

SMILING CREEK PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SCPAC)
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, September 21, 2021

In attendance: Farnaz Alavi, Zainab Alkassab, Ryan Alty, Daria Andrejczak, Jacquie Bekar, Jacquie Bischoff, Stacey Cruz, Vivien Dai, Vicky Davis, Terry Denney, Eva Dias, Elsa Echegaray, Tanya Eich, Jimmy Fung, Abhinget Garg, Julie Gillis, Carey Grandy, Matt Gushue, Tanya Hassard, Allison Johnson, Sabrina Johnston, Irene Jung, Jon Kennedy, Nara Kim, Frank Lam, Joyce Lawrence, Lin Ma, Anup Manhas, Crystal McVeigh, Hamid Moghaddam, Anjie Moore, Ahsan Nanji, Heather Nyberg, Saeideh Omrani, Caroline Ou, Sonia Raghoobarsingh, Kimberly Saldanha, Sahar Salh, Damian Stanley, Stacey Stephen, Jeremy Stockley, Stacey Tom-Yew, Grace Wang, Laina Wightman, Connie Wu, Xin Xing, Rose Yang

AGENDA ITEM	NOTES
Call to order 7:02pm	
Motion to approve minutes and agenda	Moved by Tanya Hassard Seconded by Eva Dias PASSED
Learning Commons Presentation (Jacquie Bischoff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Called learning commons because it's so much more than just book and reading. We try to promote love of reading for primary levels (kindergarten students are getting first look this week), and incorporate STEM, art and literacy piece for older grades. * Book exchange should be back to normal this year * Free maker place: students get a chance to do exploration, work on creativity and develop their ideas * Fab Lab Friday: each Friday at lunch the learning commons is opened to designated classroom to do free maker and STEM activities. This will start next Friday (Oct 1) * Mrs. Bischoff's role this year has changed a bit. Last year she was a head teacher but with the vice principal joining, she will be focusing on helping with teacher prep for K-2 classes. Ms. Johnson will be taking over the technology learning and collaboration for grade 4 and 5s. * Learning commons crew: allow older kids to build leadership capacity by helping with taking care of the learning commons facility (help with shelving books, feed the fish), as well as helping with their peers with the self checkout station * Reading Link Challenge: annual reading competition (sport of reading) where students have 2 months to read approximately 6 books, then compete in jeopardy style quizzes. Students can advance to school, library or community competitions. * Chess Club: Last year this was done virtually but this year some intramural programs can likely happening extending to spring. This will likely be after school or during lunch. * Book Fair: This will happen in November and this year we can have in person book fair, but likely only by appointment and no cash. Watch out for more details and call for volunteers as well.

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Learning Commons Presentation continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Gifted Learner Support: Mrs. Bischoff is in charge of the gifted learner program. Last year there was no challenge pulled out or mixed cohort which should be able to take place this year. Families with students in the gifted program should expect an email shortly. * School website -> Programs & Services -> Learning Commons. Once the website is up there is an interactive site that you can do variety of things (like print bookmark, search for books, etc). You can go to <u>Schedule & Hours</u> see when your child's class does book exchange. This is also a mini monthly blog, as well as various learning resources on the website. An online catalogue is also available for students to browse the available books and older students can hold books on the website as well.
Principal's Report (Allison Johnson)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Enrolment update: 517 students at Smiling creek in 23 divisions. Most classes are almost or at capacity. * Wednesday/Thursday early dismissal for welcoming conversation. It will be up to the teachers to decide whether meetings will be in person or virtual. Teachers will be keeping track of contact tracing instead of the office * Portables: There is no water service in portables (district decision). There are dedicated washroom (change rooms by the gym) for portable students as well as an outdoor sink. All children are given an opportunity to wash their hands before they eat. Portables still need phones and PA system connected, which should be completed by end of September. Teachers are currently connecting with the office by cell phone and Teams. * Field trip: walking field trip is OK, but that's all we can do until protocol is relaxed * Fees and forms: Ross has emailed out information for online forms and paper forms are sent home to students as well. School cash online has permission forms and fees that need to be paid to the school, Munchalunch is more for treat days and hot lunches. * Tennis: will be running Oct 18-24. Parents will need to pay online * Volunteers: they are allowed to come into the school, but need to fill in verification and criminal record check like before. Slow and control and limited numbers to start and only for volunteers that have a specific purpose and destination and following safety protocol and contact tracing, etc. * Water fountain: district shut down water fountain last year. This year they will be turned back on, but still in progress. Currently encouraging children to bring a full large water bottle that can be refilled at the sink * Q: Frequency of form renewal? * A: volunteer form is every year and criminal check is every 5 years (if that is incorrect it will be corrected in Ross' email next week) * Q: Has the school given any update on current HVAC capacity to ensure appropriate number of air changes per hour and MERV 13 filters to minimize potential COVID aerosols?

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Principal's Report (Allison Johnson)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Portables are keeping doors open to allow air flow. District has informed us that MERV 13 filters are very low in supplies, but will be upgrading MERV 8 filters to something better. Since our school is pretty new we are confident that the air filters are at a better standard than the older schools (which is the priority for the filter upgrade from the district). If you want more info, please send Ross an email. * Q: Safety around kids going to the washroom from portables: Will a child always be paired with another child? * A: It's up to the teacher to set up these protocols, so please talk to your child's teacher if you have any concerns * Q: Concern about wasps in portables? * A: It's a catch-22 between better ventilation and the wasps going into the portable. Hopefully when weather is colder the wasp problem will go away
Treasurer's Report (Tanya Hassard)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Went over budget that was approved end of last year (see attached document). Gaming grant should be coming in the next few weeks. * Special purpose fund: \$5000. Will pay for extra things for kids like Gym Sense. Decided to not pay for tennis since it is early in the year * Teacher support fund: \$5600. Each class has \$200 to spend on extra things in the classroom, like word games, arts and crafts supplies, or anything teacher needs to help with teaching) * Transportation field trip: last year we changed this to apply to in class experience. We can open it up to either in class or field trip (see motion below) * Sexual health workshop with Saleema Noon (early February) for all students and parents * List of fund raisers are still in flux, since some won't be able to run (like entertainment book and Halloween party) * Current financial: just under \$20k in the bank. \$15k is dedicated to the playground fund * Start of the year we focus on getting teacher, learning commons and music room funds so teachers can purchase supplies as soon as possible. Try to limit fundraising early in the year since it's overwhelming for most families. Email us if you're running into issues.
Motion to change transportation field trip fund to include in class experience	<p>Moved by Eva Dias Seconded by Jacquie Bekar</p> <p>PASSED</p>

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Playground Update (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Todd from Swing Time came in to give a 2nd option for playground. He is coming up with a quotes for a playground structure that is more in line with the current playground style * We will post details between the two plans for parents to vote on which one is preferred. Once a plan is chosen, we will publish a counter and the milestones we are trying to hit to make it visible about the playground fundraising progress. * We will be looking at grant application. If there are any parent that wants to take on one grant application or approaching corporate sponsor, or if you have a business and want to donate please reach out to us * Q: Timeline for playground? * A: It's financially dependent. We have allowed gaming grant to go directly into playground fund, which will bring us to around 25k which will be enough to do ground prep, borders and wood chip, etc. Then we need to figure out how to get the fund in for the actual playground structure. Grants and corporate sponsorship or donation will help us to get us to that step
Classroom Liaison (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We are still working on allocation of liaison. Damian will be reaching out to parents this week to confirm the roles.
Entertainment Book (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * there won't be any entertainment book this year (even digital version)
Hot Lunch/Treat Days (Eva Dias & Connie Wu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Hot lunch is running this year but mostly just prepackaged food that we can find from vendors: Subway, Dominos and Taco Del Mar (first term). They will happen every 2nd Wednesday (2 hot lunches per month) * Treat days are running every 2nd Friday: Cob's bread, Ninja bubble tea, TCBY and popcorn. * Order starts Sep 27 on Munchalunch and run for 2 weeks. Make sure you place your order for the whole term up to December in that 2 weeks window. Once order for the term is closed no additional order can happen. * Next ordering windows will be just before Christmas break and spring break * If your child is sick during the hot lunch/treat day, you're welcome to come pick up the order but unfortunately you won't be able to cancel the order
Loop/Crosswalk Safety (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * looks like we're potential getting the rapid flashing light at the Princeton/Soball crosswalk * Working with another parent to see if we can do other things to improve safety with BCAA (and maybe repurposing the loop volunteer to the crosswalk)

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Fruit & Veggie (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * a couple times a month we get different fruit and vegetable distributed in the school * Thanks Eva for getting the food safe certificate so that we can run this program!
Masks (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Masks have arrived but still being sorted now. Keep an eye out for mask order being sent home with your child this week
Bottle/Clothing Drive (Stacey Cruz)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Date is booked for October 16 * Looking for volunteers (you can sign up here) * Save bottles and textiles! * Q: if you have bottles piling up can I drop them off early? * A: You can drop them off directly to Return-It Depot. If you email us with your division number we can give you some labels so you can drop the bags off directly (otherwise you just need to provide the school phone number at drop off). Blue/clear bags are required for bottles drop off and no sorting is required.
Neufeld Fundraiser (Jacquie Bekar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ordering will start on Oct 25 - Nov 8. * Ordering will be through Neufeld directly. Info will be sent closer to the date
Card Project (Tanya Hassard)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Students are starting to make art at school for this project, which will then be sent to a company that can make cards and other products with the artwork. Parents have a chance to see the artwork in October and order will start end of October.
PAC Priority/Goal (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * safety in and around school * Keeping government accountable for local schools. We did the car rally last year for the middle/high school and will continue to apply pressure this year. * Well thought out fundraiser to enhance learning experience of students * Getting feedback from families and to help whenever possible
Pop-up Pumpkin Patch (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We have started putting into motion for potential for doing pop up pumpkin patch and incorporating it as a fundraiser. * We got 400 pumpkins from Laity and had 4/5 vehicles to pick up last year. Anything is possible if you're interested to help out, please contact us, as long as school is fine with it with the timeline and be done safely
Moe's Furniture donation (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ashley Pozzobon has been working with Moe's Furniture (owned by a Smiling Creek parent) who has generously agreed to donating some furnitures for the portables. More info will be published soon. There is also an ongoing discount and kickback that the store offers as well (see Fundraisers page for more details)
Upcoming Events (Damian Stanley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Sep 24: pro-d day * Sep 27: hot lunch order stars * Sep 29: orange shirt day * Oct 1: Terry Fox run * Oct 16: bottle drive * Oct 21: Me n Ed's family night

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Meeting adjourned	* 8:02