

Simon Fraser PAC Meeting Minutes – October 24, 2017

1.0 Review Minutes and Agenda

Solicited feedback from the September 25th Minutes. No comments made. Motion to approve Meeting Minutes; motion carried.

2.0 New Business

Noise at lunch - A concern was raised about the noise level in the lunchroom. Dawn mentioned that she has had visitors that have commented at the lower noise level at the school. Dawn stated that they need to train the students to not be so loud. Keep classes together and not yelling across multiple tables. No quick fixes. Incentives are sometimes given such as extra recess time. The school is looking into several options such as 2 lunch shifts or having a late lunch and let the kids play first and then lunch. This means that the students would come in at 12:40 and have until 1pm to eat.

Can the kids eat in the classroom. Dawn - no. We should set up a sub committee to investigate and research - email Dawn if you are interested to be part of this subcommittee.

Crossing Guards for Cross walk at 15th & Columbia & 16th & Columbia - A concern was raised in regards to children crossing without the assistance of crossing guards. It was suggested that grade 7's could assist with this now that there is a larger number of them. In the past the Grade 7 class was very small. Jesse gave an update that in 2018 red flashing lights will be installed at 16th & Columbia. Dawn will look into the possibility of adult crossing guards with the School Liaison Officer.

Kindergarten Planning - Nov 1st all Kindie information will come out. Dawn to find out tomorrow (Oct. 25th) if there is going to be any changes to the requirements such as boundary or catchments changes. Kindies must register at their catchment school. Siblings will be given first priority and then those within the catchment.

Anti Bullying - A parent has been speaking to Dawn and had suggested a group come to the school and provide an Anti-Bullying presentation. Dawn stated that she does not like labelling presentations with 'bullying' and wants students to hear the message about working together, problem solving and being kind. Dawn is investigating proposed presenters to ensure that the focus is correct. The school starts each year with Code of Conduct and then continue to focus on kindness throughout the year

Classroom Gardener - Presentation was provided to a couple of the teachers from the school at a professional development day and they were very excited about the opportunities that the program offers. Upon further investigation it was found to have a cost of \$30,000. In order for the PAC to support any initiative it requires a proposal, including expected contribution, to be put in writing and a motion put forward at a meeting. Dawn will meet with the teachers to get feedback as well as to figure out true cost of the program. There are possibilities of grants that can be applied for to support the program. Dawn to investigate if the School does not get approved for a grant, are they still responsible to follow through with the commitment and carry the entire cost. Dawn also suggested that there is potential for parents that are passionate about gardening could volunteer to assist the school with a 'home grown' garden initiative instead of this large amount.

Seleema Noon - Chris gave an update that she has booked for 2018/19 school year which will include a parent information night which is scheduled for November 15th 2018

Hip Hop - Val gave an update on behalf of Dina. The school usually participates every other year in the program. The provider has availability over the next few months or in the new year, she also has some different dance type options and would be open to offering other styles

Arts Programs - Val opened up the floor for the discussion about arts programs that were to be brought to this meeting. The following were suggested:

Arts Umbrella - programs are free but has to be spearheaded by the staff, Lindy will pass the information onto Dawn
Art Starts - These are workshops to get funding for a performance, Mel will pass on the information onto Dawn

Safety - A concern was raised that parents are stopping in the middle of the road and let children out instead of pulling over. These parents need to find other option if they are late dropping off kids. Dawn will put this information in the newsletter. Everyone needs to follow the rules of the road. The concern is in regards to children getting hit. A suggested drop off spot is in the no parking zone on 16th. Dawn to send out communication.

Fairness, conduct and safety - If you witness anything that appears to be a child in jeopardy there is a protocol with the school board. Physical abuse is to be reported to police or Ministry of Children and Families. If a child says something that you are not comfortable with when they are at your house call Dawn or contact the Ministry.

Computer Monitors - Peter C. works in the visual effects industry and is donating computer monitors to replace every monitor in the school! Thanks Peter!!

3.0 Treasurer's Report

Buses - A motion was put forward to provide \$275 per division (15 x \$275) totalling \$4,125 from the Gambling Account for buses for class field trips for the 2017/18 school year. Motion passed.

4.0 Principal's Report

- Cross country - meet was rescheduled at the last minute and school was not able to attend
- Portable has arrived. Do not have a firm installation date or location. To be confirmed by the City. City will be hesitant to take out any trees and there are several options. Dawn suggested collaboration with Eric Hamber.
- Reporting - new curriculum, 3 teachers took on an inquiry project to look at the options. this year VSB will be sending out 2 report cards and 2 conferences.
- Remembrance Day assembly Nov 9th - 11am parents invited. Pro D day Nov 10th.
- Halloween parade Oct 31st followed by assembly
- Nurse presentation on hand washing on Nov 15th
- Staffing - finding replacements for 2 mat leaves is a bit of a struggle Dawn is working with district to fill positions
- Support staff still have vacancies as it is hard to find people
- Dawn asked members if there are any music programs they like and bring back ideas to the Nov meeting

5.0 Fall Social

Chris gave an update. Volunteers needed. Less work for volunteers to do then previous years as bussers and bartenders have been hired. The committee is planning to set up outside of the school in the morning of Nov 2nd to request volunteers sign up. The event is cash only. Auction items still needed. Need to ensure proper

licensing in place. the are still in need of a live auctioneer. also looking for a Hotel room donation for part of a package if someone knows someone in the hotel business that could get a donation.

6.0 Hot Lunch Update

Val gave an update in Sarah's absence. Thanks to the volunteers. Please remember to order before the cut off as it causes additional work for the volunteers. Tonight is the cut off for next Monday's lunch. Sarah is working on Hot Lunch dates going into Nov. / Dec. Survey to be emailed out to shortly in order to get PAC input.

Meeting adjourned.