

Lord Tennyson Elementary School
PAC AGM
June 12th, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm

Agenda Approved by unanimous consent

Previous meeting minutes (May 15, 2023) approved by Sunita Sinha, seconded by Peter Bayliss

Number of people in attendance: 31

New business to add to the agenda

- Quebec, noon hour programs

Field Update by Doug Roch

- District Principal – Educational Planning, former Tennyson Principal, works with schools for seismic projects
- Field now under jurisdiction of VSB grounds from landscape contractor
- Acknowledged that it has been a long wait
- Delays due to issues with sprinkler, weather, needing to reseed, sprinklers have now been adjusted
- On track for anticipated September opening
- Original field was a grass field but was not irrigated, the new field will be one of 1 of 5 irrigated fields (has sprinkler system) that VSB has
- Field will remain closed and fenced through summer, fence will come down latest late fall and be replaced with a permanent locked fence
- For the first year the field will be for student use only, will not be rented out, this will be reassessed after the year is up, the fence will be unlocked each morning by the tennyson staff and locked each afternoon (time TBD)
- Field will close every summer which is typical for the VSB sand fields (for regular maintenance)
- This is a sand based field which is a good base for grass that is well established but for problem areas soil is helpful to retain water (this is why there is dirt in some places and sand in others)
- Through June, July and Aug there will be reseeding and fertilizing, watering will happen at night when its cooler
- Dogs are supposed to be leashed at all times on VSB property

- **Questions from Tennyson community**

- What will regular maintenance be from September on?
 - Field will be closed for summer for reseeding, aeration, fertilizing, this may also be done during holiday breaks as needed
- Would after school care still be able to use the field, would dogs be allowed at this time?
 - TBD
- **People and dogs are still accessing the field. Is there a way to make the current fence more secure while we wait for the installation of the current fence?**
 - It is chained up in four areas where connections are
- **Can VSB change the signage to say no dogs allowed instead of between certain times, current signage is not accurate, can we start on this process now?**
Can new signage be put up before the end of the school year?
 - Doug looking into this
- **What is the height of the permanent fence?**
 - Doug will follow up (dogs currently go under, want to make sure they can't over)
- **Can PAC make & install our own signage?**
 - Motion below
- **How often will grounds be onsite over the summer to monitor the fence, sprinklers, dog damage, etc.** (currently a Tennyson staff member is tightening bolts that people have loosened)
- Can parent volunteers monitor over the summer to mitigate damage that could be avoided?
- **Who can parents call over the summer if dogs are on the field (from previous experience neither VSB or 311 were responsive. Who is in charge of fines?**
 - VSB can't fine, calls to them often go to voicemail or told that there are fences and signage and dismissed, call 311, animal control bylaw
- Is it private property?
 - District land is public but it is not a public park, the community is welcome to use grounds until 10pm (after that time this would be trespassing)

Motion to approve \$1000 for signage for fence around field, pending VSB approval, put forward by Peter Bayliss, seconded by Sunita Sinha, approved by majority vote

Principal's Report

- Ministry Family Supplementary Funds – 2022-2023 School Year
Monies used to supplement field trips, food sustainability, music/arts performances to supplement music education in the school – (newsletter items indicating which events were from Ministry funding and which were sponsored by the PAC).
- Programs presented this year: “Theatre la sixieme” – performance and workshops, Jess Dance – African Diaspora, Green Thumb Players (drama), Ache Brazil – trying to bring in French-speaking programs whenever possible
- Events/Field Trips This Month
 - Class Programs/Field Trips: Children’s Festival, Museum of Vancouver, Grade 7 Day Camp to Sasamat, (will be looking at a day trip in the Fall to Sasamat for next year’s Grade 7’s), UBC Gearing UP Program, “Mama Mia – C’est Lete,” “Alice/Alicia in Wonderland,” Camosun Bog, Kits Beach Cleanup, Thompson Secondary Gardening Program, Ocean Ambassadors Paddle Boarding Program
 - School: “Welcome to Kindergarten” (with support from Grade 7 leaders) Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony (June 26th), Grade 7 Kitsilano Orientation, Parent Appreciation Coffee Morning, Sports Day, Tiger Tail Assembly
- Track and Field
 - A big thanks to parent and staff volunteers for another successful year
- Thank yous
 - Thanks, on behalf of the staff for the wonderful staff appreciation lunch – most appreciated!
 - A big thanks to the PAC Executive and parent community for the consistent support of our staff and school

