

PAC AGM Meeting Minutes- Sep 21, 2023

35 in attendance plus principal and vice principal

Diana and Kat nominated and voted in as co-activities lead

Angela - nominated and voted in as fundraising lead

Ron - nominated and voted in as social media lead

Kevin - nominated and voted in as Vice-chair role

Seismic - TBD

Last year's budget

- First year with activities post COVID
- Sources of income: Hot lunch (new vendor), direct donation campaign, gaming grant (money from BC Lotto - spending limited to items not included in the curriculum), Spirit wear sales, unexpected sum from DPAC due to surplus, events: bake sale and summer fair
- Expenses: new badminton rackets still on order, arts and sports enrichments - release the rhythm, opera presentation, playground equipment, school of rock, classroom materials, field trips
- Surplus that will act as cushion for unforeseen expenses - \$17,000

Next year's budget

- Fundraise more towards replacing tech equipment - laptops (30, 12 have already been purchased, so 18 left), plus typical items like arts and sports enrichment, classroom materials
- Goal is \$9,000 in fundraising
- Some items for the new school will need to be funded through the PAC, survey sent out to parents and teachers on what items are a priority, like outdoor equipment and library furniture

The teachers priority for the new school - outdoor learning, furniture and special outdoor classroom. New garden boxes are needed - old ones won't move over. Technology and playground equipment.

Budget will be voted on at the next PAC meeting

Principal's update

- Visited construction site of school and it was really exciting to see the progress that has been made. It is on schedule and on time.
- Timeline for completion (building and landscaping) Spring 2025. Kids will move in before that though, aiming for fall 2024 (start of next school year)
- One entrance for the new washroom and then it splits in 2 on the inside. Universal washroom as well.
- Fine gravel field in lieu of grass because grass is not sustainable. VSB decided this. If it were Astroturf the city would take it for sports but the school would have to pay for it, same goes for a grass field. The PAC would have to fundraise for it

- Bio swirl in the back of new school so that rain water will drain and not flood the field
- Grounds are closed to dogs from 8am - 5pm. Looking for ways to advocate against dogs having access

Foundation skills assessment

- What is the purpose - Where am I? Where am I going? How will I get there?
- What is needed to support students
- It is one part of the data gathering process
- Parents have option to opt their child out of it
- Results do not affect school funding
- Only grades 4 and 7 take this assessment
- Advance notice is provided to parents

What can parents do if they have a concern at school

- Most things can be resolved at the school level with the students teacher
- Step 1 - Make an appointment with the teacher. This is preferred so that it is private and time is set aside for it
- Step 2 (if not resolved through step 1) - Make an appointment with the vice principal or principal
- Step 3 - is a formal appeal process through VSB

PAC activities

- Clothing swap event on November 1 and 2. 50% for PAC 50% for children's charity
- Pumpkin patch event at Halloween
- Talent show in January or February
- Possible Spring Fair

DPAC

- DPAC meetings are open to the public
- Great place to take concerns you have that are not necessarily school related but VSB responsibility - ie dog on field issue
- Various Groups (run by parents)
- First meeting is next week

Fundraising

- Few things ongoing: Direct donation through school cash online
- Hot lunch - 1\$ per hot lunch goes to the PAC
- Spirit wear - big success so will be more structured and available throughout the year
- Wine or local restaurant raffles. Need to be careful as they may require a permit from gaming commission
- Need to plan for the IT equipment plus other more specific items. Grants may be available
- Local businesses and families may want to donate to enhance the community donation campaign. Plan to approach.
- How are donations being acknowledged. Some kind of plaque that could hang in the business

Hoping for better communication with parents throughout the year

Acknowledgement to former Co-Chair Olga, she did a lot of great work