

Simon Fraser Minutes

Simon Fraser PAC Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2019

Executive Members in Attendance: Michelle, Melissa, Tamara, Alice, Lindy, Emily, and Sarah

1. Review Minutes and Agenda

Solicited feedback on the minutes from the January 15th meeting. No comments or changes were made.

Minutes approved.

2. Treasurer's Report (Lindy)

Lindy reviewed the current account balances. The Operations account has a balance of \$13,650 with no outstanding expenses.

The Gaming account has a balance of \$2689 with two outstanding expenses.

The first expense is for a Fedex fee for musical books for Seussical

The second expense is for a Teacher's transportation cost to source props for Seussical

3. SNEAL Report (Tamara)

Tamara received a document with suggestions + costs from the Occupational Therapist Cara, which would go towards improving the sensory and physio rooms.

The items suggested for purchase were as follows:

5 x Flooring Mats @ \$334.25 each
1 x Light Filter @ \$52.64
2 x Floor Lights @ \$59.99 each
6 x Light Bulbs @ \$20.94 each
1 x Inflatable Pea Pod @ \$148.67
1 x Fantasy Fish Tunnel @ \$195.11

Total Cost \$2433.27

Motion put forward to spend \$2433.27 on equipment for the physio and sensory room. Motion carried.

The school did purchase the following equipment recommended by Cara:

The Ready Learning Bodies Manual

Large Spin Board

Launch Board

Vestibular Bowl

4. DPAC (Peter)

Peter provided a handout on DPAC updates which included the DPAC website <http://vancouverdpac.org/>. The following was discussed:

Peter's nomination to join the DPAC Executive is in the voting process. Ends March 13th.

Peter discussed past lectures presented by DPAC - Cannabis Legalization & Schools and Anxiety in Children & Youth. Upcoming Lectures, presented by BCCPAC: Supporting Caregivers of Students with Diverse Learning Needs, to be held on February 28th.

Peter explained that there is a DPAC Facilities Sub-Committee. He said the goal initially was to prepare material to help guide PACs as their schools enter the seismic mitigation process as well as to organize a presentation on the steps that a school goes through in that process. A second goal will be directly help the DPAC Executive when major facility initiatives are undertaken by the VSB. The VSB is working on a Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) and Budget. DPAC will be having meetings on both on March 7th (LRFP) and April 25th (Budget). Parents from Simon Fraser are welcome to attend, and further information can be found on the Vancouver DPAC website.

Peter indicated that the Hamber PAC has worked tirelessly to push VSB school board and staff into action. He thanked those who signed the petition and attended the VSB Trustee meetings. A former student from Simon Fraser spoke very clearly on issues around the current design restraints.

Peter also brought up other points of discussion for DPAC. Specifically, measurable effects of not having a distinct anti-racism mentor in the district and problems in PAC/admin relationships at other schools.

5. Principal's Report (Cathy)

Kindness - Cathy reported that for the month of February the school is acknowledging and celebrating kindness. The school has sent out over 2,000 kindness hearts and we are only just half way through the month.

The school has also received many messages of thanks and appreciation from neighbors who received Valentines card from the school. The older students worked with their younger buddies to make cards and then classes delivered them to the community. This tradition is unique to Simon Fraser and is a wonderful way for our students to connect at a local level.

Pink Shirt Day - Cathy discussed upcoming Pink Shirt Day on February 27- students are encouraged to wear pink to say no to bullying- it originally started specifically as anti- homophobic bullying. Next week, there will be an assembly on Wednesday and announcements each morning with the message that each individual can make a difference. Cathy promotes the principle of the bystander being key to preventing bullying- when peers stand up to bullies, the behavior is far less likely to continue.

Ongoing activities - Cathy mentioned the students have settled into the routines of the Seussical practices- she said it is so great to hear the enthusiasm of the classes singing on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Chess continues- it is amazing to see 170 children participating in chess- with older students helping to teach the younger students- almost all of our Kindergarten students are learning! The school's basketball teams have been improving week on week- thanks to the dedication of the players, coaches and staff sponsors.

Outdoor space - Cathy discussed the development of our outdoor space.

