

Simon Fraser Minutes

Simon Fraser PAC Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2019

Executive Members in Attendance: Michelle Berg, Melissa Lepp, Lindy Le, Emily Clarke, Sarah Mackenzie, Chloe Eckert and Alice Ro

1. Review Minutes and Agenda

Solicited feedback on the minutes from the February 19th meeting. No comments or changes were made.

Minutes approved.

2. Treasurer's Report (Lindy)

Lindy reviewed the current account balances. The Operations/Fundraising account has a balance of \$10,690 with no outstanding expenses.

The Gaming account has a balance of \$1981 with two outstanding expenses.

The first expense is \$50/class for costumes for Seussical. After paying this expense, there will be \$1231 left in the Gaming account.

The second expense is for approximately \$1700 (Cathy indicated this evening that the quote is a bit more than initially thought) for buses to transport students to and from the auditorium at Eric Hamber Secondary for the Seussical dress rehearsal.

Lindy explained that the balance of the Gaming account can be put toward the bus costs with the remaining portion to come out of the Operations account.

The Gaming account balance will then be zero for the rest of the 2018/2019 school year. The Gaming grant for the 2019/2020 school year will be applied for when the time comes.

Motion put forward to pay for bus transportation to and from the Eric Hamber auditorium for the Seussical dress rehearsal using \$1231 from the Gaming account and the remaining amount from the Operations account. Motion carried.

3. DPAC (Peter)

Peter has been busy since being elected to the DPAC executive and reported on the Eric Hamber Seismic plan, the Seismic Mitigation Program, Long Range Facilities Plan, and the VSB budget.

Of note - Peter informed the PAC that the budget for the VSB is currently posted online and open for public consultation until April 30 on the VSB website

https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Board-of-Education/Financial_Information/Budget-20

[19-2020/Pages/Budget-Consultation-open-til-April-30.-Participate-online.aspx](#) . The budget for the VSB is approximately \$500 million with a bit of a surplus this year.

As well, the Long Range Facilities Planning (LRFP) Subcommittee is discussing and developing a “toolkit” for schools to use when they are about to enter the Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP). The toolkit is meant to provide schools with information about what to expect during the process, who to talk to and ask questions of, and where to go if it seems that the school community’s voice isn’t being heard.

Finally, Peter let us know that the merger proposal for Henry Hudson and Strathcona French Immersion program could be a template for future school closures and/or changing catchments. Peter did say that the catchment reviews have fallen off the radar lately (since the recent announcement from the Education Minister Rob Fleming - <http://bcsta.org/advocacy-mrf-to-boards-re-lrfp/>) but are definitely still on the horizon.

[Peter’s DPAC notes will be posted as well.](#)

4. Principal’s Report (Cathy)

Of note - there will be an earthquake drill next Thursday, May 2 at 2 pm. Parents of grade 1 students will be asked to pick up their students starting at 2:20 pm to practice the release protocol for emergency situations like an earthquake. Watch for more information from the office.

There will be a School Active Travel Plan update meeting in the library on May 10 just after 9 am. City of Vancouver employees will be there to give updates on changes made following feedback and input from the community. Parents are invited to join this meeting.

As well, on May 10 a storytime performer will come to the school for a presentation.

[Cathy’s principal’s report will be posted as well.](#)

5. Teachers’ Report

No teachers were available to attend the PAC meeting tonight.

6. New Business (Melissa and Michelle)

Movie Night - the first SFE family movie night was well received by the school community. The ticket sales covered the cost of the annual license. The PAC is tentatively planning to hold another movie night in the fall (and possibly in the spring again?) while the movie license is still valid and if Cathy is able to accommodate the events in her schedule.

The grade 7s pizza/concession fundraiser at the movie night raised approximately \$275 for their grade 7 camp.

School Jerseys - Kelli informed the PAC that she is waiting for the arrival of the order of 25 new jerseys. There was a delay in delivery due to a sizing error by the supplier. Kelli found a supplier who was able to match the jerseys currently in use at the school. These matching jerseys were slightly more expensive than the jerseys approved at the previous PAC meeting but this difference in cost has been made up by the sales from the most recent online sale of school Spirit Wear.

Additionally, due to the sizing error made by the supplier, the school may end up in possession of 25 adult sized school jerseys. There was discussion of perhaps staff/coaches wearing them at school events.

