

Minutes
McBride PAC
Wednesday, January 22, 2025
6:00 pm – 7:30pm: McBride Library
Attending: Carrie, Sarah, Grace, Chris, Kimberly, Alice, Lisa D, Suzanne F, Carla, Mady,
Christina, Nicole Z, Chantal, Tara, Rebecca, Hilary

1. Call to Order: 6:05pm
 - Welcome and Introduction
 - Land Acknowledgement: Principal Sleep
2. Standing Items
 - Approval of November 2024 Minutes: Approved by Chantal, Christina
 - Adoption of the January 2025 PAC Meeting Agenda: Approved by Lisa, Suzanne
3. Chair Report (Sarah)
 - DPAC Rep - Hilary T has volunteered to be our representative
4. Treasurer Report (Grace/Chris)
 - Budget review:
 - We have a \$43,000 budget for this year.
 - We need \$15,000 for kickoff budget for next year.
 - Target fundraising is \$20,000.
 - We are on track for \$12,000 so far if hot lunch continues at \$1,000 a month. Hot Lunch does better Jan to Mar than Sep to Dec.
 - Need to close the gap for fundraising for \$8,000 target.
 - We have spent \$27,250 out of \$31,000 usable budget.
 - \$3,750 for this year left to spend.
 - Last year there were a lot of community building events paid for by PAC.
 - Should we change banks?
 - **Christina will reach out to her CIBC contact.**
 - **Kimberly will provide Grace and Chris with Chrystal's contact (Annex Treasurer) for Gulf & Fraser information.**
5. Principal Report (Carrie)
 - Possible future plans for outdoor space:
 - Picnic tables, \$3,000 per concrete table. Add 2 picnic tables so a class can be seated outdoors.
 - Trees will take a few years to grow. Large trees with a lot of shade once they're established.
 - 4 garden boxes. Limestone pad \$1,500, garden box \$1,500, soil.
 - The school has purchased several sensory tools from PAC funds. They were purchased after polling the teachers. They now all have more or less the same for each classroom.
 - 16 jive stools
 - 24 desk dividers
 - 10 chair bands
 - 7 wiggle cushions
 - 6 timers
 - 9 noise cancelling headphones
 - It is survey season.
 - FSAs (Foundation Skills Assessment) completed Fall 2024

- Gr 4 and 7
- Results show lower participation than last year. Hard to determine if this is because of higher exemptions. Exemptions can be for various reasons. Parent and principal can exempt. This means data isn't getting back to ministry.
- Consists of school and individual feedback.
- 3 other surveys:
 - Early Developmental Index (Kindergarten), each child 20-25 minutes to complete survey, teachers are paid for this.
 - Middle Development Index, Grade 6, teacher led, student supported during class time. Gives results how kids are feeling about school and their communities, how they are doing physically, mentally, socially.
 - Student Learning Survey, Grades 4,7,10,11,12. Grade 11 is new this year. Completed by students, teachers, parents from Jan to May.
- After school programs are underenrolled. Is the information not getting out or are the programs not hitting needs. DancePI3y (Grade 1-3) did not go through because of little interest. How do we get the message out? Parents suggested email from Ms. Sleep, Ms. Sleep to coordinate with Kimberly to post on Facebook, paper slips in backpacks (significant printing cost though), writing in agendas.
- Julie Lawson, author visit for Grades 5-7. White Jade and other novels. Successful event.
- Tomorrow (Jan 23) there will be a lion dance at 10.00 am in gym for the Lunar New Year celebration. The Annex will join. Van City Lion Dancers.
- **There is a field trip for students in Grade 7. Jan 31 tubing to Cypress. Designated a "high risk field trip". Looking for 1 to 10 volunteers.** It will be a full day. Volunteers will ride the bus with the students.

