

Banting PAC meeting - May 20, 2020

Participants: Vice-principal McMahon, Lucky Saini, Noelene Ahern, Mimi Barham, Shelia Roberts, Bonnie Hall, Vicki Bowman, Catherine Knaus, Yuen, Lokshana Groodoyal

Apologies: Principal Trask

Agenda and Minutes from previous meeting approved by Bonnie and Sheila.

Principal's report

Outdoor classroom

- At the last meeting the PAC approved \$18 000 to be spent on the outdoor classroom. The actual cost has been revised to about \$13 000 as the tables will be brought to site first and allowed to settle, and then the budget for the pads will fall under the regular school maintenance budget later. The invoice should be provided soon.

Day planners

- In past years, the cost of the day planners for each student has come partly from the student fees and partly from the school. It has been decided that next year day planners will not be issued, especially with more teachers moving towards online tools.

June return to school

- An email was sent to parents on 20 May with a letter from the school superintendent and a survey that all parents are asked to complete by Friday 22 May at 5pm. The survey is to find out which students plan to return to school in June. Parents must fill in the survey whether their child is returning or not. If a parent has not filled in the survey, they cannot send their child back without notice. Students will attend one day per week based on their last name but the school will try to be flexible with the schedule if needed.
- Currently there are 12-15 students in the school every day. From June, there should be no more than 8 students in each classroom and there will be other restrictions like staggered start times, and no use of microwaves, lockers or drinking fountains. They are hoping to do as many outdoor activities as possible, using the portable tables or the new picnic tables if they have arrived in time.
- Students will still receive online schooling, but the in-person schooling will be supplemental.
- Staff are all expected to be in the building for one day this week, two days next week, and five days a week from June. Any immune compromised staff may need special arrangements.
- A time will be arranged for students to pick up any items still in the building.
- A parent expressed appreciation for all the effort put in so far by teachers, EAs and administrators.

Code of Conduct

- The code of conduct was distributed to all parents by email. The main change from last year is the addition of the following:
'Using/naming a physical illness, disability or condition to threaten, harass or intimidate others in the community is unacceptable'.

Treasurer's Report

Additional funds are now available because the cost of the picnic tables was lower than expected. It may be possible to put more money towards the staff appreciation or Grade 8 leaving events.

PAC Activities to year end

Teacher/staff appreciation

- A lunch is not possible due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- There was discussion as to alternatives and decided that the PAC would purchase some sort of physical gift for teachers. It was decided to look into purchasing something edible (cookies, pies etc.) to support a local bakery, and to ensure that appropriate food preparation and packaging was considered. A visit from the Rocky Point ice-cream truck was suggested.
- In addition, parents and students will be asked to submit a virtual token of appreciation such as a note, drawing, song, joke etc. which will be compiled and presented to staff as a group. An email will be sent to all parents and students.
- Bonnie will co-ordinate with Noelene.

Grade 8 Leaving

- There will be no ceremony or BBQ, and Ms McMahon and Mr Trask will be discussing alternative ideas with the grade 8s.
- There was discussion about having a photo background/frame for students to take selfies when they came to collect their report cards, or getting a professional photographer. Ms McMahon will contact the photographer who usually does class photos that were not done this year. There was also discussion about giving them a token gift (frame, something edible etc.), arranging a car parade and even a Minecraft virtual leaving ceremony.

New Business

All current PAC executives' two year terms end at the AGM in June. Noelene, Marit and Lucky can continue for the next two year term, and Mimi can continue for one more year if needed. We need to find a new treasurer, ideally to start in 2020 to learn the role from Mimi.

The AGM will be held in an online meeting on 10 June, and notification will be sent out to Banting parents and also incoming grade 6 parents.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.