



Boundary Community School Association (BCSA)

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Minutes of Meeting

January 17, 2017

Attendees

Gillian Paton (Chair)

Claire Arnold (Vice Chair)

Jacqueline Russell (Treasurer)

Claire Ferrier (Secretary)

Tim Macleod (Principal)

Johneen Harris (Vice Principal)

Genevieve Taylor

Angie Howden-Duke

Nadine Reedman

Terrie Hendrickson

Heather Peets

Tia Creighton

Saba Cordina

Jen Neudecker

Fateweh Mansoori

The Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

A quorum was declared.

Motion to accept the October 25, 2016 minutes – Gillian Paton

First – Genevieve Taylor

Second – Heather Peets

Passed

Motion to approve the Agenda – Gillian Paton

First – Heather Peets

Second – Tia Creighton

Passed

Chair's Report (Gillian Paton)

- We held another emergency preparedness fundraiser through Life472 and made \$275. We are finishing up purchasing the last of the items for the bin outside, which now also has food. We have bought new rain ponchos for all the classrooms. Gillian is going to write something up for the District about how prepared we are! Possibility that the school will have a drill in the spring to test it all out.
- The Winter Skate in December was a lot of fun.
- There was a detailed discussion about fundraising, the Carnival, the Parent Social and how we wanted to approach these events.

We have a tentative date for the Carnival in the last weekend of May. We are hoping to change this to June 2 if possible – the Lions are meeting tonight and will inform us if that works.

We considered the Parent Social and whether this should be more of a social event, with just classroom baskets, or should we hold a silent auction, which is a lot more effort. Both the social and the carnival are significant events: last year we raised over \$6,000 at the

Carnival and around \$8,000 at the social. Or we could combine the two as other schools have done.

Generally, the feeling was that we should still hold the events and should have two separate fundraisers and not combine the carnival and the auction.

There were a few suggestions concerning how we can try to get others involved and entice volunteers. Definitely we should utilize the class reps as a more personal face to make approaches. Email was not always the best way so try the face-to-face approach in person. Kindergarten parents and those new to the school might not be aware of what is involved in each event and might be hesitant to approach. We could write up job descriptions and break down into tasks, including the number of hours involved, which would give people more certainty as to what they were signing up for.

There was discussion of a cheque drive instead of fundraising through different events.

We do need more planners and people to take ownership of events. It has not been a problem to get people to attend events – nor to volunteer when we have specific things needing done at events (eg Carnival, Winter Skate). It is the organizing stage where we need help.

There was also discussion about the feeling of community around the school and how this seemed to be lacking recently, for a multitude of reasons. The issue is what do we do about this and how do we fix it. It is a frustrating problem.

On Friday, February 20th the PAC executive is going to host a “muffin morning” – come along for a coffee and muffin and socialize!

Hot Lunch Update (Claire Ferrier for Deb Gill)

- The numbers from last session were reported. The total profit for Session 1 (for October to January) was \$6,016. Broken down, this is:

Pizza (4 weeks): \$1,538
Sushi (4 weeks): \$1,144
Subway (3 weeks): \$1,030
Foodie Kids (5 weeks): \$1,059
Donations: \$1,245

Orders are now being taken for Session 2 (February to June). The first hot lunch of the session is Tuesday, February 7.

- Secondly, there is to be a change in the timing of hot lunch, starting with next week (January 24th). From now on, on all days of the week they will have lunchtime recess first and then eat after. So, the lunches will arrive on a Tuesday a bit later, and be distributed by the Grade 7s - who will each be assigned a class - while the younger children are playing outside. When they come in their lunch will be waiting for them, and there will be Grade 5 monitors in each class to supervise. Therefore, if parents wish to volunteer – and yes, we do still want volunteers! - please note to come a little later – 12:15/12:20pm. There will be some issues to start off with but please be patient as we get used to the new routine. Overall this should be a positive change.

Treasurer's Report (Jacqueline Russell)

Reports from some of our recent events:

Movie night: made \$650 from the bake sale.

Winter Skate: profits were a little over \$700.

The Card Project was popular and raised over \$1,300.

We voted in the purchase of a new TV at the last meeting and it has been installed in the library.