7. Updates

- Babysitting/Stay Home Safe courses update (Sarah)
 - New date: Mon, Apr 28. Registration will open registration after Spring Break. We will need a couple parent volunteers that day.
- Coffee Mornings (Rebecca)
 - Set up coffee mornings on the First Friday of the month starting Mar 7.
 - Purchase 2 cambros from JJ Bean on Main (3010 Main St.). Fraser St. location only has cardboard carriers which get cold fast.
 - Coffee by donation to cover cost of coffee. JJ Bean provides a discount for "fundraising" events.
 - Hold event from 8:20 am to 9:30 am from Mar to Jun. If weather is bad, we can move it inside to the library.
 - **Volunteers needed.** Alice has offered to volunteer with Rebecca, but would be good to have others as Rebecca cannot attend the first couple.
- Soccer program (Rebecca)
 - PAC at Florence Nightingale recommends program.
 - The program comes into school during school time.
 - Physical literacy based.
 - Every class gets to do 3 weeks = 3 hours. Nightingale has 13 divisions.
 - Carrie noted that the school has had Ultimate, tennis, gymnastics. She will need to present to teachers to decide how to proceed, but it's always great to get recommendations from other schools who have enjoyed the program.

6. New Business

- Fundraising and events (Christina). Approve lineup of events:
 - Krispy Kreme donut sale: Planned for before Valentine's Day. Expected to generate \$1,000. Will be set up on Munchalunch.

- Family Spring Dance: Scheduled for Thu, Mar 13 in the school gym. DJ Rock'n'Beau. No tickets or entrance costs. Will be set up as a Dance-A-Thon where kids will get family and friends to sponsor them to dance. There will be prizes. It will be a great way to promote being active and also raise money for things at school.
- Art Cards. Scheduled for April. Less busy time of the year for teachers to coordinate.
- Mother's Day flower bouquets: Priced between \$20 - \$45.
- Parents night out: Scheduled for May. Instead of Silent Auction, there will be class baskets to auction off. Last year event was neutral. Tickets covered restaurant costs. **Did Silent Auction raise \$8,000? Hilary to confirm.**
- Sports Day Concession: There will be a popsicle station where every kid will get one. Carrie will review other proposals for concession. Expected to generate \$700 - \$1,000.
- Summer Family Carnival: Set for Sat, Jun 21.
- Family photo night proposal: \$25 - \$30 for the session. Book a time slot ahead of time. Can arrange for Spring Dance Mar 13 or Jun 21 carnival? Or at the grad? Or for more than one event? Carrie said school photographers often offer packages.
- Spirit wear (Rebecca): McBride attire.
 - It was on pause previously due to potential school name change, but this will take some time, so it might be good to move ahead.
 - Chris has volunteered to do redesign of logo.
 - Lisa has a contact for printing clothing. We could also look at other non-clothing items.
- Direct ask (Sarah):
 - Proposed for Mar 3 to Apr 25.
 - Theme: Enhancing technology to improve learning outcomes.
 - Carrie has a list: projectors, iPads
 - Upgrade classrooms by removing smart board and installing projector and surface to project onto.
 - Music room has whiteboards now instead of blackboards.
 - 10 iPads have died.
 - None of the students have laptops. Each laptop is \$800. It costs \$32,000 to get a class set. 30 kids. Teacher, a spare.
 - Must use VSB purchased equipment or else they will not provide technical support.
 - **Need new sound system in gym. Christina will ask her contact. Kimberly will ask parent Cody at Annex.**
- Lisa thanked Carrie for sending to girls' basketball team to Snowball Classic on the weekend. Everyone had a lot of fun. Lisa to provide photo to Kimberly for Facebook post. Kimberly asked others to provide any other information on upcoming sports events, etc. for Facebook posts.
- DPAC report (Hilary):
 - Focus on facilities, accessibility into buildings. School closures.
 - Inclusion and education, working group of parents advocating for inclusive education. VSB has funding model to allocate spending for students with disabilities. There are a low number of SSAs (student support assistant).
 - Terminology updated from "special education" to "inclusive education".
 - The Ombudsperson of BC is investigating the exclusion of students in schools. The goal is for inclusive education in the province. They are conducting a survey (<https://bcombudsperson.ca/school-exclusion>). Once they have data, the province will react.

7:35pm end meeting

Next PAC meeting is Thu, Feb 20 from 6:00 - 7:30pm in the school library.