

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

April 13, 2022

7 pm - Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Graham Arts, Terry Brookes, Susan Fitzky, Annie Casson, Sarah Kalnay-Watson, Katie Johnson, Jocelyn Apps, Nawsheen Morgan, Bronwyn McPhail

Regrets: Wendy Lahey

Action Items:

February

1. Outdoors committee will make a list of things that need to happen for CEPA and land based programming upon return to new school and identify ways the PAC can help.

April

1. Annie will contact Wendy Lahey to see if there are former PAC members who would like to be part of a gift presentation to John.
2. Graham will ask teachers to provide an update on how they used the books on diversity in their classrooms.
3. Graham will bring screen time concerns to teachers and report back at next meeting.
4. Sarah will get in touch with Graham to clarify commemorative art project plans.

1. Welcome and approval of agenda and previous minutes (March)

2. Quick Standing Updates

a. Principal's/PAC Financial Report

- Enrollment at 302, on track to have 2 JK classrooms for next year, 20+ JK registrations
- Thanks to Susan Fitzky for organizing the last Treats for Teachers
- Gift for John Stephenson - Laura selected a new painting as the original one had sold (cost of \$520) - need to make a plan for presenting it to John

ACTION ITEM: Annie will contact Wendy Lahey to see if there are former PAC members who would like to be part of a gift presentation to John.

- No school on Good Friday or Easter Monday

- Construction update - visited the sites and seen some reports - project is still on track and things are looking good!
- New school is built for 14 classrooms (current need) plus 4 classrooms to accommodate growth, space for project rooms, meeting rooms, sensory room
- Teachers have access to boxes and have been given a headstart on packing things up
- Calendar changes have been approved to allow for packing and moving - for JHS, WMS, and SJF classes will have no classes on Monday, June 20th to allow teachers to pack up
- Grade 5 farewell will happen on June 23, dependent on Covid rules
- PBIS blitz upcoming - respectful, responsible, safe behaviour in the hallways
 - students are rewarded and recognized for demonstrating positive behaviours, each class can earn their own reward
- Confirmed with Nancy Wise (inclusion in French Immersion speaker) - for two sessions in September, parent session on September 22 at 7:00 pm
- Changes coming to the Covid rules, unknown at this point but will be shared soon
- Student planners being developed for next year, will include parent and family handbook, will also be posted on the website
- In communication with Wendy and Steve about wall tent at WMS site, plan is to move wall tent to new Sissons site
- Thank you to the PAC for the planting supplies!
- Preliminary discussions with school district, looking at option of running reading camps (in French, no cost) in late August to help students get back into the swing of things - if there is a lot of interest there may be a need for parents to become involved (as a paid position)

b. Trustee's Report

- Terry Brookes, covering for Tina Drew
- Children and grandchildren are former and current JHS students
- Great to see the classrooms as a blank canvas for the teachers and to look forward to what they will do in each space
- Board meeting on April 12, Board will be relaxing Covid rules, may look different based on the age of the students, safety of staff and students is always primary concern, Covid is not going away, should allow for graduation ceremonies

- Budget for next year being developed, rate-payers meeting is upcoming (date not yet set)
- Policies open for comment on the website, can also contact board members as well
- Want to encourage parents to continue to be involved with their children's education

3. PAC fundraising money

- See PAC finances summary
- Camp de Neige did not happen this year, logistics and costs were not feasible - planned to return next year, PAC can support
- Would be best to use a local company to make T-shirts
- Sarah will put a call out on Facebook/in newsletter to see what parents would like to see, a mural or time capsule
- Small rock cavity could be created as part of the landscaping
- Time capsule - doesn't get seen or appreciated as much as a piece of artwork
- Wall tent and art project are longer lasting
- Most support for wall tent and art project, followed by t-shirts
- Student planners will facilitate home-school communication
- Could be categorized into learning and legacy projects, could choose to focus on one area or another
- Experience of parents who have had planners before has been positive
- Other options for commemorative items other than t-shirts?
- Parents can email PAC email address if they would like to be included on any financial decisions that have to be made before the next meeting

DECISION: PAC will fund up to \$2000 for new school t-shirts, \$3000 for commemorative art project, and \$2500 for moving the wall tent.

4. Hot Topics

a. Inclusive Safe Schools

- Gender neutral bathrooms in the new school!
- Will get an update on how teachers used books on diversity in their classrooms

ACTION ITEM: Graham will ask teachers to provide an update on how they used the books on diversity in their classrooms.

- Another training related to diversity and inclusion for teachers? Would have to happen at a later PD date, will be included. Important for new students.

- b. Outdoors Committee
 - Puddle day? Could have a PAC treat afterwards
- c. Plant Sale and Seed Sale
 - All wrapped up, thank you to Jocelyn!
- d. Parent Information Sessions
- e. Arts at JHS

ACTION ITEM: Sarah will get in touch with Graham to clarify commemorative art project plans.

- f. Treats for Teachers
 - Will set a date at next meeting, hopefully can return to a potluck event
- g. Subway lunches
 - Going well, thank you to Nawsheen!
- h. Communications
 - Parents are using the Facebook page to post and ask questions more regularly
 - Will continue to advertise Facebook page and change name in August

5. Other Items

- a. Screen time
 - Recurring problem, raised in a parent email, but has come up regularly over the last three years during the winter
 - Watching TV during eating time is bad from a dietary point of view, is also anti-social
 - Students are watching movies that are “scary” and parents are having to work with teachers to come up with alternative activities

ACTION ITEM: Graham will bring screen time concerns to teachers and report back at next meeting.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 11 at 7:00 pm, possibly in person!