



Boundary Community School Association (BCSA)

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Minutes of Meeting

October 4, 2016

Attendees

Gillian Paton (Chair)	Heather Batchelor	Evelyn Collier
Claire Arnold (Vice Chair)	Liz Green	Laura Grant
Jacqueline Russell (Treasurer)	Tara Alexander	Karen Dupuis
Claire Ferrier (Secretary)	Nadine Reedman	Farhad Pourkarimi
Tim Macleod (Principal)	Leah Daniels	Genevieve Taylor
Johneen Harris (Vice Principal)	Negar Samenirad	Sheloah Klausen
Brad Baker (District Principal)	Barry Johnson	Aaron Hall
Carol Sartor (NSSRA)	Karen Tinto	Cluny South
	Maria Gul	Frank Weber
	Carma Stevens	Nancy Bogle

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

A quorum was declared.

Motion to accept the May 17, 2016 minutes – Gillian Paton

First – Nadine Reedman

Second – Sheloah Klausen

Passed

Motion to approve the Agenda – Gillian Paton

First – Claire Arnold

Second – Karen Dupuis

Passed

Guest Speaker

Claire Arnold introduced our guest speaker, Carol Sartor from Safe Routes Advocates (SRA). Carol is a facilitator at HASTe BC (Hub for Active School Transportation).

Carol gave an interesting and informative talk discussing the declining trend of walking or biking to school. She had some suggestions on how to get people to walk or bike. Instead of “policing” the car traffic and preaching to people, it is better to focus on the benefits of foot transportation. In particular, you need to make it a social event, and draw in the community. In your car, you are isolated. On the street, you would greet people you pass. So, sociability became the focus, making connections with people. Overall the streets are safer with more eyes on the street. At Montroyal, they closed two city blocks around the school and turned it into an event, a party, so that people could start getting into the habit of parking further away and walking in. The result of their campaign at Montroyal was to get two crosswalks put in at places people said would never succeed.

Following Carol’s talk, there was an open table discussion of road and traffic safety around the school. Gillian had spoken to the District Engineering Department and there is construction on Lynn Valley Road upcoming – creation of a bike lane. They have also just put out the tender for the continuation of sidewalk on 29th and repairing the bulges on crosswalk at William and 29th, where work is expected to start mid-October. There is a possibility they will put in flashing lights at the William/29th 4-way.

Genevieve Taylor had previously contacted the District about the crossing on William across to 26th, and they informed her that the traffic and numbers involved didn’t warrant any further measures (lights etc). Carol noted that they only do car counts, not people counts, so they don’t care how many people are

crossing the road. We need to use social media to get the word out there, and do our own people counts. Try to refer the District to the OCP (Official Community Plan) as they are not meeting their targets under this plan.

Brad Baker and the Safety Council are in the process of writing a letter of advocacy regarding the routes around the school. However, it has been a bit of a struggle with the District (as opposed to the City). If you want to contact someone at the District, he recommended going direct to the Mayor or counselors rather than the engineering departments. We should carry out a parent survey as to who lives where so a “bubble diagram” can be made showing how people get to school. Also thinking long term and High School, so involving all the Argyle feeder schools would also help.

Tim noted that it is chaotic outside our school in the morning and at pick up time. We do need more support from parents. Even having the RCMP out there hadn't seemed to make much of a difference. We don't have a lot of street-front real estate to work with, so it is all about trying to change the attitudes of parents.

Gillian: Where we go from here is the next question. Our PAC is extremely busy with fundraising and all the other initiatives around the school. We would be looking for a group of core parents who would be interested in getting involved and using some of the initiatives Carol suggested. Genevieve Taylor feels strongly about this issue and wanted to take this on. A list went around for some parents to volunteer to support her on this and some names were added. Gillian would put Genevieve in touch with Debbie Pearmain (not in attendance) who had indicated she would be willing to do a survey.

Principal's Report (Tim MacLeod)

Thank you for the great turnout this evening and thanks to the PAC for all the work which has been done so far – supporting the teachers in the school, funding technology initiatives, and filling the emergency preparedness container. The ice cream social was a huge hit! Hot lunch is already up and running, and this week we have “Walk and Wheel to School”.

Start up this school year has been one of the smoothest Tim could recall. “Meet the Teacher” night was held with all teachers participating on the same night, so it felt more collaborative and it was great that they could make it work that way. Our enrollment is up, at around 350 students, and we have one more division this year. Some staff changes were Mr Kiss retiring and Mr Choi coming in as the new Grade 7 teacher. We have some great new EAs as well this year.

Forms – there are lots of forms, and Tim apologizes for that! In the future, there eventually will be a move to go online, and have less paper, but it is a slow process. We have three activities upcoming this year, and combined these into the one form - jujitsu, dance, and tennis. Separate cheques for each student really help the office out with their administration so that you for adhering to that policy. Athletics is busy already, with cross country starting tomorrow and basketball today. There will be a health fair for some of the grades at the end of this week. We had our Terry Fox Run, and Orange Shirt Day was last week. There was a fire drill this week, which went extremely smoothly. Finally, we have our Thanksgiving assembly coming up on Friday.