Vice Principal's Report

- Grade 7’s helped with welcome to K and went to Kits High, feedback was that they were very helpful and polite
- Tiger tail assembly on Thursday June 15th, K’s and new students who didn’t receive will get their tiger tails, presentation from SOGI club, last assembly of the year
- Sports Day is Friday June 16th, split up K-2, 3-7, students have practiced cheers, grade 7 leaders and former students will be volunteering, parents are welcome to

attend, if it's raining too much and we need to reschedule parents may have to volunteer for the new date

Hot Lunch

- Need a coordinator for next year
- Looking into new vendors:
 - Elemeno will come with bins, parents need to send containers for the food
- Staff can't supervise hot lunch, challenge for students in before school to get their lunches
 - Well Fed- menu more suited to Tennyson students, goes through Munchalunch, free delivery, will be using them for the grad lunch
- Need parent volunteers each day hot lunch comes into school (mainly for clean up), would like to offer hot lunch each day but need volunteers
- October start for hot lunches once new classes are set
- Would be helpful to have someone start over summer to plan for Sept
- If no one steps forward as Hot Lunch coordinator, can we pay someone to be in this role? Hot lunch could have fee added back in to pay for coordinator, this used to be a fundraiser

Budget

- Brenna Tai and Orla went through budget to plan for next year, will vote on this at Sept meeting
- Many lines are not optional (website fees, accounting software etc.)
- Lines of most interest are those where we either stick with existing amount or increase or decrease, i.e arts and science currently has \$4000, talked about increasing this budget, community initiatives has \$750 for Howl, Spring Fling, Bike to school, (admission, bake sale to recoup costs), increasing this to \$2500
- New line for storage Howl \$1500 (were stored in various places)
- Munchalunch and working capital \$10,000 for each (total \$20,000) this is cash in the account that will be needed to pay initial bills, programs for beginning of year, outstanding invoices, these were not previously included in budget but now added to be more transparent
- The time between allocating funds and for expense to come through is long, we don't pay until after a project is complete
- With increased amounts, current budget is \$33,000 (not including computers or events), this will be posted on website for feedback
- There is \$20,000 left from Quebec 2023 to go back to PAC
- No fundraising this year as there is money in the account

- All Quebec money other than the current year and the Quebec Futures Fund goes into general funds so there is no running balance for Quebec, when money is returned from Quebec to PAC it is up to PAC to decide how to spend, last year this was used to enhance the budget and for activities
- \$120,000 bank balance, \$40,000 has been allocated, this also has to hold working capital of \$20,000
- Quebec Futures Fund has approx \$87,000

Fresh Fruit Program

- Delivery every other Tuesday,
- 100% funded by the government in the past, now changing this to 75% funded, the extra 25% could be subsidized but this is not guaranteed
- Fresh fruit volunteer needs their food safe certification, \$99
- Request for PAC funds to cover the remaining amount for the fresh fruit program, approximately \$860 for a delivery of veg/fruit for 12 weeks (every other week for the school year)

Motion to approve \$648.90 to keep the Fresh Fruit program going if the remaining 25% of the cost is not subsidized and cover the cost of food safe certification for a volunteer, put forward by Orla Struggess, seconded by Peter Bayliss, approved by majority vote

Events for Next year

- Welcome back BBQ- Trish, Lisa, Ashley, Sunita, Suzanne to help organize, will coordinate around the meet the teacher, BBQ again instead of catering
- Howl- book DJ now for next school year
- Winter concerts?
- Suggestion to assign certain grades an event, to encourage ownership and leadership of events

