

MINUTES

Garden City Elementary Parent Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday October 12, 2022 @ 7pm

1. Welcome and call to order.

Attendees:

Administration: Ms. Norman, Ms. Wong

PAC Executive: Dean Billings, Winnie Loong, Wendy Ng, Anna Seto, Sonja Starke, Lisa Wangh

Parents: 10 parents

2. Approval of September 21, 2022, Minutes. Lisa and Sherel approved.

3. Chair Reports:

RAM (Sonja): The RAM Membership drive is ongoing. The next meeting is on November 8th and there will be a membership draw for a \$50 gift card. RAM has partnered with M&M Food Market on Francis Road in Richmond for fundraising.

RDPA Update (Dean): PAC 101 is coming up with a PAC Chair session, a Finance session and a Fundraiser session. There are no expectations of capacity limits so anyone who wants to attend that can do so. It will be on October 20th at McNeil Secondary. If you are interested in attending, send your name to Dean and he can pass it along and get you registered.

Hot Lunch Updated (Lisa): Thank you to all parents for getting their pizza orders in on time. Every Thursday at midnight is the deadline for pizza ordering for the following week. We are doing Monday specials to try out some new vendors. Monday October 24th will be Booster Juice. The deadline for ordering that is October 16th. We will be doing Boston Pizza on November 8th with ordering deadline of October 30th. November 28th will be Takeya Sushi. All will be delivered to the classroom around lunch time.

Discussions around restarting Libby's for another lunch time option for parents to order for students. A poll will be done to decide how high the demand is to use Libby's and will update the parents after that.

Fundraising (Anna): We have a few ideas for fundraising and would like to have movie nights again. Lisa and Anna will discuss this further with Ms. Wong and Ms. Norman. We are planning on doing fundraising with Growing Smiles again for poinsettias before the winter break. Will be looking into more fundraising options in the future.

4. Treasurer's Report (Wendy): The profit from the popcorn day was \$507.25. Expenses were \$93.44 for Foodsafe Certification for Joyce. The current balance for the PAC Account is \$11,077.14. The balance of the Gaming Account is \$11087.79.

2022-2023 Budget: From fundraising events we project the following: from pizza day and special Monday lunches we expect a profit of \$7500; for Growing Smiles we anticipate \$200. We also plan to do about 10 different fundraisers to raise \$3000.

For projected expenses of the PAC Account, we have budgeted as follows: \$190 for Foodsafe Certification; a classroom allotment of \$200 each for a total of \$3,000; a field trip supplement of \$10/student at 350 students so total amount is \$3,500; resource teacher supplement of \$600, teacher wish list \$1,000; library resources \$1,000; outdoor classroom cushions \$150; Munchalunch \$336; farewell gifts at the end of the year \$500; parent/teacher appreciation \$750.

For projected expenses of the Gaming Account, we have budgeted as follows: Saleema noon \$1,600; \$4,000 for presentations and performances; \$400 for courtyard garden supplies; \$500 for a Winter skating night; \$1,000 for Steam Hub; \$300 for chess sets; \$200 for the filament for the 3D printer; \$1,000 for Grade 7 Grad; \$1500 for the Grade 6/7 babysitting course; \$500 for a summer social.

Discussions with Ms. Wong and Ms. Norman around budget for performances and presentations as well as for the courtyard garden. They are looking at removing the 6 garden beds at the front of the school and replacing them with 3 beds at the back of the school. If the beds are moved, then the outdoor cushions budgeted are not needed.

The budget could not be finalized yet, but there was a motion to approve the upper part of the budget.

5. Administrator Update:

Ms. Wong: This month we have an opportunity to have class reviews which is where each classroom teacher has a chance to meet with the Learning Resource Support Team, including counsellors and speech and language representatives for our school. We go through the strengths and stretches of each class; what goals and structures they're using and highlight the needs they see have in their class and what can support them in that. This month we also review Individual Education Plans (IEP) for students, which are usually valid for one year. Family conferences are this week which is an opportunity for teachers to share with parents what they've noticed so far with your children.

We have multiage family teams at the school. In late September we had our family teams acknowledge the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Teachers worked with students throughout that week to teach them about residential schools and the call to action that the Federal Government has put in place.

We also have buddy groups. The buddy groups ran together during the Terry Fox Run. The family teams and buddy groups help the younger kids get to know the older students at the school.

FSA's have started for Grades 4 and 7 from now until October 28th.

The mural on the outside gym wall is completed along with the posts at the front doors of the school. We are hopeful that the artist will come back to share with the students her finished product and talk about the animals she chose.

We raised \$742.15 for Terry Fox and the Cancer Foundation.

We have sent out information on reporting and the proficiency scales. Kindergarten to Grade 9 students now get proficiency scales, not grades. There will be a Parent Information Night on

October 25th, from 6pm to 7pm that the district is holding about this. Report cards this year will be using proficiency scales so will be the same for all students.

Ms. Norman: We have the Leadership committee again and there are some Grade 5's who are keen to be a part of it. We will be having Lunch Monitors this year which is new since during COVID the teachers would eat in the classrooms and supervise the students. The Monitors will be Grade 5, 6 and 7 students.

The Cross-Country run at Garry Point Park yesterday went well with 17 Garden City students representing the school.

- 6. New Business:** Discussions around the Babysitting Course and what dates would be best. We will consider November 21st or January 30th Pro-D days to hold the course. If it is held in person there is a minimum of 12 students needed and a maximum of 30 spots. If the class is held online, it's a minimum of 10 students. We will send something out to the Grade 6 and 7 parents to gauge interest.

Questions about space at the school for an after-school care. The district is aware that Garden City doesn't have an after-school care venue or service. The district is looking at the schools which don't have after school care and what can offer. Parents should contact the school district requesting after school care. Ms. Wong will find out the contact person and pass that information along to Lisa.

Reminder that Municipal elections are coming up.

Questions around how field trips are arranged. Ms. Wong advised that each field trip is determined by the teacher. There are challenges with using school buses for some fieldtrips for 2 reasons: extra cost and the availability and timing. The school buses have to do their school runs at the start and end of each school day, so there needs to be coordination for field trips. Often if teachers choose to rent a bus, they will have 2 classes go together to help reduce the cost.

- 7. Next PAC Meeting:** November 9th, 2022 @ 7pm

Adjourned: 8:13pm