



Lord Tennyson PAC

Lord Tennyson Elementary School
PAC General Meeting
February 5, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:06

Land acknowledgment and welcome.

Agenda approved and new business added

December 4, 2023 Meeting minutes approved by Sunita and Orla

Principal's Report:

1) We are continuing to work on our School goals of literacy and connecting and building the activities that we do around it, in keeping with the District Plan.

2) Staffing Updates:

- Mme Grace, our teacher Librarian, has changed her professional direction and taken a job with a computer tech company – we wish her all the best – we are currently in the hiring process for a new Teacher Librarian – in the meantime, Mme Carole, who was working in the Library for part of the year last year has agreed to work as a teacher on call in the position until the position is filled
- We are still in the process of hiring a Kindergarten teacher for Div. 16 with Mme Müller (Thurs/Fri) – Mme Lichimo will be in the position until we have hired a replacement
- Mme Feller and Mme Safi have taken the Grade 6/7 Resource position
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3) Events/Field Trips Since last meeting:

- In-class - cooking, hatching chum salmon eggs, giant floor map
- Field Trips – Space Centre, Vancouver Art Gallery, Rio Theatre Film Festival, Beaty Biodiversity Museum
- Clubs – Chess Club (Two Primary and an Intermediate), SOGIE, Diversity and Inclusion, Sustainability Club
- Extra-Curricular Sports
Basketball – Two Junior and two Senior team entered in the league this year – in-school games are ongoing and the season goes until the end of February

- Both Senior Boy and Girls teams will be going to the Vancouver tournament for Seniors – initial game home or away, sudden death knockout, next step moves to a high school venue

4) Upcoming Activities

- Performances –
 - “Spectacle de Will’s Jams” – K-7 - Feb. 29th- 1:30-2:30 p.m. (in French)
 - “Flight of the Hummingbird” – Vancouver/Victoria Opera Companies performance – Apr. 4th – 2:00-3:00 p.m.
 - “Créason -Eco-Logical Show” – May 10th – 1:00-2:00 p.m. (in French)
 - V’ni Dansi – Métis Dance Performance – Date TBA – early Spring (in French)
- Ice skating (primary classes), Class photos (April 11th), Grade 7 Individual and Group photos (Apr. 15th), “Mike’s Critters” (primary classes), Camp Sasamat (Gr. 7’s) – May 27th, Grade 7 Farewell – June 24th

5) Wish List Updates

- Outdoor equipment has arrived and is being extensively used by students outside at recess and lunch
- Yoga mats are set up in the spare room for classes
- Two stationary bikes have arrived and are currently being assembled – request from staff for two more, if possible
- MAC Laptop lease has been approved and we are awaiting their arrival – we have two MAC carts (60 laptops) on loaner from the VSB in the meantime
- Garden boxes have arrived – we are waiting for the delivery of soil – staff will be deciding on how the spaces will be divided amongst classes at the next staff meeting
- iPads have arrived at the District and we are waiting for them to be processed with District sanctioned apps – cases have arrived at the school
- Portable mikes have been ordered – delivery TBD
- Performances – see above

Wish list

- yoga mats are at the school now
- two stationary bikes arrived and being assembled
- waiting on mac laptops
- 60 mac laptops on loan from vsb for now

- portable mic's ordered
- performances almost completely booked
- First Aid Kits and ice packs are here
- Wireless keyboards ordered
- Garden Boxes arrived and awaiting delivery of the soil to plan bulbs

Treasurer's Report

- 5 months through school year our budget was for 130k approx
- bank balance is close to 150k because a number of items are occurring later in year, and Much-a-Lunch money is in account awaiting payment to vendors
- moving through budget lines as they were voted on this year
- moving everything over to quick books from current Excel
- questions about earning a higher interest rate - Vancity is working with treasurers to offer 3% interest rate
- Wish list items are being paid as invoices are coming in from the school.
- Discuss staff's request for 2-3 more bikes to allow all pods outside of grade 6/7 pod would have one
 - for bikes approx \$750 / bike
 - Total of 5 had already been approved by PAC so this completes the request as 3 more will now be ordered.
- Staff request around earthquake bin has a need for 6 tables for set up for emergencies @ \$165 each (ex parent meeting table, first aid table, only have 1 table right now)
 - discussion to take out of discretionary fund for earthquake kit tables
 - **Orla proposed a motion to buy 6 tables for earthquake bin - Sunita seconded the motion**