DPAC

- AGM is June 22 at 7pm on zoom, voting in new members and exec
- Family Smart- Advocacy support for parents/guardians and caregivers needing assistance with advocating for a student's needs at the school or district level. Peer Support through <https://familysmart.ca/parent-peer-support/bc-parent-peer-support/>

- Volunteers offer services at no cost to families, including emotional support, information and resources and assistance to navigate services, including mental health supports.
- Presentation on a Bike Bus run by a parent at General Gordon Elementary. Presentation available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDvH2AezT1k>
- If DPAC rep can't attend meeting PAC chair and co chair have voting privileges

Funding request from current grade 6 for next year's grade 7 trip to Camp Sasamat in September up to \$9600, approved by majority vote

- 60 students x \$160 per students
- Includes bus transport, day camp fees

Fundraising

- Since there is money in the PAC budget that many of the parents have already contributed to, need to have plans and approval before fundraising for bigger trips, option to fundraise and then return funds later
- Need to check if fundraising for field trips can happen the year before the event will take place
- Will need to fundraise at some point once surplus is used up
- Should we fundraise when there is money in the account already? Is this fair for future years?
- Sasamat could be annual trip for grade 7's
- Suggestion to fundraise for some of the costs
- Can PAC fundraise for the purpose of donating the funds, this could be an incentive to volunteer, can attach charity to every event we do

Noon Hour Programs

- Involve staff in programs, SOGI, math, choir currently in school, trying to build up staff led programs
- Outside vendors- Young Rembrandts, looking at bringing in tech program, chess
- Cross country, track and field- depends on staff sponsors
- Can't run programs at school unless there is connection with community schools or there is a teacher sponsor
- Lunch time programs for younger kids (working on opening up programs for younger students) these are during the staff lunch hour, usually built around interest from staff who then want to run a group

- Noon hour used to be parent run, but this was not following the procedures
- Community schools doesn't have to pay rentals
- No soccer team, have team when people sponsor them

Parent Led Trip

- Presentation and funding request by Niki Boyd on behalf of current grade 6 (2024 grads)
- Families have planned a trip to Fireside Adventure on Galiano island, this will be parent led
- 2 nights, Fri Sept 22-24
- Activities include team building, paddleboarding, ecology, Indigenous history, yoga, hiking etc.
- Sasamat had not been confirmed, students are aware that Quebec would not be happening for them so parents organized a trip in lieu of
- 45 of 51 families have already committed, all have put down a deposit

Funding Request

3 options were presented:

1. \$400 bursary per camper for those in need of financial assistance to participate, up to a maximum of 6 campers (as 6 have not paid a deposit or confirmed)
2. Subsidy of \$100 per camper
 - Families that do not attend the trip could get \$100 to put towards another program
3. An equivalent \$100 to families that decided not to go on the Galiano trip, to be used by a specified date for an alternative experience. If not used by that date, the money would have reverted back to the PAC

In return would be happy to volunteer

Request for \$400 per camper in PAC funds to provide financial assistance for the cost of the 2024 trip to Fireside Adventure for up to 6 students, approved by majority vote, 12 for, 10 against, 2 abstained

- Ask DPAC if they can field requests for funding assistance to keep it anonymous
- Funding for parent led vs school led events and activities, needs to be some distinction, looking at these case by case, doesn't have to be school led to be PAC funded

- Need people on Quebec committee for parent led trip and to collaborate between Quebec and planning other grade 7 trips and activities

Notes for September wish list- soccer nets, light plastic tables that can be easily folded and unfolded

Election for 2023-2024 Executive

Led by past chair Tam Cummings

Co-Chairs Sunita and Orla, voted by acclamation

Co- Vice Chairs Julia Lemieux, Ashley Vaughan, voted by acclamation

Co-treasurers Andrew Lavigne, Malcolm Ellisson, Linda Wang, voted by acclamation

Co-secretaries Lisa Yeates and Suzanne Enderton, voted by acclamation

DPAC representative Trish Mahoney

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00pm