

SMILING CREEK PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SCPAC)  
 Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, February 23, 2021

In attendance: Sherry Basra, Jacquie Bekar, Dipti Bhide , Larina Bouwman, Jay Bradley, Stacey Cruz, Terry Denney, Eva Dias, Claudine Dixon, Jeff Dixon, Jenny Do, Jimmy Fung, Tanya Hassard, Pam Ho, Ross Jacobsen, Sonia Lagiglia, Joyce Lawrence, Alex Liang, Sabrina Johnston, Rosey Manhas, Hamid Moghaddam , Heather Nyberg, Ashley Pozzobon, Mariana Marina Rico, Damian Stanley, Shireen Syed, Nicole Villagran, Laina Wightman, Connie Wu

AGENDA ITEM	NOTES
Call to order 7:02pm	
<p>RESP Info</p> <p>Larina Bouwman (Sun Life Financial)</p> <p><a href="mailto:larina.bouwman@sunlife.com">larina.bouwman@sunlife.com</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Advisor at Sun Life for 10 years</li> <li>* RESP stands for Registered Education Savings Plan. Contributions are not tax deductible, but investment growth is tax sheltered. Investment growth portion of withdrawal is taxed in the child's hands.</li> <li>* RESP can be used for tuition, books, room and board, equipment and travel related to attendance. College, university, apprenticeship, CEGEP and trade school are all eligible.</li> <li>* There are three types of plans:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Individual plan (name one beneficiary) - doesn't have to be directly related to the beneficiary. For example grandparent can set one up for grandchild</li> <li>* Family plan (each applicant is related by blood or adoption). If one beneficiary does not use the grant, it can be transferred to another beneficiary</li> <li>* Group plan: contract to make regular contribution (and can be penalized if a contribution is missed)</li> </ul> </li> <li>* CESG (Canada Education Savings Grant) is tax sheltered and gives you \$0.20 for every dollar contributed up to \$500 a year.</li> <li>* Child can use the fund until they're 21. Unused fund can be transferred to another beneficiary in a family plan. It can also be transferred to a personal RRSP account up to \$50,000, but the CESG must be repaid to the government (interest on CESG can be kept)</li> <li>* Slides will be attached</li> </ul>
Motion to approve minutes and agenda	<p>Moved by Terry Denney          Seconded by Tanya Hassard</p> <p>PASSED</p>

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<p>Principal Update</p> <p>Ross Jacobsen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pink Shirt Day is tomorrow</li> <li>* There has been a few allegations of bullying at school, hence the email sent with the Rude vs. Mean vs. Bullying image.</li> <li>* Term 2 reports: Gradual transition students and parents are asked to prepare for a reverse child led teacher conference to showcase the work they have been doing at home. In person learners will have report card before spring break.</li> <li>* Report card format seems to be changed every year in this school district. Changes are coming from learning services department in the school district, but it seems to be making it harder for teachers to write the report card and harder for the principals to read them</li> <li>* Covid update: Fraser Health has made significant changes on how schools are updated about covid exposure. Previously the principal gets email notification from the superintendent, but now the principal will get notification directly from Fraser Health and have access to log in to see exposure dates and details. This should speed up notification to the families.</li> <li>* Fatigue and mental health from covid is evident from students, staff, parents. Frustration is up and patience is down. Be safe, be calm, be kind. There are more peer to peer conflicts, and seeing complaints that probably wouldn't have been voiced pre-covid time.</li> <li>* Kids have been very respectful of their play zones (they won't even go get a ball that has rolled to another play zone). Currently working on a plan to pair up learning group with another learning group to share outdoor play zones. Schedule B has an odd number of classes now which makes this a bit more challenging.</li> <li>* Year end assembly for grade 5 students: Current rule is that no parents can be a participant in the audience for any non-essential activity. If any grade 5 parents would like to join Ross to form a leaving committee to brainstorm what we can do for the grade 5 students that are within the health guidelines, please reach out to Ross.</li> <li>* Portable update: We are getting 4 portables. Unfortunately they can't all fit into the south west corner of the blacktop, so engineers are still trying to figure out how the portables will be configured. One of the portables will most likely spill out of the corner of the blacktop.</li> <li>* New Outdoor Natural Playground: Plans for rock benches along the west side of the school will have to hold off until portables are installed. Log climbers should be able to go in though since it is further away from the concrete path. Portable delivery date is not set but will be delivered by September 2021.</li> <li>* School supply feedback: Parents are encouraged to give feedback directly to Ross around shared school supplies (for grade K and 1) and the previous suppliers/supply list (for grade 2 - 5). If there is not a lot of feedback, the same supplies/suppliers will be used as the past year.</li> <li>* Garden update: Gardeners have come in to do some work but have not done much weeding yet</li> </ul>

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Parent Feedback Poll Damian Stanley	<p>Previous poll result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Saleema Noon: 65% to delay virtual presentation</li> <li>* Neufeld fundraiser: 65% to run Neufeld fundraiser again (will run towards end of spring)</li> <li>* Tennis: overwhelming support for parents to pay for tennis and leave PAC fund for outdoor natural playground</li> </ul> <p>New poll (<a href="https://forms.gle/xq2WNVGzmzyPCwVa8">https://forms.gle/xq2WNVGzmzyPCwVa8</a>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Spirit wear items</li> <li>* Preference for date/time to schedule a digital awareness session (April-June)</li> </ul>
Outdoor Natural Playground Damian Stanley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Habitat has given us an initial sketch of what the outdoor playground would look like. (Sketch will be attached)</li> <li>* Estimated cost:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Site prep: \$7600</li> <li>* Wood fibre and boundary for log climber: \$9000</li> <li>* 5 log climber: \$10,200</li> <li>* Interpretive Forest: \$10,200</li> <li>* \$37000 total (including tax)</li> </ul> </li> <li>* We can do this in stages where we do site prep and log climber border first, then Habitat can come in to put in the equipment at a later date. PAC currently have about \$12,000 after all the planned fundraisers for the remainder of the year that can go towards the playground.</li> <li>* Reason for the higher site prep cost is because of the location of the site and how far it is from the road</li> <li>* Please send feedback around the proposed playground to us!</li> <li>* Heather has generously volunteered to help us look into applying for grants to cover some of the cost. If anyone else is interested to help please reach out to us.</li> </ul>
Parking Map Ashley Pozzobon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* We've been working on a map to outline the best places to park (as well as where not to park) and best paths to walk to the school</li> <li>* Ross is working with the city to change the Soball parking signs back to 15 minutes parking instead of pickup/drop off only</li> <li>* The map will be sent out once we finalize parking signs with the city</li> <li>* <i>Q: Are cross walk lights possible?</i>  <i>A: Currently on the city of Coquitlam list (Soball and Princeton), but the city only funds a certain number of controlled intersections a year, but unsure what our priority is on that list. Parents are encouraged to reach out to the city and RCMP to advocate for the traffic light.</i></li> <li>* <i>Q: Speed limit sign on Queenston?</i>  <i>A: Queenston Ave is already 30km/h because of the park</i></li> <li>* <i>Q: Can we get some guideline on who we should contact to advocate for the light?</i>  <i>A: Please reach out to us and we can set something up</i></li> </ul>

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<p>Moe's Furniture Ashley Pozzobon</p>	<p>* Jason, a parent of the school is the director/general manager of Moe's Coquitlam store and we will start a partnership where families will get 15% discount and a kick back will go back to the PAC. Announcement will be sent out through emails shortly</p>
<p>Middle/Secondary school Terry</p>	<p>* PAC exec team is currently working on letters advocating for funding for the middle/high school to our MLA, premier and the Minister of Education. 2021 budget announcement can be as late as end of April this year, and we're hoping that the new school will be part of this budget. If it is not we will be pushing for a bigger letter writing campaign. In the mean time if you are interested to write letters to advocate for the new school, please email us.</p>
<p>DPAC Update Jacquie Bekar</p>	<p>* Last DPAC meeting included a presentation from the technical department around protecting our children online. They have also offered to do a session for our school (please see the poll link above to vote for a time/date that works for you. * Next DPAC meeting will be tomorrow at 7pm (presentation from Family Smart and video called In the Know) about mental health. Email us to get meeting information.</p>
<p>Purdys Jacquie Bekar</p>	<p>* Fundraiser is live now till March 7 * Pick up will be 5-6pm on March 17 * All students went home with catalogue and order instruction, but please reach out to us if you have trouble ordering</p>
<p>Bottle/Clothing Drive Stacey Cruz</p>	<p>* Bottle/Clothing drive will be on April 17 (to be confirmed) * Please save up any bottles over spring break * In the mean time you can return bottles at Return It depot</p>
<p>Sandwich Board Stacey Cruz</p>	<p>* Thank you to Fran's Flowers for donating the 2nd sandwich board info sign. We can now display messages at the front loop as well as the back of the school.</p>
<p>CNY Activities Stacey Cruz</p>	<p>* Thank you to TD Bank and Rogers for donating red envelopes that were used in the younger grade classes. The older kids had a chance to do some Chinese calligraphy.</p>
<p>Front Loop Volunteers Stacey Cruz</p>	<p>* Thank you to all the volunteers that have stepped up at the front loop. Quite a few divisions have hit their targets for the 12 volunteers already. Div 1, 2, 5, and 11 please consider volunteering for a spot!</p>

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Treasurer Report Tanya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Budget for the current year has been adjusted to accommodate for the cancelled events from covid</li> <li>* The following items were moved to our natural playground fund:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Special purpose fund</li> <li>* Digital Literacy workshop</li> <li>* Sexual Health workshop</li> <li>* \$1000 of the gaming grant</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Some extra fundraisers have also been planned for funds going towards the playground</li> </ul>
Motion to approve amended budget	Moved by: Stacey Cruz Seconded by: Terry Denney  PASSED
Upcoming events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Pink Shirt Day tomorrow</li> <li>* Popcorn Day this Thursday (and another one March 12)</li> <li>* Green Wear Day is March 17 (St. Patrick's Day)</li> <li>* Clothing Drive Apr 17</li> <li>* Me &amp; Ed's Family Night Apr 22</li> <li>* Family Photo Session (early May)</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting adjourned</b>	<b>8:12pm</b>