DPAC update

- facilities working group presented 5 proposed motions.
- see all details here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SHYjSmR9Rj8TDNuUs_TyAc-e9N-XPsnO/edit?usp=sharing&oid=117966024927877147452&rtpof=true&sd=true
- Facilities working group's 5 proposed new resolutions to have DPAC vote on next meeting:
 - DPAC exec wants each PAC to read in detail and vote to have more involvement
 - discussed providing info today, voting on it and sending out via blog.
 - Trish is able to forward any questions.
 - discussion about if DPAC has committee looking at teacher retention etc
 - **Trish proposed a motion to vote in favour of Tennyson PAC support the 5 proposed resolutions from the Facilities Committee at DPAC - All voted in favour**

- o follow up on question from PAC tonight on inclusive education - if there was a group at Tennyson parents it would be the Inclusive Education Committee
- Julia co vice-chair offered to be contacted as she is a part of this Inclusive Education Working Group
- **Next DPAC meeting is February 29th 7pm on zoom register on DPAC website <https://vancouverdpac.org/>**

PAC updates:

- Holiday sing-along was well received
- Holiday hampers, gifts for non-enrolling staff (big thanks to Trish for leading this initiative)
- Hampers raised \$3,038 in addition to physical gifts that were dropped off and this helped to purchase gifts and gift cards; additional funds will also cover field trip costs for families who received hampers who are in need
- volleyball went well
- current: basketball, chess
- Spirit wear: ready to start a campaign to sell orange technical shirts to get ready for Track and Field; surplus from hoodie sales will provide a discount as well as reversible pinnies
- Spring Child Run: Orla asked is anyone interested in families getting involved for a fun run for BC Children's Hospital - this will be sent out in an upcoming newsletter
- Spring Fling - May 23 or 24th and looking at doing a BBQ instead of food truck as this went well for Welcome back BBQ
 - Idea raised idea of including a Tennyson Craft Market of kids/families who may want to include this
 - PAC asked if we could have the gym for that date - Diane will check
 - still have \$2500 in community event

General discussion: Fundraising

- **Current grade 7 suggested fundraising request:**
 - car wash, wine raffle, Krispy Crème donut sale, bake sale, Freezies after school sale
 - We are in a position to remodel our fundraising to have us all fundraise for everyone so when you get to grade 7 all kids get nice graduation.
 - Grade 7 request to spend the remaining Sasamat money at Graduation
 - Grade 7 parents request to fundraise
 - Grade 7 Grad Parent Committee representatives Junko and Kate requested if extra funds could be allocated to grad
 - committee shared what they are planning
 - Camp Sasamat trip
 - Transition time for this grade to be able to fundraise due to new
 - general discussion on grade 7 leaving ceremony and party and to increase the amount

- need to have more structure to support grade 7 parent group in planning each year and being able to have a system of having School and parent grad Committee come together earlier in the year
- Need to have structure so kids have an idea of what is reasonable
- Diane to ask kids what it is that they want to do
- Suggestion to take discretionary funds to move into graduation line item to increase to \$1000
- request to have next pac meeting a clear summary of what the expectation is for grade 7 grad for school year 2025 grad 7 group
- \$1500 budget for grad for this year - discussion of what would be impacted by this increase and it was noted the Sasamat trip is coming in under budget
- **Orla proposed that \$1000 to come from the discretionary fund to be added to grade 7 graduation line to support this year's school's graduation. This is a one off vote for this year and this will guide next years budget for 2024/2025 what the PAC will cover for graduation and this will be sent out with the next Newsletter in the PAC corner section . Trish Seconded the proposal and no opposition.**
- ACTION for future meeting:
 - Plan to have school communicate Graduation planning at last PAC meeting of year and again first PAC meeting in fall 2024
 - A blurb to be sent in newsletter to ensure that the tone is set that moving forward we have a more structured approach to Graduation that is lead by the school and supported by the parents
- **General fundraising required**
 - History: was for the school (approx \$40,000 which would include wish list, this about 10k more than a lot of other schools in area)
 - looking forward we will be asking parents for \$40k year over year: in past Kickstarter (approx 20k) math-a-thon (approx 20k) Quebec fundraising for grade 7 trip (in past was approx 40k - hot lunch sales, winter fest and other fundraising)

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm