

Gray Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

October 27th, 2021

Microsoft Teams virtual meeting called to order by Jenn Clarke at 7:00 pm.

In Attendance:

Jenn Clarke, Andrea Mori, Bob Thompson, Heidi Gonzalez, Heather Svensson, Kathryn Bickerton, Sonja Gustavsen, Dave Camara, Kurt Morley, Amanda Berera, Jennnifer Hastings, Adriana, Roberta Bacellar, Kwok and Karen Kang

Motion made by Karen to accept Agenda as presented, seconded by Dave and all present voted in favor.

Motion made by Karen to accept September 22nd, 2021, PAC Meeting Minutes, seconded by Dave and all present voted in favor.

Principal's Report:

Provided by Bob Thompson and VP Heidi Gonzalez

Heidi started with:

- The school goal of raising \$500 for the Terry Fox was exceeded almost 3 times over. The students were rewarded with a double recess for all their efforts.
- Sept 28th was picture day with Nov 1st being retake day
- Sept 29th was our first Day of Truth and Reconciliation, and focus was on unpacking what that means, lots of classes attended virtual information sessions and wore orange shirts to support.
- After Thanksgiving on Oct 13/14 was parent teacher conferences, which was a bit of a learning curve as it was conducted virtually on Microsoft Teams which is new to us.
- Hot Lunch has resumed and there is a strong group of parent volunteers that help and is well organized by Preeti & Maleena

Bob continued with:

- The annual FSA is underway for grade 4 & 7 students. There is some controversy around the FSA in ways of how data is collected as it only goes so far. Some parents opted out. Over the next few years there will be conversations around the outlook of these tests
- Tomorrow is a big district event which is the unveiling of Vision 2030. The unveiling will take place at 3:30pm via live virtual event
- On Friday the school is celebrating Halloween, kids are encouraged to dress up but no masks or weapons. Some parents and staff were inquiring about sweets, they are allowing treats however must be store bought and individually wrapped (no home prepared goods). The teachers will hand out
- Monday November 1st is photo retake day
- The first assembly of the year will be for Remembrance Day and will be held virtually. Will be treated with importance; some classes will be doing presentations and the video will be shared online via school website for parents to view

- The district and school are still saying no to indoor sports, however the Gr 6/7 are doing intermural volleyball division by division. There will be 5 games upcoming of student's vs teachers
- November 16 will be the Gr 6/7 immunizations includes the regular booster. Public Health staff will be in to conduct
- The school is still being conservative around covid protocols, strong handwashing and mask wearing guidance in place for students/staff as it is important to keep it up.

Teachers report from Jennifer Hastings:

- The teachers had a meeting and determined they had 2 priorities
- 1st priority was a basket of outdoor equipment per pod, so kids had more options to play. This was started last year, but equipment needs to be replenished as items get lost or damaged
- 2nd priority is for paint drying racks, only 1 pod currently has one and it is very well used
- Bob also advised that there were other items teachers discussed but felt that these two were the most pressing
- There are 6 pods that require the sports buckets and 5 pods that require the paint drying rack
- Jenn Clarke also mentioned that some teachers were interested in the Jillian Judson walking curriculum books which are \$25 each

PAC Reports

Special Events:

- none currently

Fundraising:

Update provided by Dave

- The Neufeld's, wine and beer fundraiser is underway and closes on Tuesday Nov 2nd
- Next campaign after that will be Purdy's + Republic coffee and 2 Brew company's (Russell Brewing & Barnside Brewery) which will start a few days after Neufeld's is completed and will run to Nov 21/22
- Neufeld pickup is scheduled for Nov 13th and volunteers are in place
- The Purdy's will be picked up around Dec 1-3 depending on when Purdy's order is ready (Dave is personally picking up as we had some delivery delays last year)
- The fundraisers are primarily using the Munch a lunch ordering system, there is a link to paper forms that Barb sends out
- Spirit wear is in the works by Jayne Ircha, around \$17-20 cost for hoodies and looking at t-shirts as well. Hoping to get out before Christmas if possible, along with facemasks as well
- Jenn C had a question about our Gray owl logo, old logo used as new one was never completed which we worked on obtaining last year. We may be able to digitalize which seemed to be the holdup last year if we can obtain, Bob may reach out to Patrick for parent info of who was working on it to try to see if we can get
- There is some talk about a possible Christmas market, which would be done online like a marketplace, ideas include having it open for 1 week, Bob also suggested possible online auction as a component

Hot Lunch:

Preeti and Maleena away

- No update
- Next set for Nov lunches is live

Treasurer Report:

Update provided by Amanda

- Around \$1900 raised from the 1st set of 3 lunches
- Accounts sit at \$17,419.74 for gaming and \$29,592 for operating
- We are still waiting for our gaming grant to be deposited which hopefully will be by the end of this year (\$10,500 estimated)

DPAC:

Update provided by Dave

- The super intendant and the assistant to super intendent presented the meeting. They were discussing the \$200 million budget over the whole district
- One topic was on Chromebooks, they were looking that PACs fund for schools and the point arose if these tools are required for teaching, then shouldn't they be included in the budget?
- 1-5 ratio is what they aim for per school
- Question about facility rentals came up and looks like they are renting out gymnasiums for Scouts
- School district does provide a guest speaker grant (\$300) if it is for a parent information session district will reimburse (ex. Salima Noor parent info session)
- Going forward perhaps we can look at obtaining a guest speaker for parent info sessions surrounding Truth and Reconciliation for more education
- Some PACs are struggling within district with fundraising, Gray is top 2 or 3 with fundraising in the district

Emergency Preparedness:

Provided by Sonja

- No new update, we are still waiting for District emergency rep to meet with Bob. They are working on getting a meeting in place soon.

Newsletter:

- Not on table for monthly newsletter as Bob is trying to move to a weekly newsletter
- Bob also mentioned that they can't send out marketing information advertising other businesses as it is a legal issue. However, we can send out a PAC newsletter for events/fundraisers which would be reviewed by Bob prior to being sent out

Old Business:

- Movie license, Bob advised that there are some occasions that staff want to show but there was no huge resounding yes by staff so we will forgo. Jenn Hastings also advised that it isn't used much
- Classroom funds for non-enrolling teachers, we have 5 on staff this year

Motion made by Amanda to give \$50 each to the 5 non enrolling staff which is \$250, seconded by Sonja and all present voted in favor

New Business:

Motion made by Dave to purchase 5 paint drying racks (via Scholastic is \$1,797.55 incl. shipping), seconded by Karen and all present voted in favor

Motion made by Andrea to purchase sports equipment at \$150 for each pod ($\$150 \times 6 = \900), seconded by Dave and all present voted in favor (these funds can be used from our gaming account)

Bob confirmed that school has hired security guard for Halloween night

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 8:25pm by Amanda, seconded by Dave and all present voted in favor.