

École Rochester Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 PM

Room 208

Attendance: Grace Inoue, Dan Card, Brenna Biln, Cheryl Lloyd, Erica Gjaltema, Nadia Serena, Cassie Stokes, David Crowley, Charmaine Maurice, Lucia Sousa, Alice Kwan

Agenda

- Call to order
- Adoption of agenda – 3 min
- Adoption of previous minutes - 2 min
- Chair's welcome – 5 min
- Principal's message – 15 min
- Treasurer's report – 10 min
- DPAC report - 5 min
- Fundraising - 5 min
- Grade 5 committee update - 5 min
- Hot lunches - 3 min
- Date of next PAC meeting - 2 min
- New business – 5 min

Call to order: 6:35

Adoption of agenda: Motion to adopt the agenda. Moved: Brenna, Second: Dan, carried

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Chair's welcome Lucia briefly welcomed everyone.

Principal's message:

- Building updates:
 - construction is going quite well. They are at the front of the school in the west wing, so almost all the windows.
 - The gym will likely be painted over winter break. Dean Lauzer will do a feature wall, and will coordinate with the district painter. He is excited about the rocket theme.
 - The sound system is partially here, some in box.

- Registration & enrollment:
 - There are minimal spots left in classes. Most classes are either full or there are only 1-2 spots left.
 - There are discussions about boundary changes, but not in our zone.
 - We are still registering 2 a week now. Most are refugee families, or don't speak English and happy to be here.
 - Question: if they can't fit in our school, where do they go? Lord Baden Powel or Parkland which is full, but otherwise we send them to Alderson. French Immersion is packed. The kindergartens still have some space, unusually. The grad 4-5 cap is 28. V. full.
 - They just started working on getting the grade 5 letters together including Address & catchment, dates and cross catchment registration dates.
- Reporting underway, but report cards go out before break.
- They are always in need of donated equipment from families. Cheryl resupplies the cart with balls, sometimes balls go home with kids. Sometimes parents find equipment in their garage: skipping ropes, footballs, etc. Rochester will always accept them.
- Winter activities
 - Winter concert is on Thursday Dec 21, 1:15PM and 6:00 PM. Please encourage kids to come and attend the evening performance, especially the Intermediate kids. Teachers always have discussions about whether we need to do the evening one. So Parents, please really encourage the children to come.
 - Spirit week is the last week of school - put on by student leadership.
 - Pancakes on MONday the 18th
 - Cookie decorating wanting to supply cookies for all classrooms. Last year Katie Eng wanted to do it. The PAC heard about it, and offered some money last year. This year it will be \$610 to get cookies and icing. Cheryl will ask the PAC if we want to pay. Otherwise, it will either be paid from the school budget or they will ask each child to bring \$1-2 and fund it that way.
- Comments:
 - the concert is quite late this year, some families might already have made plans. I hope it doesn't upset teachers too much.
 - It's hard too for intermediate students with practices going until winter break, especially at the competitive level. It's hard to pull them away from a commitment.
- Response: the more messaging we get out, hopefully families can try to make plans around the day.
- Q: Regarding the speaker installation - will they wait until all the equipment is here before they install? A: Cheryl emailed the person coordinating, but didn't hear back yet.
- Q: What about the leak in the gym room? It has been fixed. The other room that was covered in water stains has been fixed as well.

Treasurer's report

- Account balances: \$31,781.46 PAC regular, \$5,580.96 PAC Gaming. Money in reg the regular account is higher than it should be because expenses still have to come out.

- We received confirmation that the gaming grant wasn't submitted. The budget was planned around that money. We might have to rethink the budget, because it was around \$8,000.
- We have now applied for the PAC community gaming grant. Hopefully we'll get the money. If they don't have the money, we might not get it. The agent made no promises. We may hear in late December but it will most likely be January when we find out.
- Q: Are we out of money, or just running a deficit? Discussion in new business. We asked if we can't get the full grant, can we get a partial amount and were told it's another application.
- We don't have the number from the guy for sound system yet. It could be a lot less than budgeted.
- We'll discuss more in new business

DPAC report

- Information on several meetings was shared.
- Oct 21st meeting subject was the new reporting framework. They are moving to the proficiency scale for grade 9. There has not been a change in reporting since '94. The focus will be on proficiency from kindergarten to grade 9. The ministry and universities are working together. The universities do the research and the ministry does the fine tuning. Information is on the DPAC website
- Chloe Goodison, a 4th year SFU student did a Naloxone presentation: Naloxhome. There is a youth-led group called Knowledge is Power. They provide resources and do presentations, conversations about kindness. Some as young as 16. Over 10,000 people have died since the overdose crisis was declared. Additional information available at Naloxhome.com.
- Nov 8, assistant superintendant, Nadine Tambellini was there, the subject was competency-based IEPs. She went over IEPs, who gets one, and how they're changing. Active engagement of the student is the focus.
- Another meeting will be next week. Nadine Tambellini will be there and holistic eating will be discussed.

Fundraising

- Results so far:
- Coupon books: \$2,966.25 after pizza lunch deduction.
- Halloween Howl: \$2,344.67
- Excel Martial Arts: \$915.00. We made at least \$200 less than last year. The play was practicing at the same time, so maybe some didn't sign up because they didn't want to conflict or overbook. Excel is a good fundraiser if we can find a time that doesn't conflict.
- PAC donations are currently \$1,450.00. This is open until year end so potentially more
- Current profits from Hot Lunches is \$1,479.82
- Photos this Saturday are sold out. This means the PAC earned \$240. Jennifer is coming to see where is good on property and will reach out to families that booked directly.