Cathy indicated that there are many teaching philosophies that support teaching using the outdoors as a resource and a lot of research supports the benefits of connecting children to nature- especially those living in an urban environment.

The teachers at Fraser have committed thousands of dollars in Professional development funding and from successful grant applications to developing the idea of using the school grounds as a classroom. The school has engaged the services of the Classroom Gardener <http://www.theclassroomgardener.com> and the staff are learning how to develop our practice to make the most of the outdoor space at Fraser. The schools hope is to develop the space into an area where students play and learn, learning through play and exploration.

A Power Point was presented on ideas + renderings of Outdoor Classrooms.

6. Teachers' Report (Mr. Hughes)

Mr. Hughes expressed enthusiasm the teachers have for potential Outdoor Classroom. Some ideas discussed were potential murals of indigenous plants + outdoor blackboards as well equipment with a natural aesthetic and moving away from plastic and metal.

Kids are all really enjoying Seussical and Mr. Hughes also noted the leaders from VPS are fantastic.

Mr Hughes spoke of the Teachers Collective Agreement in June, any updates on the website: bcpsea.bc.ca

Mr. Hughes also thanks all parents for their support this year!

7. New Business (Melissa and Michelle)

Movie Night - A Family Movie Night at Simon Fraser has been proposed for March 14th. Was suggested that the Grade 7's sell concession to fundraise for their camp. The PAC would need to pay \$375 (annual fee) for a licence to show the movie. Ticket price will be \$2 pp which will help cover the cost of the licence.

Motion put forward to spend \$375 for the yearly licence for Family Movie Nights. Motion carried.

Simon Fraser Spirit Wear Sale - Kelli gave an update on Spirit Sale. 105 pieces were purchased and have arrived. \$260 was raised and will go towards purchasing new school jerseys to be used by the school's teams. Keill has sourced jerseys to match the existing stock to complete a full set of jerseys. Each jersey is \$38 and 25 more need to be purchased for a total of \$708.

Motion put forward to spend \$708 to purchase 25 school team jerseys. Motion carried.

Hot Lunch Update - Jessica indicated the Hot Lunch dates for March, the 8th + 15th. Subway was going to be used for a March Hot Lunch, but were unable to accomodate us (post meeting). Subway may be able to be used later in the year. Jessica mentioned she felt sushi + pizza were most popular and that there seemed to be a lot of waste when Calhoun's was ordered. Volunteers seemed to be down for hot lunch over the last month. If volunteers are lean, a email will be sent out asking for assistance.

C'est Mon Cafe - Yoony presented an additional option for Hot Lunch. C'est Mon Cafe. This would be an additional hot lunch and would not replace the bi weekly PAC Hot Lunch (pizza, sushi + Calhoun's). The hope is that we can implement C'est

Mon Cafe once or twice a week. It is affordable, healthy and no volunteers are required. Yoony will be meeting with C'est Mon Cafe and will hopefully implement trial lunches.

Raising The Bar - The Pac will be launching a Raising The Bar Fundraiser "Best Year Ever" the intent is to raise funds for each division, as well as library, gym and support workers, (\$500 x 19 divisions/departments was given in September 2018). We hope to give the same or more in September 2019. The other item the PAC hopes to fundraise for is the Outdoor Classroom, which Cathy referenced in the Principal's Report. This would be potentially developed in stages. Chloe is looking into grants and renderings/proposals to present.

KM Club - Sarah presented the idea to start a KM Club. This would hopefully start in the spring and would happen 2-3 times a week. This would be school wide program run by parent volunteers. The idea is for each child to run a km in the morning around the school ground and park, and collect a coin or popsicle stick for each km run. The suggested time is 8:15-8:45.

Summer Hoedown - Formally known as Spring Fling - same concept, but held later in the year. The date for The Summer Hoedown is June 21st. Volunteers will be needed and encouraged to email the PAC if they can join the planning committee.

8. Vancouver Performing Stars (Chloe was absent)

In Chloe's absence, Emily informed the PAC that VPS is unable to move forward with a school wide production next year. However, they may be able to facilitate a smaller production. Emily and Chloe researching other options and will present at the next PAC meeting.

Motion made to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

