



**Parent Advisory Council  
Pitt Meadows Elementary School  
École Élementaire Pitt Meadows**

**PAC Minutes  
April 15, 6:30pm  
PME Library**

Meeting begun: 6:35pm  
Meeting adjourned: 8:35pm  
Minutes by: Lianna Henderson

Welcome & circulation of Attendance Sign In Sheet

Review & Acceptance of Agenda

- *Motion to approve agenda with amendment of addition of trustee presentation by Sonja Fletcher, seconded by Pam Piddocke. Approved.*

Review & Acceptance of previous meeting minutes

- *Motion to accept minutes by Pam Piddocke, seconded by Sonja Fletcher. Approved.*

## **Administration Reports**

### **Trustee Report**

- Welcome to Sarah Nelson and Eleanor Palace from the school board office
- There are 7 trustees; Sarah and Eleanor are the 2 designated to Pitt Meadows. Their goals are to work cooperatively with groups throughout the district to focus on educational objectives and make it student-centered.
- Trying to find a way to connect more with communities and communicate more with interest groups (CUPE, BCPVPA, and Maple Ridge groups). The board has created a roadmap for success, with policies including a policy to prioritize safe, caring, and healthy schools.
- Trustees and board are receptive to innovative ideas, including: the "Wheelhouse" where students go out several times a week to observe and work with the community; the environmental school with Flex 42 to transition elementary to secondary; parent portal with online registration.
- School board is the conduit between provincial government and local communities. Trustees meet every 2 weeks; and all trustees belong to committees. BCPSEA and BCSTA are two groups that the trustees belong to, and offer sessions for trustees to learn and grow. In addition, trustees belong to community groups and visit schools.
- Trustees are (the last) resort for school based issues, but they are there as a resource. Trustees are also a resource for budget-based issues.
- In Pitt Meadows, the projection is that the population will grow due to influx of elderly rather than young families. Therefore, new schools are not projected. Enrolment projections do not show large growth

for some time. However, there are pockets of growth although district wide we are not growing. Catchment lines can change to try and address these pockets, but no schools can be added until district enrolment is at 110%.

- Budget: there has been and still exists a budget shortfall. The projection is that the district will need to cut 44 positions. There is an online survey and a public meeting tomorrow to address budget issues. The district board is willing to look at change within 3 criteria: change needs to be made with students in mind, evidence-based and sustainable, made with cooperation with all participants.
- Our district is among the highest in the province with respect to graduation rates (#2 in BC). We have moved from 76.3% in 2008 to 90.7% in 2012.
- We are in the process of hiring a new superintendent, but the new hire will not be in place until June.

### **Principal's Report**

- Welcome back to Nicole Neggers, filling in as Principal, and thank you to Sara Campbell for staying on as VP
- Thank you for everyone's patience, understanding and flexibility with respect to the plumbing issues. The school tried to get the message out quickly, and only about 20 students showed up at the beginning of the school day. The district did everything that they could to keep the school open, but it was too big a job, and the resulting cleanup. Request to add willing daycares to be added to emergency/school closure list so that they can prepare for emergencies.
- We had a lockdown drill on Monday morning that went very well. In the rooms with a lot of windows, the position of children needs to be slightly adjusted, but all kids and staff worked well to make sure that classrooms looked empty. If there was an emergency in the school while kids are out, the meeting place will be the Rec Center, with teacher guidance.
- Firedrills- we need 6 by year end, and we have had 5 successful drills.
- The net-climber (aka. Spider web) is beginning to fray. There is wire woven into the rope, so duct tape has been added. There is no warranty on that piece of equipment. Repair of this climber can be done for \$5800; we will look into the price of a new piece of equipment. A new piece of equipment may be eligible for a grant whereas repairs are not. Whatever decision is made, needs to be made soon. The budget can withstand \$8000 toward playground. Playground fundraising can be done in gaming and eligible for grants. Liaising with daycares (Colleen), businesses (Sonja)..  
*Motion to support replacement/repair of web for up to \$7000, with effort to reduce the amount through fundraising. Any financial decision will be made in collaboration with PAC Executive. Seconded by Sonja Fletcher. Nine in favor, One opposed.*
- Buses and classroom allowances are up to \$5000. Teachers have not been submitting receipts, but Nicole will remind them.
- Mother's Day/Father's Day- we will take a break from muffins for moms and donuts for dads due to financial concerns, family status, primary vs. intermediate participation. Teachers will do an activity, left to their discretion, and decorations will be made for the halls around these events. Want to encourage adults to come into school. An art show with classroom galleries will be presented to try and encourage all families to participate. Fundraising event possible, especially with the need of a new climbing structure. Event will be held June 13 at the end of the day- 1-2pm.
- Track and Field and Cross Country is up and running. Cross country practices are during the school day. All primaries will run in the morning, and intermediates will go out before lunch, and those participating will need to fill out permission forms.
- Speeches- English speech competition will not be attended by PME this year.

