

École Rochester Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

WebEx

Call to order at 6:35

Attendance:

Executive: Lucia Sousa, Brenna, Grace, Jill, Vanessa

Other attendees: Cheryl, Erica, Patrizia, Sevara, Meena, Amber

Agenda:

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- Call to order
- Adoption of agenda – 2 min
- Adoption of previous minutes: December 8 - 2 min
- Chair's welcome – 2 min
- Principal's message – 10 min
- Treasurer update – 10 min
 - Hot dogs – up to \$1500 for Community barbecue
- DPAC update – 3 min
- Grade 5 leaving committee update – 5 min
- Fundraising update – 10 min
 - Coffee
 - Neufeld
 - Flowers
 - Possibilities: chocolate, produce box
 - Hockey night
- New business – 5 min

Adoption of agenda

- Motion to adopt the agenda. Moved: Vanessa, Second: Brenna, Carried.

Adoption of previous minutes

- Motion to adopt the minutes from the December 8 meeting. Moved: Vanessa, Second: Brenna, Carried.

Co-chair's welcome

- Lucia welcomed people to the PAC meeting.

Principal's message

- It's been a difficult time. January was a hard month. All prep, EA schedules, learning assistance, and play stations changed. People have banded together but everyone's exhausted.
- We've been really lucky compared to other schools – no closures. Have to be aware of who's in the building and who we can pull for classrooms
- February feels different. Kids and teachers are excited: BHM activities, Carnaval this week, RAC week, pink shirt day, and parent-teacher conferences.
- Projects:
 - Just completed a multi-cultural grant for a sign-post with Welcome in 18 diff languages
 - Lending library by buddy bench.
 - Musical wall in coordination with Centennial.
 - Rochester fence: classes are taking turns and doing an element to reflect Indigenous experience. They are taking good care of it.
- Learning self-regulation activities: zones of regulation and snap program, noticing and naming their feeling.
- French & English registration are done. Looking at cross-catchment now, and then we'll look at staffing.
- Question about if recess will be at the same time again, as some kids aren't able to see their friends. Answer: Play zones were scrapped but so kids can walk away from kids they don't want to be with. Supervision has been hard.
- Would it be by spring break? Answer: I hope so. We don't want to change the start and stop time now and inconvenience parents again.
- Have there been a large number of cases? Yes. It's a voluntary admission by parents, but there have been quite a few absences but hopeful we're plateauing. Most kids are getting their second vaccination and the fear is lessening. Need to credit staff. They are putting kids first they would rather lose prep time and maintain learning assistance. There were four tough days. Have plan a, b, and c and need to make decisions on allocating people from the board office and learning services to do roles.

Treasurer's update

- Deposited cheques for hocky game and Purdy's
- Want to have hot dogs for the kids in the Spring/Summer.
- Motion to use up to \$1,500 from gaming for a community barbecue. Motion: Lucy, Second: Jill, Carried.

DPAC update

- Last meeting was geared to older kids: grief and grief counsellors.

Grade 5 leaving committee update

- There were only 2 spelling errors on hoodies but all sizes were good.
- Haven't been able to do fund raising. It's at the point where if they do not fundraise, they will need to charge the kids to go.

- Erica is working on the camp, she needs someone else to do the fundraising. There's almost the amount needed to pay the deposit for Sasamat left from the last Gr. 5 group.
- Patrizia will do a Krispy Kreme sale
- Other options: Freezie sale, Me & Eds, That Place
- Heather has offered to do an email about the plans and then Erica will send the information about the cost.

Fundraising update

- Coffee – 59 bags of coffee sold. We made \$270 including delivery. Consider doing before Christmas next year?
- Neufeld – Booked. starting March 10, going to April 3. Pickup on April 11. Aiming to have the link up early for Spring Break
- Flowers – planning to do it again this year. Aiming for delivery the day before Mother's Day. Last year worked out well.
- Chocolate – Charlie's is not doing an Easter fundraiser. They offered to do molds which is a neat idea for another time. Purdy's is open if someone wants to take it on.
- Produce box – People have asked for it again. Several were purchased as a donation. Cheryl indicated we could do it the same as last time.
- Hockey night – It was a great night. We sold quite a few tickets. Was really nice to see a bunch of families there

New business

Hot lunch

- We now have to charge more: lunch.net charges 25 cents per transaction plus 2.7 %.
- Munchalunch is more at 50 cents per transaction and 3%.
- We can't use School Cash. We weren't making much so we will have to raise prices to use program.
- E-Transfers are complicated and could cost users per transaction too.

Traffic

- Need volunteers for the signs in the alley. They are helpful and repeat offenders no longer use the alley. RCMP was there recently as well.
- Cheryl will send out an email for volunteers if Jill will send a couple of lines to share.

Readathon

- Staff want to do readathon again this year. Looking at April or May. Last year it was in May. Want to do April or may.
- Has been nice to buy things for student services from that fundraiser.
- Mike will do some green screen promotional videos.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Next meeting will be on March 9, 2022.