

JHS Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Meeting Notes - DRAFT

Wednesday, December 9th, 2020

Present: Graham Arts, John Stephenson, Susan Fitzky (Chair), Joslyn Apps, Kerry Wheler, Wendy Campeau, Meghan Beveridge, Wendy Lahey

Action items (September 2020)

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

(October 2020)

1. Graham will follow up with the PAC about how it can support the process to select loose parts.

(November 2020)

1. Wendy will check in with Julie about whether the CEPA program has enough extra warm clothes for students who might need them.

(December 2020)

1. Graham will look into access to new toys.
2. Check out survey responses about who could help with coordinating the ski rental. Annie, Kerry, Julie can sort out logistics. A google form could be used to sort out reserving skis and snowshoes.
3. Kerry will find out how many skis Karen needs, and determine inventory available. Teachers will have one-day lead time on using equipment.
4. Joslyn will get ball rolling on this West Coast Seeds fundraising.
5. Joslyn will put together a list of tasks required for the plant sale.
6. Susan will follow up with Chelsea at Rainbow Coalition to explore options – one session for teachers and one for parents – as a consultation.
7. Wendy C. will write up information about Mabel's Labels for a future Cette Semaine. Graham will include this information once a month.
8. Wendy will determine winter days for Subway.
9. Graham will include link to Subway orders in each Cette Semaine.
10. Add Camp de Neige to the agenda for the next PAC meeting. Graham will have an update.

1. Welcome and approval of agenda and previous minutes

- Agenda approved
- November minutes approved

2. Quick Standing Updates

a. Principal's/PAC Financial Report – Graham

- School enrollment at 294
- PAC fund is \$14,127.

- Joslyn organized treats for teachers next week. Email sent email to volunteers this afternoon.
- Le Cadeau de lecture is happening – Jean Marie dresses up as Santa Clause and drops off new books to the classrooms.
- CEPA is going well. Some of the skis and other outdoor equipment are now in new seacan and accessible. Students have started using the skis.
- There is lots of interest in the wall tent, including a media inquiry. A feed the fire ceremony will occur on December 15 [now postponed to January due to cold weather]. Graham worked with Sheila to organize the ceremony. There will be drummers and an elder will participate if available. Media will possibly be there; photo consent will be sorted out.
 - Question – will there be more flexibility for more elders to be involved in other programming?
 - School is balancing risk. The ceremony is outside and low risk.
- Regarding the school-naming committee. Graham has contacted principals in Ndilo and Dettah to begin establishing relationships and to ideally include members of those communities to be part of the process.
 - Graham has been talking with Ed Lippert about discussing the possibility to attend a Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) council meeting; John suggests talking to the CEO for YKDFN.
- Graham has been talking with Caroline about a literacy night. It will be considered further in the new year.
- Gift certificate for Steve Ritsma has been well appreciated.
- No update on loose parts playground.
- Susan – parent had a question about access to the toys. **ACTION:** Graham will look at this access issue.

b. Trustee's Report – John Stephenson

- Negotiations with NWTTA concluded on Friday December 4 with an agreement pending ratification by the Teachers and approval by the Board. John (chair for YK1 table) felt the meeting was productive and an agreement in principle is be presented to the YK1 teachers for ratification, after which it would go to YK1 Board for ratification.
- Search for a new superintendent resumed with a plan to interview shortlisted candidates in early January.
- Strategic Planning underway with assistance of a facilitator and participation of District Office staff and Principals. Consultations with parents will begin in the new year.
 - Intentions to have a new strategic plan. Being taken to principals. YK1 will meet again in January. Principals will take it to teachers and YK1 to parents (likely in February).
- Revised Policy 19 - Nutrition - was approved on December 8. Draft Policies available for input are posted on the [YK1 website](#).
 - Parents are encouraged to review other policies.
- Chloe Dragon Smith presented at the December 8 Board Meeting on Learning on the Land
 - Based on her experience with Bushkids and recent policy paper with Gordon Foundation. Encouraging YK1 to support more teachers to take training and on the land

education. This related to another agenda item. YK1 will look for opportunities to finish those teachers' certification. Graham has provided follow up information to YK1 about teachers who have received training.