As at the end of December, we had \$24,000 in the general account and the gaming account stood at \$6,400.

Update from Boundary Safe Routes Committee ("SRC") (Genevieve Taylor)

Due to computer issues, they are still entering the data from the surveys into a spreadsheet. They held a meeting before Christmas and would have another meeting soon. We should expect the survey results at the next PAC meeting.

Principal's Report (Tim MacLeod)

- Our school's emergency preparedness is incredible and we feel very prepared now for an emergency.
- The skate night was fun.
- The teachers have enjoyed being able to spend the extra money PAC allocated for the classrooms.
- The snow caused a few problems in December but now it is extremely icy outside.
- The end of November through December was busy at the school, in particular with the new report card system which was stressful for all.
- Grade 6 outdoor school was at a different time this year and despite being a little cold and wet (which the students don't even notice!) it was a good experience going in a different season. There was a question as to why we only had three days instead of five; Tim responded that this was a choice for the school, and it is a big ask for some teachers as they are going on their own time, and also sometimes there are homesickness problems which arise on the 4th or 5th days. We have three opportunities to go up: Grade 3 Big House, and Grade 4 and Grade 6 outdoor school.
- The young entrepreneurs evening was a huge success, although it was a lot of work for families and the kids. The staff are considering doing it again next year.
- We had the Holiday Concert as well. The actual evening performances were jam packed, although the afternoon rehearsal was quiet.
- Jujitsu has now wrapped up, and the students and staff loved it.
- This year, we have already had hip hop, which those of you who attended the performance on Friday will agree was a big success.
- Tim had a traffic meeting with the District and felt it went well. They were discussing some things that could be done for the area in front of the school, "quick fixes", for example better delineators, signage, reflective tape on poles. Better delineators; signs; reflective tape on poles. Some bigger ticket items would be, painting a large "30" on the street (speed limit), or a raised crosswalk – these were not promised but might be considered.
- The staff are working on their wish lists. The District gave us 6 iPads for the French classes (all classes can use but the French classes get priority). Our school iPads are now managed under Apple's "Configurator" app, which has turned out to be much easier

to manage but is more costly.

- Tomorrow evening is the LFI (late French immersion) parent evening for parents of Grade 5 students.
- The teachers are feeling that this is a short term and report cards are nearly due again!
- Jump Rope for Hearts started today.
- Field hockey is underway for grades K to 5, run by West Vancouver Field Hockey Club.
- Tripleball is starting soon for grades 6 and 7, and we have Argyle volunteers assisting.
- Friday (the Pro D day) is the babysitting course for grades 6 and above.
- Grade 4s and 7s have FSA tests coming up.
- The RCMP D.A.R.E. program for grade 5 started today.
- Grade 4s are going to Big House at the beginning of March.
- Some calendar changes:
 1. Report cards were due March 3 but now are going out March 6 (a Monday).
 2. Fun Day and Playland will be on May 12.
 3. A community appreciation assembly will be held on April 28.
- We are switching hot lunch timing as mentioned previously.
- We are trying some stand up desks (put together from old desks) for some of the more active kids.
- The school website has a bit of a different look, with more pictures, and there will be more twitter updates.

There was a question for the Principal about the funding arising out of the teacher union Supreme Court decision. The Province will be giving \$50m to all schools; however, broken down this is not a lot per school. It is predicted that SD44 will get \$1-1.3m. The process for allocating funds is underway. The District has surveyed administrators and will also get teacher input, then resources will be allocated, hopefully sooner rather than later.

Vice-Principal (Johneen Harris)

As part of the school planning team (which consists of four teachers, two parents, two EAs and the principal and vice-principal), Johneen is working to develop a plan for the school. The goal of the plan is "to foster a culture of communication among the staff, students and parents at Ecole Boundary".

The Meeting broke into table groups and we discussed three questions posed by Johneen:

1. How can we build on the strengths of our learners? What do our kids need?
2. How can we build on the strengths of our staff?
3. How can we build on the strengths of our community?

The groups provided some feedback after the discussion. By the end of the year, the planning team needs to have some goals and objectives in place.

There was no further business and the Meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.