C'est Mon Cafe - Yoony reported that the new hot lunch program has been receiving positive reviews. There have been two hot lunches provided by C'est Mon Cafe so far. Roughly 135-145 lunches have been ordered for each hot lunch session. Yoony explained that she wanted to make sure parents clearly explain to their kids which days they have ordered hot lunch since there seems to be some confusion amongst the students. It was noted at the most recent C'est Mon Cafe hot lunch service that several students claimed to have ordered for that day despite their names not being on the master list of orders. Yoony also reminded everyone that C'est Mon Cafe doesn't send out email reminders so it is important for parents to keep track of their order dates themselves. As well, parents are able to go online to revise meal choices and/or cancel orders.

PAC Hot Lunch - upcoming dates are April 26 (pizza), May 10 (sushi), May 24 (pizza) *this is also SPORTS DAY, and May 31 (sushi)

Summer Hoedown - a call out was made for volunteers for the hoedown on June 21. PAC will create a volunteer list and start asking parents to sign up in May.

Direct Drive Fundraiser - we are hoping to have a direct fundraiser starting in May. More details coming soon.

Eric Hamber Seismic Rebuild - Lindy recently attended a meeting with MLA Michael Lee and other concerned parties to discuss the current plans for the rebuild of Eric Hamber. Most concerning is the smaller size of the new building and its lack of an auditorium and second gym. Parents are worried that the new site won't fit current programs like music and fashion design. Many community members are frustrated that the new building will accommodate fewer students when the area surrounding the school is being redeveloped with many multifamily residences. Apparently funding of these projects is based on current student size and doesn't

take into account future demographics. The Eric Hamber PAC and alumni group have been very active in trying to voice their concerns about the project and the need for more money to build a site that will adequately meet the needs of its population. They are trying to get some media attention drawn to this issue.

Peter (DPAC) explained that a provincial steering committee decides the funding for seismic upgrading using area standards and current headcounts. He said that the process is restrictive and the VSB essentially has its hands tied. If more funding is to be provided for this project, it will have to be decided at the upcoming treasury board meeting. It was noted that there is chance for increased funding given the most recent statement from the Education Minister Rob Fleming about taking a new approach to long term facilities planning.

Lindy and Peter restated the importance of parent advocacy on issues like the seismic upgrading of Eric Hamber.

7. Music Idea for Next Year (Emily)

Emily informed the PAC that she is in the process of applying for a grant from the ArtStarts Music Program. She has spoken about the grant and program possibilities with Cathy who has in turn presented the idea to the teachers. The teachers have approved of applying for the grant and pursuing a music program to take place in school next year. Emily has connected with Juno nominated musician Ginalina (www.ginalinamusic.com) about creating a ukulele program for the 2019/2020 school year. Emily explained that the decision to work with ukuleles came from the fact that the school currently has 20 ukuleles in the school. Cathy reported that Ms Ruben would like 5 more ukuleles to make a class set. Ms Ruben knows how to play the ukulele and does play with her students and sometimes other classes.

The grant application is due May 31 and is for \$3500 per session/term. There would be two sessions in a school year and the grant application would need to be resubmitted for each session.

The idea, in its initial stages, is to have the students receive ½ hour of instruction per week during their session. Ginalina would start the year working with the primary grades and then work up to the intermediate students.

There was a discussion about the long term plan for such a music program. Parents would like to see a program with longevity brought into the school so that there is a sense of progress over the years as the students get older. Emily supported the idea of a long term program and explained that we need to start somewhere and that this ArtStarts grant is a way to start. It was recognized that any program (music, theatre, etc) outside of the scope of regular instruction requires the commitment of both staff and parents. A teacher may have the expertise and confidence to lead

some kind of music program but not the time or knowledge to find continued funding, etc.

It was also noted that the school currently has 25 xylophones and a class set of recorders that were purchased in the past but have not been used in recent years.

Finally, Kelli inquired about the need for a gardening grant for the school. She noticed that the local Whole Foods was collecting donations for the False Creek Elementary PAC. The assumption was made that their donation would probably need to be put toward something like a school garden though that wasn't confirmed. Cathy explained that the understanding was that the teachers were able to carry on with the school gardening program after having received training and education paid for by a previous grant. It was remarked that the Whole Foods donation may be worth looking into.

Motion made to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned.