

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
Meeting Notes – DRAFT
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
7 pm at JH Sissons Music Room

Present: Lisa McShane, Rachell Simmons, Wendy Lahey, Brigitte Rivet, Wendy Campeau, Tina Drew, Meghan Beveridge
Regrets: Katherine Harris, Satish Garikaparthi

Action Items (by month):

(Feb 20)

1. PAC to draft an email to request ECE hire an accommodation consultant as soon as possible.
2. Wendy L. will follow up with Martin Male about delivering a Google classroom parent information session in April.
3. Lisa will follow up with Jessica Payeur (CPF NWT Executive Director) about interest in the CPF YK1 representative role. Also email (or cc) Wendy Cardstart (CPF president until AGM).
4. Wendy will follow up with Stephane to find out what he needs for establishing the adventure playground.
5. Wendy will draft a statement for CBC based on comments on the revised timeline for the accommodation plan from this meeting.

(Jan 16)

1. Satish will ask Mac's gas station about providing milk crates to make benches for inside the wall tent - **complete**
2. Wendy to buy 2 black sleds to help transport wood and stuff out to the wall tent - **complete**
3. Rachell is meeting with Jessica Payeur - CPF NWT Executive Director in the near future to discuss. Rachell will update Lisa on when the meeting is. - **complete**
4. Wendy L will send a hot topic email to update parents on the town hall meeting - **complete**
5. Wendy C will follow up with Al Shortt/Trevor Kasteel for an update on his email with Kevin McLeod Dept of Infrastructure regarding the geotechnical report – **complete**
6. Our PAC is going to try to meet with the all PACs to listen to their concerns - **complete**
7. Share Stephane's ideas for the playground (rope and tire equipment, human fusbll) and let him know what we would be interested in supporting. - **complete**

(Dec 12)

1. PAC to discuss at March 2019 meeting how PAC funds should be spent. Ideas collected include Stephane's requests for the playground, \$2000- 3000 for

forest and nature school programming, mascot, math parent information night.

2. Wendy L. will follow up with Steve Reitsmas/Greg Skauge about his shop class building a wood box.
3. PAC to discuss access to visual arts (currently no visual art room) – visual art carts, supplies, mentorship/training

(Nov 14)

1. Wendy will follow up at the next PAC Chairs meeting about interest and logistics for a parent information session on Google Classroom. **-complete**

(Oct 2018)

1. Brigitte or Rachell will review instructions for operating wood stove and translate them to be hung in the wall tent.

(June 2018)

1. A communication package for new families, including types of events and when, PAC, resources available, etc. is in progress.
2. Miki will ask Centre for Climate Services about funding assistance for a weather station at the school. Miki has a meeting in February to discuss this.

1. Welcome and approval of agenda and previous minutes

- January 16, 2019 minutes approved with one change.

2. Quick standing updates

a) Principal's/PAC Financial Report - Rachell

Academic Evaluations

- English Language Arts (ELA) assessment – Fontas & Pinnell Grades 4 and 5 completed
- French Language Arts (FLA) reading assessment Grades 1-3 completed

Professional Development Sessions/Training

- Jan 17 – Child Development Team (CDT, includes occupational therapists, pediatrician, speech therapists, and others) with Health intervention workers
- Jan 18 – Grade 3 mentorship (where new teachers work with mentoring teachers)
- Jan 23 – Renee Michaud worked with Grade 3-5 math teachers
- Jan 24 – A number of teachers (EAs, JK, grades 1&2) participated in a Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) conference webcast
- Jan 25 - Renee Michaud worked with Grade 1-2 math teachers
 - ASD conference webcast (PST, specialists, JK &K)
 - Science planning for Grades 3-5 teachers
- Jan 28-Feb 1 – national Future Education Technology Conference (FETC) – Danika Jobin and Rachelle Simmons participated
- Feb 4 – Robyn Combres (Behaviour Specialist from Sylvan Lake) visited the school
- Feb 4-5 – OH&S supervisor training – Brigitte and Stephanie Laurente participated
- Feb 7 – ADHD information session was offered by Merrell Dean – Stephane, Darcey, Sophie, Jordan, Susan, & Stephanie R. participated.
- Feb 8 – Grade 3 mentorship

- Feb 13 – Grade 4 mentorship
- Feb 14 – JK mentorship
- Feb 18 – Terri Duncan (ASD specialist) visited school
 - Grade 2 and music mentorship
 - paperless leave in-service (entering leave time in software system)
- Feb 20 – Grade 1 mentorship

General Information

- Jan 22 – ILC grade 3 Dene Games camp
- Jan 30 – school-wide evacuation practice
- Jan 30 – started On the Land experiential program with Mme Heidi's grade 5 class
- Feb 1 – Lecture a voix haute (whole school)
- Feb 7 – JK/K Parent Information evening
- Feb 11 – Parent Reading Strategies information evening

Upcoming Events (February 21-March 6)

- March 2 – Petite Chefs – parents get a taste of immersion activity
- March 7 – ASAP Dance performance/ throat singing/ Drop the Pop bottle presentation

PAC Financial report

- No update.

b) Trustee's Report – Tina

- February 8-9 was the YK1 Board strategic planning meeting. The Board plans to continue the current plan so that there is time to build in school input in May.
- Two presentations were shared with the Board:
 - Status of student support:
 - There is a shortage of occupational therapists (OTs), which adds stress to families. OTs are only available to support students up to grade 2 right now. The hospital has 4 OT positions (one is currently vacant) but they do not come to the schools often.
 - The Child Development Team is only available until age 8; YK1 Board would like to expand this assistance to 16.
 - Due to new Mental Health Act, availability of school counselors could change, where a revised funding model could have councilors be employees of HSS rather than the school (currently ECE pays half of councilor salary).
 - High school pathways, as part of the Education Renewal Program (starts in September 2019 for grade 7) (see ECE website for more information - <https://www.ece.gov.nt.ca/en/services/renouveau-en-education-aux-tno/rethinking-high-school-pathways-and-graduation>)

- Anticipated changes: Students will still be required to gain 100 credits, but can start earning them in grade 7 rather than grade 9. The intent of changes is to address the challenge that some kids in NWT communities are not graduating from high school.
 - The concern is students will find it harder to both earn sufficient credits to graduate and to complete the required courses (i.e., 30 level) to be admitted to certain university programs.
 - Career counselors now will be needed in grade 7/8, which has budget implications for the Board.
 - Jacqueline Beland talked about how to integrate Indigenous language in French-language curriculum.
- The Sissons relocation accommodation plan is due to ECE by May 31, 2019 because ECE must provide cost estimates by June to have budget approved in time.
 - At this stage, no consultant is being hired for coming up with an accommodation plan. The Board is going to ask for an accommodation consultant to be hired to help put together the plan; however, parents may have more influence.

ACTION: PAC to draft email to request an accommodation consultant be hired as soon as possible.

c) Communications Report – Lisa

- No update

3. Hot Topics

a) Outdoor Committee

- Classes are using the wall tent on Tuesdays and Thursdays (there is a doodle poll to determine who will start the fire on those days). The grade 5 class is using it on Wednesdays. Students love the wall tent and are driving its use.
- There is ongoing work to make small improvements to the wall tent space.
- The Outdoor Committee is working towards finding a location for a permanent fire pit and getting a permit from the fire department.
- Grade 5 students will be invited to help light the fire with Rachell on Tuesdays and Thursdays if parent volunteers can't do it.

b) Plant Sale

- Two new co-coordinators (Jocelyn Apps and Kaja Kotulak) have volunteered for the plant sale. Katherine is continuing to play a small role for class planting coordination.
- Quite a few classes and many parents have signed up to plant.

c) Parent Information Sessions

- Martin Male is willing to deliver a Google classroom parent info night (district wide) in April.

ACTION: Wendy L. will follow up with Martin.

d) Walking School Bus

- No update.

e) Promotion of CPF

- CPF AGM is scheduled for March 4th at St. Joseph's school at 7 pm.
- **Action:** Lisa will follow up with Jessica Payeur (CPF NWT Executive Director) about interest in the CPF YK1 representative role. Also email (or cc) Wendy Cardstart (CPF president until AGM).

f) JHS School Renewal

- Al Shortt/Trevor Kasteel met with Department of Infrastructure ADM and two directors regarding drilling/geotechnical report and improvements in pile technology. The Infrastructure representatives agreed that there have been technological improvements and are willing to wait for more information. They conceded that the movement of kids was not taken into consideration for the site decision. They are continuing to meeting with the Infrastructure representatives.
- PAC is concerned that \$28M for the build, move and accommodation. The cost would be closer to \$32M. There are costs that weren't considered and it's unclear who would pay for reversal of retrofits needed in relocating Sissons students.

4. Other Items

● **Adventure playground**

- The PAC considers this a good idea. There is PAC funding available but parents would need to set it up.

ACTION: Wendy will follow up with Stephane to find out what he needs.

● CBC request for statement from PAC on the accommodation plan timeline

- **ACTION:** Wendy will draft a statement based on comments from this meeting.

Next meeting - Wednesday, March 6 at 7 pm

Review of Action Items from previous meeting