



Eagle Mountain Middle PAC General Meeting
Tuesday, September 21, 2021
7:00pm held via Zoom
Final Minutes

Attendance:

Administration/Teachers

Darren Macmillan Kirsten Paterson Sharon Ipe

PAC Executive

Lisa C (Co-Chair) Katie G (Vice Chair)
Shannon V (Treasurer) Nicole N (Secretary)
Janine R (Member-At-Large)

Parents (email list in separate file)

Julie	Alison	Sheryl	Erin	Jaysen	Meagan
Jill	Liz	Tanya	Jeff	Kathryn	Tony
Tricia	Catherine	Julie	Ingrid	Christina	Rena
Erin	Farin				

Meeting was called to order by Lisa C at 7:05pm.

1. Welcome & Introductions – Lisa C
 - Lisa requested attendees send first names and emails via the chat function for the record – Note that only first names would be recorded in the meeting minutes
 - We skipped down to item 9 next because some parents had to leave early.
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - Julie C motions to approve the agenda; Shannon seconded the motion; all were in favour. The motion carried.
3. Adopt minutes from May 18, 2021
 - Shannon motions to adopt the minutes of the meeting held by Zoom on Tuesday, June 15th, 2021; Nicole seconded the motion; all were in favour. The motion carried.
4. Sharon Ipe Introduction

So far, 70 people have joined band and 35 have joined choir; Sharon expects more to join choir all kids are welcome to join and most are beginners. Encourage your child to start with a friend! Feel free to send Sharon an email if you are wondering what instrument to choose.

5. Admin Report - Darren & Kirsten

- Kirsten: She hopes we can do a hybrid of zoom and in person meetings soon; she is happy to be back with a great staff. Feel free to email Kirsten or Darren with anything you would like to discuss!
- Darren:
 - He has been the principal for 6yrs at EMM, and he has been involved with EMM for all 8yrs of its existence.
 - Currently, we are at ~580 kids, which is the smallest we have ever been (610-620 last year), as a result of feeder schools shrinking; roughly 210 grade 8's, 207 grade 7's and 170 grade 6's
 - It is fortunate that there were many (district) openings for staff; many have gone on to new challenges. He is also thrilled about the new staff that have come in.
 - This is not how we expected to start the year; we thought that by the time September rolled around, COVID would be easier.
 - Kirsten and Darren have been challenged with the start-up and with the rules and what they mean in the middle school setting. It is more challenging to manage how the kids are moving around, rather than following mandated rules
 - Safety is still number 1 priority.
 - He is still reminding staff and students on wearing a mask, despite people tiring of mask wearing.
 - He is also reminding everyone of maximizing distances.
 - We have maintained 3 entrances and are spraying hand and encouraging hand washing, but we are no longer doing staggered starts.
 - We are taking instruction from the district and the health authority.
 - We are moving into having band practices which is extra and special for the kids
 - 1st volleyball meeting was at lunch; there is still time to join.
 - There will also be basketball for 6/7/8
 - Cross Country will be starting
 - There will be 2 field hockey afternoon clinics to get kids connected with the sport, but we will not be playing other schools, because parents are not allowed to come in as visitors.
 - We are progressing slowly and thoughtfully into activities, and in tune with other middle schools.
 - Now, students mix with other students which is making a difference with a lot of kids; it feels a lot more normal.
 - Pro D day – they (teachers) will be looking at assessment practices/guidelines to make sure that everyone is on the same page, and the teachers are consistent on how they are looking at student work.
 - We are also doing a school wide read and coordinating all teachers to be on the same page with that.
 - Ambassadors club has started up again with Mr Kwok (Thursdays at lunch); anyone can join.
 - We are also setting up activities that will connect the kids; for example, there will be pancake breakfast for the kids next M/T/W during Spirit Week, and a note will be sent with regards to gluten free and cross contamination
 - 575 scoops of ice cream were doled out, many to Darren himself (haha)

- Orange shirt day will be on Wednesday next week; each class will do something, but there will not be a school wide assembly. Videos will be shared for discussion.
- Terry Fox Run will be held on October 4th to kick off the Terry Fox fundraiser. We will be bringing in Fred Fox (Terry's brother) and have the school kids brought into gym in smaller groups with spacing to attend with him.
- Selema Noon was brought in in the past; this year we are looking at presenters with the goal of building resilience in kids and looking at anxiety. So many of us as parents are dealing with these things; we are not alone. There is a program called CARE which works on how we can build resilience in kids in the classroom and how parents can support this. We will be pulling in outside presenters too.
- There will be no swimming this year.
- Basketball will start later in the year, as will wrestling, if wrestling is even possible with all the inherent close touching the sport requires.
- Mr. McConville of Team Raven will head up the outdoor club; a shed needs to be built, the gardening area is going on. Mr. McConville will send out the invitation for 1 afternoon per week shortly.
- Ambassadors – involved in leadership and fundraising – they meet Thursday at lunch. 75 kids showed up last time.
- Mr Kwok is trying to set up a Minecraft club.
- We are trying to set up a board game or chess club also.
- Port Moody, Coquitlam, & Port Coquitlam recreation centres are offering Get Active programs.
- Port Moody recreation is meeting with our administration to look at programs to offer our students through Port Moody Rec.
- We have no idea of the number of kids vaccinated. There is more comfort among staff; more sense of safety. Caution: – let's not get lazy (complacent) with our COVID safety protocols. Let's keep trying for the balance of doing things we can do while maintaining safety.
- Thank you to Darren and Kirsten – we feel well informed and we are starting off on a positive note! Darren and Kirsten are very responsive and we are lucky to have them! If they don't know about issues, they can't help, so ask away. There are no bad questions!
- Please reach out to connect with your teachers in lieu of the open house we can't have that would have been last week.

6. Treasurer Report & Budget 2021-22 – Shannon

Gaming Account:

Current balance: **\$4,094.25**

We applied for a gaming grant (~\$12k) with specific criteria of what it can be used for: Non-curricular and must benefit students.

The goal is to use as much as possible in the school year in which we get the grant so that the current students benefit. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we could not spend it all last year.

- One key event is Grade 8 leaving: We budget \$15/student from the PAC and \$5/student from the parent.
- There is a teacher wish list – Each class is allocated the same amount \$175. Orca has two teams with 3 classes each and the rest have 4 classes.
- There is money allocated for athletics.
- Money was allocated to the learning space outdoors last year (outdoor learning club) and some funds are allocated to the same this year.
- For new grade 6's, we pay for EM shirts and we had left over gym bags this year.
- We purchased grade 6 agendas,
- We have budgeted for presentations that we hope to have this year.
- We budgeted for the Minecraft club this year and included funds for equipment or prizes.
- We have included a budget for the famine event where the kids raise money by going 24hrs without eating.
- We allocate funds towards the Thunderbirds Ambassadors to replenish supplies.
- There are random act of caring funds

Every month, Shannon will show a reconciliation

General Account:

Current balance: **\$15,201.25**

We drafted a cautious budget this year as we are not sure if we can have hot lunch and have the credits to cover before we can make any profits. We are hoping to do more fundraising this year compared to last year.

- We spent \$15k last year out of our budget
- Hot lunch account: We have carryover money of just under \$2k; parents (who asked for carry over) will have that credit when we start that up this year. Prior to COVID, we were doing 2/month, and it brought in quite a bit of money.
- There is a teacher wish list: Each class is allocated the same amount \$150. Orca has two teams with 3 classes each and the rest have 4 classes.
- Each explorations teacher also gets \$600 since they cannot use any gaming funds.
- BC PAC Parent education budgeted at \$100 for 2 parents
- Tunnel of Terror chances are slim but it has been a significant fundraiser for us in the past; hopefully we can find something to replace it with.
- Winter Market has also a good fundraiser and it was a FUN FUNdraiser; students come to do craft and activity stations to make gifts or buy food during one of their blocks
- Staff appreciation: Last year we did an appreciation board rather than bring in meals, due to COVID
- Cobs bread Suterbrook location: 5% of all sales goes to EMM if you tell them you are with EMM when you pay.
- We have the Eagle Fund which can be used to reimburse the school for any kids that cannot pay for extracurriculars so none of our students go without.

7. DPAC Report – Yet to happen; update will be at next PAC meeting in October for DPAC meeting of September 22nd.
8. Events / Volunteer Opportunities for 2021-2022 - Subcommittees:
 - Fundraising
 - Group of Parents
 - Coordinate sending emails to the school, contact the businesses and communicate details to the PAC and parents
 - Come up with any other ideas to present to the PAC
 - MunchaLunch:
 - We need someone who can coordinate it (be in charge)
 - Involves contacting the vendors, and setting it up on the MunchaLunch account and communicating with Shannon (Treasurer). Shannon can assist since she has been the administrator past 2 years
 - Parents can share this role
 - Parent Education
 - Bring ideas forward to the PAC and we can research options
 - Teacher Appreciation (there is also a Teachers Assistant week)
 - Grade 8 Leaving
 - Grade 8 parents setting up what to do for leaving grade 8's; this can be set up a bit later, it is a little too early because we don't know what restrictions we will have at this stage.
 - This is a great way the parents can get involved

Some volunteers from the meeting stepped forward as follows (as noted in the Zoom Chat)

Meagan H, Julie C, Janine Ryan, Katie Golbey for Grade 8 Leaving

Rena H for Halloween or winter market

Julie C and Janine R for winter market

Christine can help with a sign for the outdoor club

Jill K is a maybe for parent education

Rena H also for parent education

It would be helpful if parents can bring another parent into volunteering roles – Ask another parent!

9. Events
 - First we need to have a conversation with Darren & Kirsten about what will be allowed and then we will bring that back to the parents regarding Winter Market.

- Tunnel of Terror – There is lots of hesitation due to COVID. Does anyone have any other ideas for Hallowe'en?
 - What about something in the outdoor space?
 - Pumpkin Patch?
 - Rena H, Jeff M and Meagan H will assist Lisa C and Diane M with some brainstorming ideas for Hallowe'en.

10. Other Business

- There is a concern by a neighbour about the speed people are going on East Road.
 - There is an ICBC budget for SD43 and Jeff will bring it up at his transportation committee to see what is possible to add additional safety measures to slow people down.
 - It may be that the PAC needs to partially fundraise for additional safety signage/lights, etc.
- Anmore Green Estates (AGE) septic issue
 - The blue fence at the Eastern side of the school property was set up in 2017 to keep students out of an area of land where pollution from a failing septic field, which serves 51 townhouses, has leaked over the years.
 - AGE have been working with the Village of Anmore, City of Port Moody, SD43, and the Greater Vancouver Sewerage Board to eliminate the pollution and risk to students.
 - Over the summer, there have been regular project meetings with improved communication, pre-construction work (geotechnical studies, arborist studies etc.)
 - Everyone is working toward a Statutory Right of Way for the pipe to connect AGE sewage to Metro Vancouver (Port Moody) septic system.
 - See September 3rd, SD43 posted a Community Update outlining a 12-15 week work timeline; there is an (optimistic) start date of sometime in October.
- Ways the Parents can stay connected with the PAC:
 - monthly PAC meetings
 - Emails from Darren or Kirsten
 - Eagle Mountain Middle School Homepage
 - Eagle Mountain PAC Facebook
 - EMM Twitter for morning announcements: @43EagleMountain
 - email us: 110-pac@sd43.bc.ca
 - District PAC43 (DPAC) meetings and guest speakers (4th Wednesday each month starting in October). All parents are welcome.
 - Provincial level: BCCPAC <https://www.bccpac.bc.ca/>. sign up for their newsletter to keep up to date on changes in education and legislation.

11. Adjournment

- Lisa C motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm; Julie C seconded the motion; all were in favour. The motion carried.