- YK1 welcomes short presentations to other topics of interest to share information. Not an opportunity for debate or decision, but could be recommendations for how we're educating our kids.

3. Hot Topics

a. Outdoors Committee – Wendy

- Idea of lending skis over holidays because it's not possible to rent children's skis in town. It could be a source of revenue. Would need to know who is interested and relevant information, and then designate a time for kids to pick up the equipment (maybe Thursday before holidays).
 - Skis are getting old and could be more fragile. But enabling families to get outside could be worth the risk of breaking.
 - A modest fee that could go towards a ski replacement fund. Although there is no available stock to replace this year if there is damage.
 - It could be repeated at March break, after ironing out any challenges this Christmas.
 - Karen (NWT Literacy) has requested to borrow skis for NWT literacy group.
 - The school would need three people to coordinate. Graham could sign out the key to oversight group. If coordinators can sort out giving out the skis, liability, returning skis, etc.
 - **ACTION:** Check out survey responses about who could help. Annie, Kerry, Julie can sort out logistics. Can use a google form to sort out reserving skis and snowshoes.
 - **ACTION:** Kerry will find out how many skis Karen needs, and determine inventory available. Teachers will have one-day lead time on using equipment.

b. Plant Sale – Joslyn

- West Coast Seeds does fundraising. Could do this in January/February. 40% of proceeds goes to school. A few avenues for ordering, ideally through website. Joslyn would receive seeds and distribute them. **ACTION:** Joslyn will get the ball rolling on this initiative.
- What plant sale supplies were moved over from the old school? Likely all of it put into cold storage in one of three seacans on Sissons site.
- Where teachers volunteer, they wouldn't have help from parents. **ACTION:** Joslyn will put together a list of tasks required for plant sale.

c. Parent Information Sessions – Susan

- Susan reached out to the Rainbow Coalition about anti-bullying training sessions. They have workshops around creating safer spaces for LGBTQ communities, but can add a topic about creating safe spaces. They do a consultation for free. \$200 first hour, \$150 for subsequent hours. Audience: Could offer to parents and staff could participate. Could be a follow up meeting/training for staff.
- PAC could support a separate session for the staff. **ACTION:** Susan will follow up with Chelsea to explore options – one for teachers and one for parents – as a consultation.

d. Promotion of CPF – no update

e. Arts at JHS – addressed earlier

- Kerry put together a list of materials and considered running the evening with the teachers, based on her background in art education. Kerry wants to equip them with tools to use right away. Kerry will organize some of the supplies so that they are at the school for teachers to begin using soon after the workshop.
- PAC could put funds towards purchasing materials (\$300-400), facilitator fee (honorarium similar to past events) and materials costs.
- **Decision:** Approve what was offered in the past for honorarium and materials cost.

f. Treats for Teachers – Joslyn

- Treats enough for 25 staff

g. Hot lunches – Wendy

- Profit wise: \$2,293 for 5 subways days.
- Mabel's labels, made \$342.70. With no advertising. More than previous years.
- **Action:** Wendy will write up information about Mabel's Labels for a future Cette Semaine. Graham will include this information once a month.
- **ACTION:** Wendy will determine winter days for Subway.
- **Action:** Graham will include link to Subway orders in each Cette Semaine.
- Wendy has had to buy labels for the subs and will submit receipts for the cost.

h. Camp de Neige

- It's not clear if Camp de Neige can happen this year due to the pandemic. But it is advisable to book the ski club soon.
- PAC might be able to support extra buses (one bus per class).
- **Action:** Add to agenda for next PAC meeting. Graham will have an update.

Review of Action Items

Next meeting – January 13th