

Banting PAC meeting - November 18, 2020

Participants

Banting Middle School: Principal Bill Trask, Vice-principal Gen McMahon

PAC: Noelene Ahern, Stan Wylie, Lucky Saini, Marit Heideman (minutes)

Parents: Claire Wheeler, Christina DeBruyn, Mimi Yue, Jennifer Sing, Roxanne Abel, Jayden Lee, Andrew Roberts

Meeting opened at 6.30pm.

Agenda and Minutes from previous meeting approved by Jennifer Sing, seconded by Marit Heideman.

Principal's report

- Teachers thank parents for extra fundraising efforts for classroom supplies.
- LGBTQ session presented by Out in Schools was held on October 19, 2020. An hour long follow-up presentation (online) will be this coming Friday to answer student questions. Sessions are funded by the PAC.
- Dance activity is currently in planning phase – hip hop dancer may be able to come, taking Covid-precautions to work with the students.
- School is trying to provide some normalcy, e.g. Halloween trivia, Ugly Sweater Day, PED day etc. Bringing some fun and bringing the kids together.
- Fruit & veggie fundraiser – raise vegetables for families, school received a little bit of money too. Will be delivered on Tuesday. Strategies for safe delivery are being worked on.
- COVID19:
 - teachers are preparing for a potential school shut-down as a precaution (full or partial shut-down options are being considered).
 - Kids are really good in wearing masks. Within cohort kids are also wearing masks.
 - In classroom social distancing is difficult, but cohort system is working well.
 - Disposable masks are available for kids who forget their masks.
- Q: are you talking about the option to go to online learning similar to what was happening in the Spring?
 - A: yes, it would be similar to what happened in the Spring.
- Q: is there any information on extending the Christmas break?
 - A: have heard different options from other districts/regions. We have heard nothing from the school district. It would be a direction from Fraser Health.
- Q: Anything on ending the Transition program?
 - A: for now we are continuing with the program. The district is not taking new students into the program. The program is not intended to be a substitute for online schooling/education. There may be concerns about students missing out on (in-class) learning.
 - School has seen more absences, and having students being able to access Teams has been very helpful in being connected to the classroom.

- Q: What would online learning look like?
 - During Spring it was dependent on the teacher. Grade 8's did not tend to show up in the mornings. Most classes had a class meeting once a week (or more). We did have students in the building during Spring as well, for individual reasons.
 - We currently do not know if any school shut down would be partial or full (e.g. some students at home, others at school).

Treasurer's report

- Currently ~\$5,000 in PAC account as of 31 October 2020
- Gaming account balance: \$3,785
- Have spent \$6,000 on student incentives from Gaming account
- School based account: \$15,000
 - Family donations are still coming in.

PAC activities

- Family donation still some amounts coming in.
- Hot lunch is not set up yet. Lunch Lady may not be able to provide yet due to COVID19.
- Gift card fundraiser:
 - The PAC is promoting local businesses on Facebook.
 - To date: \$6,950 worth of purchases, about \$300 for the PAC.
 - Gift cards available for local businesses and big box stores.
 - End date for ordering: November 27.
 - Early delivery is possible for early December if you put in an order now.
 - Ideas to promote the gift card fundraiser are welcomed!
 - 2 other PACs (Scott Creek and Walton) are doing a fundraiser for local businesses.
 - Payment is possible by credit card.
 - Do not need a child in Banting to order gift cards.

Other Business

- Traffic issue at corner Miller Park, at the corner of Egmont Av. & Raynor Street. The issue has been passed on to ICBC, who will investigate what can be done about the parking situation on the corner and will then connect with local authorities.
 - Maybe some signage to not drop off kids at the corner would be helpful, as it creates a dangerous situation.

Meeting adjourned at 7.10pm.

Next meeting will be scheduled in January 2021.