

**JH Sissons (JHS) Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**  
**Meeting Agenda - DRAFT**  
**Wednesday, February 10, 2021**  
**7 pm - Zoom Meeting/In person (School Cafeteria)**

**Present:** Graham Arts, Meghan Beveridge, Annie Casson (co-chair), Susan Fitzky (co-chair), Katie Johnson, John Stephenson

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**Action items**

(September 2020)

1. Graham will reach out to Caroline Roux about organizing a literacy parent information session. – in discussion.

(December 2020)

1. Graham will look into access to new toys.
2. Susan will follow up with Chelsea at Rainbow Coalition to explore options – one session for teachers and one for parents – as a consultation.
3. Wendy C. will write up information about Mabel's Labels for a future Cette Semaine. Graham will include this information once a month.

(January)

1. Graham and Wendy will have a follow up discussion about loose parts and discuss with Julie who can put together an order list, and bring thoughts back to next PAC meeting.
2. School/PAC will consider renting ski equipment at March break.

(February)

1. Graham will reach out to Kerry and Julie about who can organize ski rentals for March break.

**Record of Decisions**

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**1. Welcome and approval of agenda and previous minutes**

- Agenda approved
- January minutes approved

**2. Quick Standing Updates**

**a. Principal's/PAC Financial Report – Graham**

- 292 students enrolled at JHS
- PAC funds on hand: \$13,959 but costs from Subway have not been deducted.
- JHS will cover cost of online system for hot lunches.
- JK/K orientation happening tomorrow night. CPF will come. **Katie Johnson will participate and speak about PAC.**
- School naming committee is being formed – Darha Philpot, Claudia Haas, Emma Ambury, Graham Arts, John Stephenson, Jillian Letts, Itoh Scott-Enns, Nina Larsson, Angela James (ECE) – and will meet, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

- Indigenous Languages Committee is often composed of only staff members. Itoh Scott-Enns and Nina Larsson have agreed to be part of the committee, along with Jeff McConomy, Emma Ambury, Heidi Boudreau.

#### **b. Trustee's Report – John Stephenson**

- A special Board meeting was held on January 21 to appoint a new Superintendent for YK1 - Dr. Cindi Vaselenak effective August 1, 2021 for a five-year term.
- Trustees met with Yellowknife MLAs on January 21 via virtual call. They discussed the Superintendent appointment, new pellet boilers for some schools, Trustee term length and related legislation amendments needed, and successful conclusion of negotiations with NWTTA.
- Strategic planning will resume on Saturday February 13, 2021. Principals will join the meeting. John will push for parents and other staff to also be able to have input.
- Attended professional development on Monday February 8 all day on Advocacy, Elections and Governance in Times of Disruption (COVID-19). (Alberta School Board Association – online conference) This conference offers a great resource for new trustees. John is happy to talk to any aspiring trustees.
- Topics of Board concerns include capital planning, insurance costs, annual budget planning with COVID-19 impacts. The Board is working on a plan and advocacy approach with GNWT. The Board is working on annual budget planning, which will be discussed at the annual rate payers meeting.
- Monthly Board meeting was last night (February 9) and included a presentation from Canadian Parents for French.
  - Membership is still free!
  - Provides resources for parents with kids in French. How to help your kids.
- Next Board meeting is Tuesday March 9 at 7pm.

### **3. Hot Topics**

#### **a. Outdoors Committee**

- Loose parts playground – Graham received risk assessment/documentation and has started to read through it. Graham hopes to follow up with Wendy next week.

#### **b. Plant Sale and Seed Sale**

- Calling for yoghurt containers.
- Seed sale – seeds have arrived; school will start planting after March break.
- Already raised \$900 for seed sale. Still more orders to come.

#### **c. Parent Information Sessions**

- Susan hasn't heard back from Chelsea (Rainbow Coalition), but need to find a time when all are available to discuss.

#### **d. Arts at JHS**

- Kerry doing a session with teachers next Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.
- Graham will consider if there is something PAC can do to support.

#### **e. Treats for Teachers**

- Tomorrow. Treats are coming in. Separate containers for each teacher.

#### **f. Hot lunches**

- Very successful so far, with strong revenue.

#### **4. Other Items**

##### **a. Camp de Neige**

- Campe de Neige will take place March 29-April 1; full days for grades 2-5.
- Funding for buses and the chalet is from the budget of Jean Marie, French Program supervisor.
- Julie is sorting out logistics. Schedule should be available by next PAC meeting.
- No funds needed from PAC.
- Volunteer and food support might be requested; more complicated this year due to COVID-19. Graham will identify any needs as planning proceeds.

##### **b. Winter Clothing program**

- Accounts are set up at both Overlander and Weaver and Devore. No one has accessed the program yet.

##### **c. March Break Ski Rental**

- The Ski Club is waxing all the skis.
- JHS is happy to run rentals over March break; but rentals would have to be returned by Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup>, in time for Camp de Neige
- **ACTION:** Graham will reach out to Kerry and Julie about who can organize the rentals for this break.
- Annie also has a list of people who might be interested.
- Will start advertising soon.

##### **d. Policies for bringing food into classroom**

- Q. What is the school's policy for bringing food to share into the classroom? Different classrooms seem to be taking different approaches.
- Food can come from home. Pre-packaged is better, but a single Tupperware, etc. is fine, too. It must come in as one cluster of food. Only one person who hands it out (one central distribution). No sharing among the students.

##### **e. Bus company discussion**

- Graham spoke with the bus company. The 3 school districts agreed to not contract the bus company to transport JKs.
- The 3 districts will be issuing a new RFP for bus services for the 2021/22 year, and it will include the aspect of JK transportation.

**Next meeting:** March 9<sup>th</sup> conflicts with parent-teacher interviews. Change to **Wednesday March 3, 7 pm. Online only.**