- Reporting for the 3<sup>rd</sup> term is not a conference, it will be a written report. It will look different than years past.
- Parent Portal- all field trips need to go out by portal. Newsletters go out via portal, but they will also go out by email from now on.
- Quebec exchange- 37 students from Quebec will come April 30 (they are grade 7's from high school). Planned trips to Camp Jubilee, Wild Play, Aquarium, Whistler, day with Ross Davies.
- Mural- Jason Craft will meet with admin, 6 teachers, and Lisa. Jason will start by end of year (May/June). Students from each class will be invited to participate.
- Suspicious person was on site, so teachers will be concerned about safety and may have doors locked.
- Principal appointment is still in the air, we may know by mid-May
- Sound system still needs to be looked at, Nicole will be in contact with the district
- Pie in the Eye fundraiser planned for May to raise money for the Ride to Conquer Cancer, May 23 is pie throwing day

## Committee Reports

### Chair Report (chaired by Lisa Hannah)

- Next month is AGM, we need to have a volunteer to handle any nominations and elections (nominations chair- it cannot be anyone interested in a position)- Ming Hai will handle elections
- Looking for cement for garden. Natasha Etherington has applied for a grant.
- We may have 2 pop up soccer goals donated for recess use

### Treasurer's Report (Review by Anthony Hadfield)

- Will apply for cakewalk/raffle basket prize
- Budget will be adjusted to reflect playground
- Operating budget still has items unresolved, but expect to pay them out by June
- \$280 earned on movie night
- Currently there is \$17982 in Operating, and \$9195 in Gaming

### CPF Report (Lianna Henderson)

- Congratulations to all the FRIM students who presented speeches at Concours last Friday : Taryn Kelly (gr.4), Ethan Quinn (gr.5) won; Irena J and Renee received second place in categories. CPF provided awards to participants and winners.
- French summer camp will happen again this year during the last full week of July. Look for registration online (CPF site link can be accessed through the school website) as of May 1. Material is geared toward students who have completed FRIM K-5; volunteer opportunities for high school students.

### DPAC Report (Dionne MacDonald)

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### Fruit & Veggie Report (Denean McLelland)

- Have 3 deliveries remaining: cucumber, apple, cucumber
- Anyone who would like to help, Monday is the delivery date for cleaning fruit/veg, delivery to classes on Tuesday

### Health & Safety Report (Sonja Fletcher)

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### Photo Committee Report (Kelly Job)

- We met with Fowle Foto- There is a website to select backgrounds, and there are a lot of options. There may be an opportunity for a parent poll online to choose backgrounds, and we need to do so by the end of June for next year. If we want to go green screen, we will need to go back to him as he does not prefer that option. There are prop options in lieu of a director chair- standing or with a ladder. He does

like to offer the two poses. Yearbook starts at \$8 for 28 pages. Both teachers and parents prefer the class photos to be done in the fall, but teams may need to be done later. If we generate a template, Kelly can go back to price it.

- *We would like to try the ladders for next year, and a blue or green backdrop. Kelly will inquire further about the use of these props and colors.*

### **Fundraising Committee Report (Colleen Kirkham)**

- Cakewalk promo was today and went well
- Centennial celebration is scheduled from 11am-8pm. We will overlap our cakewalk time, planning for 5-7pm. Cakes will be indoor and numbered, cake walk will be in the gym or outdoors, depending on weather. We will charge \$1 per entry per round, with 2 winners per round. The projection is that for 50 rounds and 20 participants per round, we will net \$1000.
- We will store cakes in library during the day and move them to the stage/gym OR in good weather Mrs McRobbie's room. The only access to the school will be through the outside gym door or to the single classroom. Good weather will allow everyone to be outside.
- 100-balloon path will lead the way from square to school. Pam will coordinate balloon path.
- PME Centennial Market tables will be invited to set up during that time. Priority will be given to PME parents. Tables will be \$20 plus a donation of a door prize. Participants NEED to contact Myra ASAP.
- Next pizza day May 12.
- Movie Night- May 23 planned, Lego Movie or Rio 2 being considered
- Last Subway brought over \$500, another planned for June.

