

MINUTES

Heritage Mountain Elementary Parent Advisory Council General Meeting

March 9th, 7:00PM HME Library and online via Microsoft Teams

In Attendance

PAC Executive:

Marcela D- Chair
Katie G- Vice Chair
Marco M- Treasurer
Alisha N- secretary
Jen C- DPAC Rep
Ladawne S- Communications

School Representatives:

Mr. Sclater
Ms. Olgivie

In Person:

Rebecca M
Tracy L
Sherry B
Liz K
Sonny
Brittany M
Gemma

Online:

SJ Guest
Jenny

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. A hybrid model meeting with in-person/virtual attendance was conducted as highlighted on the attendance record above.

Marcela welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for coming. She also conducted a land acknowledgement.

Land Acknowledgement: Marcela conducted a land acknowledgement “We acknowledge we are on the unceded traditional territory of the Kwikwetlem First Nation, which lies within the shared territories of the Tsleil-Waututh, Katzie, Musqueam, Qayqayt, Squamish and Sto’lo Nations.”

Marcela asked if anyone had additional items to be added to the agenda. A member of the meeting present online, added “the Card Project” for a discussion point. Marcela also highlighted that there would be a correction to the agenda for the meeting: discussing the Spring Carnival as a Fall Open House community event (moving the event to Sept 2023 instead of June 2023).

Minutes Approval

The February 8th, 2023 PAC meeting minutes were approved. Katie G made a motion and Marco M seconded this motion to approve.

Principal’s Message

Mr. Sclater highlighted the changes to the library as the meeting was held in this space. He communicated to the meeting attendees that the library was an evolving space and a center of the school for community building and STEM projects. One of these “community times” has involved the children learning self regulation tools which was lead by teachers with video content as well.

The school has just finished the last “ArtStarts” project “How the Raven Stole the Sun” and thanked the PAC for the fundraising efforts to make this performance happen. After Spring break, the school has a lot of fun events planned, including KM club and some field trips/outside class time.

For Sept 2023, the school is continuing to plan for registrations and logistics with divisions planning. There are some families in the neighbourhood(s) of SD43 that cannot come to the school of choice/ catchment due to the schools being at capacity. In saying that, registrations for kindergarten are slightly lower than last year for HME. In the current school year (2022/23) Grade 1-3 is full, there are 2 spots left in kindergarten and 2 spots left in grade 4 and 5.

Financial Reporting

Marco M provided the budget to the group in attendance. He noted that there were a few expenses that ended up being a little higher in 2023 compared to 2021/22 school year. Background: when we made the budget, we based it on last year's costs (2021/22 school year), so we needed to approve the actual expenses for items below in 2023.

A motion to approve the following expenses (as they were budgeted for less originally) was made by Marcela and seconded by Katie:

To approve expenses:

Athletic Program \$4289.00
Arts Performance \$2672.25
KM Club Ribbons: \$1169.96

Motion was approved

DPAC Report

Jen Chan provided a DPAC update to the meeting attendees:

1. DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council) has a new website: <https://dpac43.ca/>
 - You can find up-to-date DPAC meeting minutes, parent parentations, DPAC Pulse Newsletters, as well as other general documents that can be a resource to school district parents and PACs.
 - DPAC General Meetings are open to any SD43 School District parent/guardian whether they are on a PAC executive or not, whether their PAC is registered with DPAC43 or not.
 - All parents are welcome at General DPAC meetings.
2. New Assistant Superintendent Nadine Tambellini. Nadine has been a part of our district for over 30 years, joining the district in 1989 and has served the district in a number of different posts, including principal of Hillcrest Middle, principal of Central Elementary, and vice-principal of Glen Elementary.
3. With the recent pink shirt day, we were all reminded to be respectful and kind to one another. This also applies to all parent volunteers, and DPAC would like to urge everyone to

remember the reasons that you joined PACs and DPACs, or just simply volunteering for PAC events. It's important to remember that we are all volunteering our time and efforts for the betterment of our children's education and our communities.

4. Budget process - our district's budget consultation process is well underway and this process involves many stakeholders including DPAC. This process will continue until April, when the budget needs to be approved. This year parents have raised many issues with regards to the district and what we would like to see done differently or what our concerns are. After going through the feedback DPAC received, they chose the top 6 things to discuss at this year's budget.

- The ongoing need for more EA's and other support staff
- Food Stability in the future with regards to the Student and Family Affordability Fund ending in June
- Bus transportation to and from schools needs better planning
- Equity amongst all students when it comes to programs such as STEAM
- Continued Mental Health awareness and education
- Continued support for Indigenous Learners and their graduation rates

If you have any questions or comments regarding the district's budget consultation process, I encourage you to get in touch with DPAC president Rosey Manhas at president@dpac43.ca.

