative results from government representatives.

Current school enrolment is 551 students.

Cont'd

DPAC Report

Kristin explained that the School District has come out with new language for labelling emergency situations and they will replace Code (insert colour) currently used. The new language is more descriptive and is what is being used by emergency services in Metro Vancouver. In the case of an emergency, the District website will have a banner running to provide up-to-date information. School administrators are often unable to provide up-to-date reports to the parent community while an incident is fluid and they are focused the safety and protection of students. Jenn Hill is the Director of Communication for the School District and welcomes direct feedback from parents and community members if they observe that social media is erupting with information about an emergency. This will give her the opportunity to provide appropriate communication to stakeholders.

Kristin offered to become Gray's representative on the BCCPAC. Delta is currently underserved with representation at the Provincial level. By becoming a member, she will have a vote on issues affecting Delta PACs. The cost of \$85.00 for annual membership will be paid for by the PAC.

In advance of the election coming up in October, there will be an All Candidates meeting for trustees running in the election. The first meeting will be on October 4th at North Delta Secondary from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. The second meeting will be on October 11th at Delta Secondary from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. If you have questions for the candidates, it would be best to pass them to Kristin and the DPAC will compile a list of questions for the candidates.

Hot Lunch Coordinator

Sonja was unable to attend. Jenn explained that there has been low enrolment into the Hot Lunch program so far. Together, her and Sonja will work to communicate with parents about signing up. The first hot lunch will be toward the end of October and will be Pizza Hut.

Fundraising Coordinator

Entertainment Book fundraising seems to be off to a good start. There are incentives in place for top seller and for top class. Upcoming fundraisers will be Purdy's and gift cards at Christmas, and Purdy's again at Easter.

Warren noted that at some schools, PACs do not engage in a lot of fundraising and rather ask parents for a donation to the PAC. He offered to provide an example of a form letter for parents.

Special Events Coordinator

This position is currently vacant. Jenn offered (and dates were set for) that upcoming events that have historically occurred are Halloween Dance (October 26), Movie Night (November 16),

Cont'd

Christmas Market (December 1), Zumba (week of January 28), Bingo (February 8 or 22), Carnival (May 24) and Teacher's Appreciation Lunch (June 29).

On April 23, 2019, there will be a parent education night, funded by DPAC funds, with Saleema Nunes. She is a sexual health educator. The two days following the parent night, she will be educating students during class time.

Antonella asked about Grade 7 events, what is the process. She offered to take the reigns and get started with developing committees. Sandra will pass on the Grade 7 Events bible to her.

Antonella commented that she feels the Spring Carnival needs to be completely revamped as it does not feel enticing to students of all grades. She will bring forward thoughts and ideas at a future meeting.

Treasurer Report

Colin Warde offered to take on the role of treasurer. He was voted in to a two-year term through acclamation of members present.

Colin explained that he had just received the banking and financial information over the weekend. He will be able to provide a financial statement at the November meeting. Colin noted that the Gaming Grant funds are currently on hold due to a banking issue but he is working on it and expects it to be resolved by the end of the week.

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Deborah passed out a list of what items are contained in each division bin in the emergency container. There are now 24 divisions so she will be making up one more bin. After doing a full inventory of all division bins, she noted that many are very short on supplies and all batteries are dead and need to be replaced. A request will go to all parents to provide funds to replenish emergency staples. Warren will clarify whether the letter going home to parents will be a request for funds or a mandatory requirement for parents to pay.

Sandra provided information regarding a previous request to find out how to replace the old map of the area surrounding the school. After speaking with Kate Steel, Emergency Social Services & Seniors Resource Coordinator, the offer was made to have City of Delta and/or School District staff attend a future PAC meeting to explain how a catastrophic event will be handled and what would be expected of the school.

Patrick noted that there will be an emergency drill and release on October 18th for the Shake Out BC.

Cont'd

New Business

Kristin currently fills the roll of PAC Newsletter Editor. Now that there will not be an official Gray newsletter to attach our information to, how would the PAC like to pass on information. A discussion was held on how information gets to parents. Warren prefers to use email and pass on information as it occurs. The PAC will use the Gray Elementary website to promote PAC events and to pass on information. PAC meeting minutes are uploaded to the website and it was noted that the agenda could be emailed and/or put onto the website in advance of meetings to encourage parents to attend.

Now that Ruth is not on the PAC, we will need someone to take over Tasty Tuesday. A discussion was held about the financial benefits and also that there are parents that do not like to encourage junk food and candy consumption.

The motion was made to use PAC funds to provide each enrolling classroom with \$200.00 for teachers to use at their discretion. Motion made by Jenn, seconded by Kristin, passed.

The motion was made to use PAC funds to provide \$750.00 to the school to be used for Beautifying the Courtyard project. Motion made by Jenn, seconded by Amanda, passed.

The motion was made to use PAC funds to provide \$500.00 to the school to be used to purchase walkie talkies for the noon-hour supervisors. Motion made by Andrea, seconded by Jenn, passed.

The motion was made to use PAC funds to provide \$1,600.00 to the school to be used to pay for Zumba lessons for students. Motion made by Sandra, seconded by Amanda, passed.

Terri clarified for all members/parents present that she feels the current PAC executive has the knowledge of previous and current financial statements, including recurring expenditures and understands that there are enough savings to pay for the motions made during the meeting. Gabrielle thanked Terri for providing the explanation for parents that are new to attending meetings.

Deborah's husband will come to the school and look at the current audio equipment and assess its market value with the intent to sell it. Warren will gather estimates to replace the equipment and a discussion will be held at the next PAC meeting.

Rash brought up her concern of dogs on the school grounds during drop off and pick up. There are parents with dogs that gather close to the doors that students exit from and it presents challenges for students that fear dogs. Warren will go out to the areas where dog owners seem to gather and ask that they back away from the school doors during the times that students are exiting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.