

École Rochester Elementary PAC  
Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 15, 2017  
Rochester School Library, 7:00 PM

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Meeting called to order by Erin Moore at 7:02 PM.

1. Round table introductions

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2. **MOTION to adopt minutes of April 10, 2017 RPAC meeting as presented. All in favour, CARRIED.**

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3. Principal Update (John)

- Provincial government provided a funding allocation (Student Learning Grant) based on total school enrolment in March. Rochester received \$6801. An 11-member teacher committee is conducting a needs assessment and will make recommendations for use of funds next week. Science equipment and intermediate literature resources are items being considered.
- Technology replacement priority planning reviewed; planning for sustainability emphasis. Current computing lab machines were provided by the New Westminster Police Department. District will supply funds to provide in-classroom tech equipment but will no longer supply equipment to outfit separate computing lab. School received one-time funding for tech upgrades and purchased 31 touch-screen laptops for a total price of \$868. Wireless will also be updated. Laptops will be used in-class so time in computer lab will not be required, but 15 machines will still be available in lab for next year. School also purchased 10 iPad kits for primary use. Long-term plan to outfit each primary room with iPad kits, if PAC considering funding for tech supplies purchase of additional kits recommended. PAC could purchase at school's rate (\$1,086 for five units and a charging bin, approximately half off retail rate), but will need to purchase by May 24<sup>th</sup> to guarantee pricing.
- Planning for next school year is affected by legislated changes to class sizes and compositions. Physical space is strained because of increased number of classes. Some concerns though overall changes will be positive. Total enrollment sitting at 389 (20 fewer students than current year). Current forecast for 10 French classes and eight English (one more division than this year despite lower total enrollment). French will have one straight K and two K/1 splits. Normalization in balance between French and English streams and in overall enrollment number noted. Welcome to Kindergarten session will take place next week. Parents will attend the session with children so there will not be an opportunity for a PAC meet and greet.
- Youth worker Marna Omichinski has announced her retirement. Recruitment underway, replacement will be in place by July. Replacement will take over coordination of the breakfast program. Position is shared between Rochester and Alderson.
- School will have more library time next year with a five-day per week program and a designated staff member. Counselling time will also be increased, with Lesley Gregorash working 3.5 days per week solely at Rochester. Allocations for other support services will remain unchanged.
- Jennifer Doza will teach a grade two English class next year and Elena Danesin will teach a grade two French class.
- Community barbecue is scheduled for Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 PM. Regular and vegetarian hot dogs will be served.

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4. Financial Update (Dixie)

- March and April regular and gaming reports presented.
- About \$960 still available from this year's gaming allocation. Noted that gaming funds must be spent within three years of receipt.
- Regular account updated to add BBQ expense.
- Noted that plant sale revenue should be about \$1200, number in presented report incorrect.
- Parkour activity raised more than expected, with a total of \$400 in revenue (at \$5 per child).
- Total expense for hip hop is \$4200, tax not included in report.

5. Regular business

- Michelle organized the last movie night, which brought in \$663. Pre-ordering system allowed for much better assessment of pizza needs than for previous movie nights, and was a more reasonable workload.
- Proceeds from front of house raffle for hip hop performance will benefit the Odyssey of the Mind team.
- Outdoor rejuvenation projects are ongoing. Work order for sandbox refill was submitted in April. No quote yet for outdoor classroom supplies but estimated need is four or five tables with concrete options likely to cost about \$2500 each. Heather will contact landscaping company who assisted with slope rejuvenation, they may have contacts who could offer discounts.
- Slope rejuvenation is going well, waiting for breakdown of costs from the district before proceeding to next steps. Landscapers have strongly encouraged adding bark mulch for increased viability. Pacific Bark Blowers will provide mulch at no cost, school will need to cover costs of truck and labour only. Bill will be under \$700, PAC asked to consider funding through gaming account. Project can be completed before end of June. Noted that district will not provide upkeep for landscaping, will only complete any required repairs.
- Committee requested itemized receipt for \$700 in classroom support purchases. John will provide details. Expense in gaming budget for "Fieldtrips and Class Activities" will be amended to "Out-of-School and In-School Field Trips" to clarify PAC's expectations of use of funds.
- Teacher appreciation event is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Heather and Julie are coordinating.
- Odyssey of the Mind team leaves for competition in New Jersey on Tuesday. Fundraising efforts are going well.

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**MOTION to add expense item of \$700 for bark mulch delivery and labour to gaming budget. All in favour, CARRIED.**

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6. Other business

- None

*Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.*