5. Next DPAC presentation is on - Building Healthier Children - Orion Warjen - Community Health Specialist ACES, and Leah Lyth - Healthy Schools B

- Orion and Leah will be discussing how to build a healthier child, looking into quick health fads, mental, social, and physical development, and substance abuse.
- If you are interested in this short presentation, please join the next DPAC meeting on March 29th, via Zoom, at 7pm.

Motion to Vote and Approve New ByLaws

The new HME PAC Constitution and ByLaws document was circulated to the parent community in mid-February 2023 before the March 9th meeting to give notice for the parent community to read and provide suggestions/ thoughts for discussion. This document was presented at the meeting. The only issue discussed between attendees with the new bylaws was in the "Term of Office" section of the bylaws. It was proposed to be changed to state that if *"10. If an executive member resigns or ceases to hold office for any other reason, the remaining executive members may appoint an eligible member of the Council to fill the vacancy until the next general meeting."* Previously, the bylaws stated the next *annual general meeting*. Parents present at the meeting also discussed that this would give the parent community an opportunity to vote on this position sooner, rather than waiting to the AGM.

A motion was made by Marco M to approve the changes to the bylaws and everyone present at the meeting voted by hand in favor of these changes and approving the new bylaws.

Motion Approved

Athletic Program 2023/24

Discussion in the meeting was around the long-standing tradition of PAC supporting the GymSense program for the school. The GymSense program seemed to be well received this year by teachers and students and has improved since COVID as logistics around sanitizing and distancing are not required anymore. This year, there were 2 athletic programs in the school year: GymSense and Tennis for the kids. Having 2 athletic programs a school year is not sustainable financially and logistically for next year. The school and teachers will discuss which program they foresee best for the PAC to support. Mr. Sclater will work with the staff to gather surveyed data and continue to brainstorm ideas: GymSense biannually, another program (like dance) etc.

Parents are welcome to forward ideas to the PAC so the PAC can present to the teachers as well. New suggestions will need to be brought forward by Jan 2024 for Spring 2024 athletic programs as booking for athletic programs for the following school year occur in March.

The discussion around the meeting was also that the PAC could bring forward ideas for extracurricular after school athletic programs (like ski trips and other physical activities) that may not be within the school year. If these types of activities (like skiing etc) are done collectively and organized outside of school, it may be more economical for parents of interested children.

A TBD athletic program will cost about \$4000.00 for next year: whether GymSense or something else.

A motion was made to approve \$4000.00 to put into the budget for the school's choice of athletic program Marco made the motion and Marcela seconded the motion.

Motion Approved

PAC Fundraising and Event Planning/Promotion

Pub Night :

Pub Night update given by Alisha. Volunteers are in place and know their roles. Meeting had taken place the night before. Alisha asked the meeting attendees to purchase a SQUARE device for events. Because this expense was under \$100, there was no need to vote on this. Alisha will purchase this SQUARE device to allow card transactions at the pub night for raffle tickets and 50-50 sales. The PAC will then own this device and use it for other events. Another idea was brought forward that teachers and staff would be invited at no cost to them to the pub night (the PAC would cover \$15 ticket to Livelyhood) up to an expense of \$250.00

A motion was made by Tracy and seconded by Alisha to approve up to \$250.00 expense of PAC paying for teachers and staff tickets (at \$15 cost ea)

Motion Approved.

Card Project:

Submissions were in and Ladawne has the template for marketing. Online orders take place at the end of March and ordering before April 10th- delivery for May. Discussion had about the next school year starting this project in Sept/Oct so that the cards are ready for Christmas time. Tracy is the champion of this fundraiser.

Me N Eds:

Sherry Bot is championing this fundraiser through Me N Eds Pizza. Families can order pizza and a portion of sales go back to HME PAC fund.

Nefuels:

Sherry Bot is championing. More info to come, June 1st fundraiser.

Open House:

The open house in Sept will be a community event and will replace the Spring Carnival this year as there was no champion for this large event. The idea is that Sept 21st open house the PAC will

fund the event (BBQ, field activities etc). in May, we will need a budget for the event and approve that budget for the Sept Open house event.

Teachers' Lunch:

Marcela and Sonny are championing. Date selected for May 1st.
This will be a potluck style lunch for teachers from the PAC in the multipurpose room. Details to come.

Hot Lunch by PAC:

Hot lunch on May 15th will be sponsored by the PAC, so all children will receive a hot lunch (likely from Subway).

Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next Meeting: May 4th, 2023