On the new curriculum yes there is a new curriculum but don't expect things to change overnight! It has been phased in over the last year or so but now they are formalizing the content. There is a new report card coming in this year, which will be online. Report cards will be out at the end of November, but as yet the staff really don't know how it is going to look, and so that is an added stress.

Last Friday you may have noticed Tim encouraging everyone to play outside before school. Traditionally, we have allowed students and parents into our foyer, however no other schools do this. We want to encourage kids to get outside moving around rather than sitting on the sofa on their phones. However, we do have an issue where people are dropping their kids off at 7:30am and this will have to be dealt with, as the school does not have the capacity to take responsibility for kids before 8:45am. The goal is also to spread people out in the morning, make use of all the playground space including the field. The plan is still evolving as to how to use the space and entrances that we have. Tim is aware that there are safety concerns around the kindergarten students getting trampled when the bell goes – there are 350 kids going through 4 doors, which is not ideal. The staff are meeting on Thursday and will discuss. Tim welcomes any feedback.

Chair's Report (Gillian Paton)

Introductions of the PAC Executive were made.

Past Events: The welcome-back Ice Cream Social was a success. It was intended to be more of a community event rather than a fundraiser. Family Photo Night raised \$380.

Upcoming Events:

- Card Project, which is underway in classrooms already, where students' art projects are turned into greetings cards.
- Samaritans' Purse shoebox drive, which will be towards the end of October/early November.
- Harvest Project collections for the food bank will be closer to Christmas. This is separate from the food item you have been asked to donate for the Thanksgiving assembly.
- Family Skate will be on Thursday December 15th at Karen Magnussen.

Class Reps: Thank you to all who have volunteered to be a Class Rep. We do still need a rep for Mlle. Eeles' class.

Vice-Chair Report (Claire Arnold)

- There is a meeting of the North Shore Safety Council next Thursday, over lunchtime at Delbrook Rec Centre. If you are interested in attending you can ask Claire Arnold for more details. Claire will be there. The focus in the October meetings is schools.
- District PAC representative: Heather Batchelor has offered to take on this role. However, she is unable to attend the meetings, which are once a month on the last Wednesday evening of the month at 7pm. So we are looking for another parent to share this role with her if possible. Please see Claire Arnold if interested.
- CPF Representative: Claire Arnold is currently the CPF Rep for the school. Her son is graduating next spring and she is looking for someone to share this role with for this year. If anyone is interested in a co-role with Claire please talk to her.
- Babysitters: We are currently taking names of students to provide babysitting at PAC meetings. Two babysitters are required for each meeting. Students must be in Grade 6 or 7, have written permission from a parent or guardian, and must provide a copy of their babysitter certificate (Red Cross or equivalent). Babysitters get paid! Forms will also be sent home via the classroom teachers to the grade 6/7s.

Treasurer Report (Jacqueline Russell)

We have closed our first hot lunch ordering period and are expecting to bring in about \$4,600 this session. Also through Munch, we have collected around \$1,200 in parent donations. Munch is still open for orders on a week-to-week basis.

Our bank accounts are very healthy at the moment, although it is the start of the year and so totals will be reduced each week as we pay our hot lunch suppliers and others. We are awaiting our gaming grant from the Province, which will come to a little under \$7,000. The gaming grant comes from BC Lotto, with certain stipulations on how it is spent.

The financial year end for the PAC is July 31st, and we have to produce and file annual financial statements in accordance with our Bylaws and the legislation. Jacqueline wanted to point out that, in light of recent news items on PAC fraud in two Surrey schools, our PAC is completely transparent and open and financial statements are available on request.

The budget produced to the meeting only has one change from the budget presented at the June AGM; Class Program Support has been bumped up by \$200. Overall we are projecting to bring in net \$14,400.

Motion to approve the 2016/2017 Budget – Gillian Paton

First - Genevieve Taylor

Second - Nadine Reedman

Passed

Hot Lunch Report (Claire Ferrier on behalf of Deb Gill)

Jacqueline already outlined some of the financial numbers. We have had 250 orders, which is up from this session last year. Note that Munch is still open for changes, cancellations and orders; each week it will close 7 days in advance of the next lunch order and no changes will be able to be made for that specific week after closing.

Other Business

Maria Gul introduced herself as the Brown Bag Lunch co-ordinator. The Brown Bag Lunch is a program which has been running for thirty years, and Maria has been the co-ordinator for seven years. Once a month (on the first Thursday of the month), we invite seniors from local nursing homes to come to our school and eat lunch with a different grade class. The first brown bag lunch is this Thursday, for grade 4/5s. Please consider volunteering to help when it is the turn of your child's class.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.