

Simon Fraser Minutes

Simon Fraser PAC Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2018

1. Review Minutes and Agenda

Started to solicit feedback on the June 12 Minutes but realized that there were insufficient copies to circulate among the parents in attendance so the decision was made to delay the motion to approve the June 12 Minutes until the following meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report

Lindy reviewed status of all PAC accounts – Community Gaming Account (CGA): \$673.75,
Operating Account – \$13,727.49

Lindy explained the role of DPAC since our DPAC rep, Peter Couch, was absent. We hope Peter will be able to attend the next meeting to explain in greater detail his role as DPAC rep.

Motion put forward to pay the \$75.00 DPAC membership fee - motion carried.

Motion put forward to pay the \$24.00 fee to maintain the school website domain name - motion carried.

3. New Business

Michelle explained the proposal to increase funds for teachers – Each teacher/team in the school would receive \$400 to spend on items for their class/students. \$400 for 15 Divisions; \$400 for Resource Team; \$400 for SSA team; \$400 for Physical Education; \$400 for Library.

Motion put forward to allocate a total of \$7600 to teachers' funds. Motion carried.

There was some discussion about whether the teachers would present a 'wishlist' of items to the PAC. Mr Hughes, one of the teachers in attendance, explained that the teachers would be collectively creating their wish lists to be submitted to PAC at a later date.

* It would be helpful for the PAC executive to explain at the next meeting that wishlist items may be paid for by the proceeds of future planned fundraisers.

Saleema Noon – Brief explanation and discussion of Saleema Noon's program that is booked at **SFE** for **November 14th and 15th** . Parents' info night November 13th.

Motion put forward to approve Saleema Noon cost of \$1450 plus GST - motion carried.

4. Teacher's Report

- Ms. B and Mr. Hughes both attended the meeting as teachers representatives. Mr. Hughes has indicated that there will be a teacher rep at each PAC meeting. Mr Hughes briefly introduced himself and let the parents know that he is the Head Teacher and acts in the role of principal when Cathy is away. Mr. Hughes then gave a brief update on
- Upcoming Fundamental Skills Assessment (FSA) - there will be communications coming soon from both the Vancouver Elementary School Teachers Association (VESTA) and the British Columbia Teachers Federation (BCTF) to let parents know their stance on this standardized test.
- Collective Agreement - the current collective agreement ends at the end of June 2019. Bargaining for a new agreement starts in December. The teachers are hopeful that a fair agreement will be reached with the current provincial government.
- Decreased Resource and SSA staffing - the school is down 0.8 FTE (full time equivalent) in resource and two support workers.
- Upcoming Civic Election - scheduled for October 20. There will be pamphlets handed out soon (off school grounds, on the sidewalk in front of the school), communicating the slate of candidates the teachers' union support.

VPS/school musical - teachers will be discussing soon who will be the teacher reps for the school musical -

5. Principal's Report

Thank you to teachers and parents for positive and proactive community.

- **Update on school size** – 321 students and 15 Divisions. Librarian 2 days a week. 11 full time support workers. Stated that there are fewer ESL students and students with designations but didn't provide specific numbers.

- **Lunch Time** - Split lunch working very well. At 12:10 the intermediate classes eat. At 12:35 the primary classes eat. Working very well for children sensitive to noise. Impacting gym time by 10 minutes but half the gym is still available for use during that time.
- **School Grounds** – Our school Engineer is at the school at 7:00 am to clean the outdoor school grounds. It has been noted that there has been an increase in drug paraphernalia, blankets/clothes and broken glass found on school grounds, primarily on the portable ramps. Students that help with school grounds clean-up have been told to report if they see any of these items. It has been confirmed that any students helping with school ground clean up always use tongs to pick up debris. They are instructed to report and to not pick up anything other than regular litter.
- Cathy has contacted both the VPS school liaison officer and the VSB about the school ground situation and has stated that there is now increased night security on school grounds.
- **Technology** - Order for laptops and iPads to be placed by end of this week (September 21) by the Technology Committee. Ipad docking station and ipads for primary grades and laptops for the intermediate grades. Exact order numbers not known. Order will be placed through VSB. To be determined if there is more technology needs in the future.
- **Water** – The fountain by the gym has been repiped after testing revealed that the water had lead levels higher than the acceptable limit set by Health Canada. Parents expressed concern about a lack of awareness about lead in the school water. Cathy explained that she is looking into the possibility of installing a water bottle filling station. The cost is typically \$5000 - \$7000 so Cathy is also looking into the possibility of getting the cost reduced through the school board planning committee. She also stated that she would simply shut the fountains off if that was what the parents wanted.
- Parents were directed to Tamara Taggart (SNEAL) if they wanted to further discuss the water situation.
- **Cross Country** will be starting next week for students in grade 2-7. The first practice will be after school on Tuesday 25th September and the first Mini Meet at Douglas Park after school on Wednesday 26th September.
- **Terry Fox** run will be on Friday 28th September from 11:00am to 12:00pm. Families are welcome to join us. We will be asking students to pledge a loonie or a toonie, although students are welcome to bring in more money for this good cause. We will start collecting it next week.

- **Orange Shirt Day - Monday 1st October** the Vancouver School District will be recognizing Orange Shirt Day 5.

Fall Social + Fundraising

Fall Social is booked for Friday November 2nd at Heritage Hall. Casino theme with silent + live auctions. Call for donations and volunteers. Motion put forward to approve cost of \$750 to secure venue - motion carried.

6. Hot Lunch Update

New Hot Lunch coordinator is Jessica Wright. Aiming to have 2 hot lunches per month (will re-evaluate and potentially increase in New Year). Hot lunches will be held on Fridays. They will continue to be a fundraising initiative. In an effort to “go green” this year communication for hot lunch dates and ordering will all be emailed (no paper flyers sent home). No cheques for hot lunch payment. Parents can send an etransfer. First hot lunch will be on Friday October 12th.

* PAC will need to communicate the recipient for the interac e-transfer option.