

École Rochester Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 16, 6:30 PM

Library

Attendance:

Cheryl, Cassie, Louise, Natalie

Executive: Lucia, Erica, Brenna, Grace, Vanessa

Agenda:

- Call to order
- Adoption of agenda – 3 min
- Adoption of previous minutes - 2 min
- Chair's welcome – 5 min
- Staff guest - 10 min
- Principal's message – 15 min
- Treasurer's report – 8 min
 - cookie decorating
 - student services
 - gardening club
 - Playground reset
- Fundraising - 2 min
- DPAC report - 5 min
- Grade 5 Committee - 5 min
- New business – 3 m
- Door prize – 2 min

Call to order 6:35

Adoption of agenda

- Motion to adopt the agenda. Moved: Lucia, Second: Erica, passed

Adoption of previous minutes

- Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting. Moved: Lucia, Second: Brenna, passed

Chair's welcome

- Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Brief introductions.

Staff guest - Louise St-Arnaud

- Louise St Arnaud is the head teacher and learning services teacher.
- Self-regulation: She demonstrated what is available in the focus bins which contain self-regulation tools such as wiggle seats, lava timers, and squishy balls. Other tools available for self-regulation are in exercise bins, such as kids' exercise balls. Children can also learn how to calm their body in the self-regulation room.
- Learning side: Implemented a guided reading program which is a targetted intervention. Starting with Gr. 2-3, she and teachers take 2 classes every day for 6-8 weeks. Looking at what level the children are reading. Children are divided into 4 groups, 5-6 kids at a time. Then target the kids who will continue to need support. Grades 1-2 in winter, Kindergartens in spring. Not ignoring the Grade 4-5.
- Question: Is it in the language they're learning in? Yes
- Question: Is the goal to get up to grade level? Yes. There always will be some that don't. Identify them so they can support as they go through school
- Question: Is it because of Covid? It has always been like that
- Question: Is this the 1st time? Yes.
- Question: Is it a Rochester or school district program? It is Rochester initiative.
- Question: What tier is it? It's tier 1 - all kids in classroom
- Question: Does Christie the SLP participate? She knows about it, but her program is specific.
- Question: Is it open to parent participation – maybe, this time they are seeing what might not be working and will adjust as necessary, but it could happen later on. Specific criteria are being identified by teachers in the program.
- Resource requests:
 - The school is not rich in resources. They don't have any guided reading books in English. Requesting a set of readers for Learning Services in English. Cost \$3,000 -\$5,000. There is funding for French.
 - Intermediate: fine motor skills output is very hard for some kids, not just those with a designation. Computers can help. Laptops for Learning Services specifically, not just the carts for classes.
 - Priority is books.

Principal's message

- Waived update due to time.

Treasurer's report

- Books are done up to end of October, November will be done at the end of the month.
- \$23,185.76 in Regular account, \$13,656.14 in Gaming
- Halloween Howl raised \$2,713.65
- Neufeld Farms raised \$1,044.00

- Cookie decorating: Motion to approve up to \$1,000 for a cookie decorating event. Moved: Brenna, Second: Lucia, passed
- Student services: Motion to approve \$700 to fulfill student services ask. Moved: Benna, Second: Lucia, passed
- Gardening club: Motion to approve up to \$100 for pruners for the gardening club. Moved: Brenna, Second: Lucia, passed
- Playground reset: we need more information.
 - The lower playground is not very inviting and the upper playground is reserved for Kindergarten for the beginning of the year. The rest of the kids don't have much to play with.
 - Cheryl can look into how much a sandbox is.
 - Check if a grant is available.
 - The grounds committee is meeting next week.
 - The city is planting 2 trees near the stairs. Stumps for kids to sit on will be added.

Fundraising

- Current: coupon book is wrapping up, there are books outstanding.
- Purdy's and Winter flowers are ending on Saturday. Looking like funds raised will be lower than previous years.
- Suggestion that we use stands to get parents' & kids' attention for fundraising.

DPAC Report

- Mainly the action plan for the year and Initial organization/starting up was discussed.
- There was discussion about Indigenous education which led to discussion about other minority groups.

Grade 5 leaving committee update

- Hoodies should be ready for pickup Thursday next week.
- 1st fundraiser is Meridian meats gift cards. They can be bought in different denominations. It is running for a week.
- Krispy Kreme will be Dec 8 or 9.

New business

- Pancake breakfast: We were not able to find someone to come and cook on site. We are working with restaurants for a more hot lunch style pancake breakfast, but it increases cost.
 - Motion to amend pancake breakfast budget from \$300 to \$1200. Moved: Lucia Second: Brenna, passed
 - Santa will visit during pancake breakfast
- Motion to give \$3,000 to student services for English guided reading books. Moved: Lucia, Second: Brenna, passed.

Door prize

- Grace won the doorprize draw.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Next meeting is January 18th.