- Flowers and Purdy's are happening right now. We have never seen it so low. Lucia is not sure if she would do it next year as it means giving up an entire Saturday. We used to get a lot with Purdy's and flowers. We haven't made the cutoff for free delivery for flowers yet.
- Comments:
 - Maybe people are cutting back this year.
 - Wreath is the same price as Costco.
 - Purdy's prices went up, the flowers are the same.
- Response: Succulents were priced lower, but more items might sell that way.
- Fundraising is a struggle.
- We wanted to do movie nights to pay for the sound system. We dropped purdy's spring last year. Maybe 1-2 fund raisers after January.
- Did well with coupon books and Halloween Howl. They saved us. We weren't trying to fundraise aggressively for Halloween Howl. It had dual goal of community event and fundraising.

Grade 5 committee update

- They have some fundraisers planned and know they're not in conflict with the school, and so just need to verify.
- They would like to do one fundraising lunch (maybe subway), so would like to get the dates for hot lunches for the new year
- The PAC will ask Vanessa what her plans are.
- Semester turnaround is Jan 22 week, so the PAC may want to do a lunch then. The grade 5 and PAC will email to validate a date for the grade 5 lunch.
- They will do a treat day on December 20. Doughnuts will be donated by Superstore.
- They will do a treat day once a month until the end of the year.
- They would like to do Pink t-shirt sales using CashKEV.
 - There is a district-wide fundraiser for Kidsport and each school sells the pink t-shirts. Rochester will be selling t-shirts
 - It would not conflict if it's sold at a different time.
- Movie night December 8th.
- The PAC had discussed this night previously in the hopes that the speakers were in.
- The grade 5 committee was hoping to do one near Valentine's day. If the speakers are in, then the PAC will do one then. The grade 5 committee and the PAC executive will communicate about this by January 15th.
- CashKEV has \$60 of the \$150 up. The parents have been advised that they will have to pay the full amount if they can't fundraise enough.
- They would like to sell coffee, tea, and water at the Winter Concert. Selling drinks would not conflict with a raffle of some seats in the front row. PAC is good with this plan and the school is ok with it as long as they clean up.
- The grade 5 committee would like to sell candy grams at christmas. They would be delivered to each class. Volunteer parents will write the messages and ensure it's "clean". Kids would buy for their friends. Points of discussion:
 - Maybe discuss if everyone gets one.

- This was done at middle school but caused problems.
- Caps on numbers for people, or include a way to ensure everyone gets one.
- If it happens during instructional time it could be a pain point for teachers and teachers should be consulted.
- Volume of candy may be an issue for parents who might not want their kids to have a ton of candy.
- What about if there's a list of kids that a kid buying could choose from, ensuring each child in the school is included?
- Cheryl invited the person organizing to come to the office to discuss how the rollout would go.
- Question: How is fundraising going? The movie was a success. Popcorn is not profitable, but treat days are working. Doughnuts donated from Superstore will help. It's hard to get volunteers; it's the same parents over and over. They are looking at cutting back on ceremony and what they get.
- Questions: Could this be PAC initiative? How do we sell to Centennial kids? The leadership kids love the kids at Rochester. Lucia will talk to the leadership kids at Centennial about options. Perhaps they could run a booth at Centennial's lunch?
- Comment: we need to pull from other resources. Everyone is asking the same group for funds.
- Another option might be split hot dogs with PAC.
- Question: Can we share links for flowers/chocolate with others? Yes.
- Another fund raiser being considered is a bottle drive on January 2 at the school with the big bin from the bc recycling group?

Hot lunches

- Feedback received that it feels like it's been a lot. Maybe we should look at scaling back from January to June. Gr 5 has 1 planned. Instructional lunch means it's delivered during teaching time.
- Comment: Some schools do it much more frequently.
- Question: if teachers who aren't fans, can they opt out?
- Question: Could we adjust in light of feedback? We could do a survey for hot lunches.
- Question: What about hot dog day? It won't solve the waste as even though we make it at school, each hot dog needs to be individually wrapped.
- Nothing solves instructional time. We need to decide what the purpose of hot lunch is. It's also tough because there is no Affordability fund this year so some kids won't be able to get them.

New business

- Date of next PAC meeting will be Jan 23rd instead. The original date is too early because school only comes back on the January 8th. Comment: The only issue is if we need the early date if we're trying to make decisions.
- Pancakes will be Mon Dec 18. Not Friday so it doesn't conflict with skating. Contacted Denny's for 200 orders (\$630). In light of gaming funds, do we want to do it? Kadija has

offered to cook on the Friday. Ordered 400 pancakes last year and it was tight. Discussion on this as another's recollection was that it was ok. People were hoarding pancakes to make sure they didn't run out. Discussion on previous year: the 2nd group didn't clean up and the 3rd was waiting. We ran out of oranges. Question: Superstore sells smaller frozen ones, would that be an option? They might be too small.

- We have 2 new griddles. Checking to see it's ok to order or should reduce the order.
- Need to do gluten-free and dairy-free mix as well.
- Cookies: no space in the budget. If the school pays, PAC could maybe reimburse later.
- Budget discussion tabled for Jan. Hip hop is scheduled Jan 22-Feb 2. Dufflebag may be cut. Speaker cost might be known by then.

Adjourn 8:25.