

École Rochester Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

Monday September 30, 2019

Rochester School Library, 6:30 to 8:00pm (free childcare provided)

Meeting called to order by at 6:45pm.

Acknowledgement of being on first nations land.

1. Round table introductions (~1 min)
 - David Cowley, President
 - Jill Robillard, Treasurer
 - Cat Hendricks, Social Media Coordinator
 - Janine, Social Media Coordinator
 - Meena Mahey Kumar, Secretary
 - 9 other parent attendees (3 on the teleconference line)
 - Staff attendees: John Goheen (Principal)
2. Approval and amendment of previous minutes (May 27th, 2019)

MOTION to adopt May 27th 2019 meeting minutes: moved by Patrizia Zanotto seconded by Jill Robillard. All in favour, CARRIED.

3. School update, Principal John Goheen

- September was a difficult month. Kids from Rochester moving to other schools, so we were worried that we were going to lose a division, but we ended up keeping it. It was a scurry to get everything organized because of not knowing what the final enrollment was going to be.
- Front entry project not quite finished but almost there; log benches and trees/stones need to be situated.
- New water machine right outside the library
- New PA system
- Rochester has a partnership with Microsoft and are going to provide the school 10 new laptops which is a promotion to encourage girls to code. Grade 5 girls will be the trainers and then will open up the program to all students.
- New head teacher is Allison Johnson, and is also the student service head
- Will plant tulip heads in the fall (75th anniversary of the Dutch liberation). Tulips should blossom in May
- Question: What happened to the cherry tree. A few arborists looked at it, but it only had a lifespan of about 3 years because a young sapling was planted very young in the rocks, but it would not last. It was decayed. This will be replaced by 3 new trees.

4. Old Business

- KidsCAN Theatre moved by Patrizia Zanotto and seconded by Jill Robillard. All in favour, none opposed. **Motion carried.**

Weeding project Oct 2nd led by Heather Keeping. Budget of max \$100 with green waste bags and snacks and drinks. Moved by Meena Mahey Kumar and seconded by Patrizia Zanotto. All in favour. Motion Carried.

5. President Update

- Meeting with John and staff on October 8 in order to get perspective and priorities. This may influence final budget
- Brainstorming had 12 families participating
- Volunteer recruitment was successful but still some open positions.

6. Treasurer Update (Mary-Ann not here)

- \$7280 gaming grant, ends up being \$20 a student. Signing authority needs to be transferred to the new exec. General account balance is around ~14K, and gaming funding is currently at ~6K

7. DPAC update—Jill Robillard

- No update, but first meeting of year is October 2nd

8. Social Media Update (Janine/Cat)

- 79 followers on Facebook
- Good for last minute communication
- Still new and fresh—need more awareness
- Facebook feed show up on the homepage of the Rochester website

9. Volunteer update

- Heather Keeping has volunteered to run weeding work party (already approved) and Fresh to You (see below in regular business)
- No Halloween Howl organizer has come forward
- Committee updates (David)

1. Grade 5 committee update

1. Tentative date for the first meeting is October 10th. David to chair first meeting. This committee determines the grad plans, fundraising, budget, etc. PAC has to approve the grade 5 budget, as well as the plans before they are committed

2. Traffic & Safety committee update

1. No chair or coordinator right now. Currently there is the Thanks for 30 campaign. Jill still wants to do this and David will ask the volunteers who had signed up to help.

3. Other committees

1. Canadian Parents for French: Jill and Grace interested in volunteering
2. Emergency preparedness committee—no one has volunteered but this committee is in our by-laws
3. Other committee suggestion

10. Regular business

- Next meeting time and date proposal: 6:30pm-8pm ***Thursday*** October 17th, 2019
- October 14th is Thanksgiving and October 21st is Election day
- Entertainment Books – 150 students not returned, but 126 have returned. Need to get students to return.
- BC Agriculture in the classroom - Fresh to You Fundraiser. This fundraiser is to buy vegetables and fruit. This comes to school, and you pick up on a specific date. All grown in BC. School receives 40% of the sale. Need to have 40 bundles at least to make it viable, and max is 200 bundles ordered.

Motion to approve Fresh to You moved by Patrizia Zanotto and seconded by Jill Robillard. All in favour. Motion Carried.

- Family Photo Night, Cat Hendricks
 - Will be held the week of November 4th. Some volunteers have offered to help
- Halloween Howl
 - 8 volunteers have offered to help, but no one to organize. No confirmed date, budget, or venue.
 - Jill, Cat and Patrizia have offered to be part of a Halloween howl committee. Rochester Gym is at capacity so we need to control the capacity in the gym, numbers.
 - Ideas are to pre-buy tickets with pizza for example to control the numbers
 - John wants to see proposal on how to control the numbers for the gym
 - Also could use the outside area but need lighting
 - October 25th is a Pro-D day, and need a night time custodian since he has a day shift. Need a minimum 4 hour shift, to hire a custodian.

11. Draft Budget

- Paper copy provided at meeting. Regular account is 2 pages and gaming grant is one page
- Proposed conservative estimates are provided for each proposed fundraising activity
- We need organizers for many of the fundraising activities
- Mary-Ann thinks to coordinate babysitting with the pub-nights works to get parents out
- Projected year end gross margins with anticipated costs is \$7472
- School buses are expensive and there is very little availability of school buses in the past few years because they are contracted out for pickups and drop offs of students
- Need to have a preliminary budget for Halloween Howl \$1000

Motion to approve \$1000 for Halloween Howl, moved by Mary-Ann and seconded by Jill Robillard. All in favour. Motion Carried

12. Neufeld Farms, Bal usually does this and needs a few members to help

13. Results of PAC brainstorming deferred to next meeting and we can also see online

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:31pm, moved by Cat Hendricks, seconded by Mary Ann. None opposed.

To be finalized next RPAC meeting on October 17th.