

Parents' Meeting Notes

Tuesday, November 20 15, 2018

6:15 pm Snacks and Greetings

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Lord Nelson Elementary School – Library

Child-minding available

PAC Executive

Leah Kimura (LK), Co-Chair; Angela Wong-Moon (AWM), Co-Chair; Lisa Osoba (LO), Vice-Chair;
Laura McGowan (LM), Treasurer; Courtney Hall (CH), Secretary

Representatives

Daniel Knibbs (DK), Principal, Lisa Pathyil (RT), Vice Principal, Rachel Lloyd (teacher representative),
Kathy O'Sullivan (VSB), Gail Marlow (acting principal when Dan leaves), Steve Snyder (project manager)

Members at Large: Terry Smith, Bonnie Leong, Mike Zonnevald, Cynthia Farnsworth, Kate Newstead

- 1. Welcome and Introductions (AWM)**
- 2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:** (, seconded) I was out of room, anyone?
- 3. Build Report/Update from Project Manager Steve Snyder (DK, SS)**

Build will not be done for January 2019. At this point, the contractor is officially saying prior to summer break; however, do not have a definite time line at this point. Since Nelson is deemed a replacement school, not a new school, the ministry technically only funds the structure and classroom furniture and will not provide non-essential furniture, namely the common areas and library. There are a few 'extras' the VSB is paying for: wiring in the gym, multipurpose room, and classrooms; however, no audio-visual equipment will be funded. VSB will also provide a covered area and slides, neither of which are deemed essential. VSB will not give priorities of how to use funds raised by the PAC.

Furniture suggestions have been forwarded to the PAC for consideration. There was a reminder from Kathy O'Sullivan that PACs are not allowed to pay for learning resources but can pay for programs (i.e. artists in residence, gymnastic programs, etc), playground equipment, and non-essential furniture eg. couches. There is essential furniture, which is what each classroom is deemed to have, and there is non-essential furniture (i.e. in common areas, soft seating, a

couch, etc), which is what PACs can fundraise to provide. Discussion regarding what is deemed “essential” for learning styles.

Kitchener Elementary is the most recent build that is similar to ours; however, it was the original build. Ecole Bilingue is the most recent similar build. Classroom teachers are excited about physical space and have been discussing in pod groups regarding their furniture needs and would love common area furniture; however, would like to discuss with PAC through an ongoing conversation about needs of the spaces. The challenge is that LN is the first in the process to be done

4. Update from seismic committee re: furnishings, track, etc. (KN/CF)

Committee needs a new name 😊 Communication has been key in this process, having the display and the models available has been great. Cynthia has been involved in the process since the beginning. Kate updated regarding the activity oval (will not be standard sizing), proposal of adding a rubberized surface; however, has been designed with pinch point. Requested that it be 2.5m in width. The track will be 140m track in length, with four activity corners. Planning to apply for a grant (BC Tire Stewardship Grant) for \$30 000 to offset the cost, which will be for \$85 000. Need to follow up with Marathon Surfaces regarding holding the price of the quote. Contractor will have to work alongside the grounds services with VSB. Need to do it in line with the landscaping needs to offset the cost as much as possible.

Concerns regarding the need for the PAC to fundraise for furniture for the replacement school. Laura, Lisa, Courtney and Terry will follow up with VSB, etc. regarding this issue.

Lot to figure out. Information that has been given to the PAC is old (i.e. costs/pricing). Need to have a PAC meeting solely for what the funds raised will be going for in the new school. May also need to have a survey for parents prior to the meeting. VSB has provided pricing and package for deadline of Apr. 30th, 2019. Plan to re-group in January to prioritize how exactly we should allocate the \$200,000. The committee will consult with teachers to ensure we work together.

5. Financial Report (LM)

Don't have an updated financial report, but we are close to \$200 000 which was the goal set several years ago by the PAC to pay for items in the new school not covered by funding eg. common furniture, technology and exterior play areas. Just got statements. Plan to celebrate when we hit that amazing landmark. Don't have an update from the social yet but did well. Need to have more of a system over how funds from PAC are spent and proposed to the PAC so that there is a process to follow before executive sign off on requests.

- a. Approve admin holiday presents
- b. Approve money for gingerbread houses

For coming year, discuss spending allocations for the year and ensure that all the needs are being met regarding spending.

Laura has taken on a new position (in employment) and her time will be limited regarding being treasurer, and needs to pass on the position. **Please connect with Laura or any PAC executive if interested, no experience in accounting necessary!**

6. Fundraising/Upcoming Dates

Thank you to Alistair for your final contribution via family portraits \$2285

Thank you to Leah Kelly, Ken, Laura, Jen, Taslim for their efforts in making the parent social happen.

They raised approximately \$4 500 for school needs and the final total for PAC funds has not yet been determined.

Upcoming Dates

Pancake Breakfast Dec. 7th

Movie night Dec. 7th – Arthur Christmas VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

Purdy's and Poinsettias fundraisers still going on, but close in the next week

Saleema Noon – Body Health Educator will be at the end of January, parent night will be the Wednesday night, but then students will be educated the Thursday/Friday

Art Fair this year – Wednesday Feb. 8th 6:00-7:30 pm. Angela to lead but looking for volunteer parents to help, especially any artists. School has a committee that is interested in supporting this and am wondering about having artistic parents come into the classrooms to teach children about art.

Communication is mainly by email. There is no shared calendar on the PAC website. ?

7. Admin Report

Dan Knibbs is going off on health leave for approx. 3 months. Gail Marlow is stepping in as principal for the time being. Gail is a retired principal and spent some time at Garibaldi Annex as VP.

Volleyball end of season, 3 games left for boys and girls.

Basketball team, have a commitment from Mrs. Russel and Mrs. Lireman regarding the girls team, but still need sponsor teacher for boys team.

FSAs are complete and sent on for marking. Approx 50% of Gr. 4 and 7 wrote them.

Remembrance Day ceremony was very moving and students did an exceptional job putting it on as well as their behaviour in the audience was appropriate.

WeDay for Gr. 7s on Thursday – 16 children attending at Rogers Arena. These students will then be involved in a project or fundraising for a charity. Every school only gets 18 tickets.

School improvement is ongoing. Lots of interior of the building is being completed.

Reminder regarding traffic around the school at drop-off. Be mindful of the rules and park in appropriate, designated areas.

Kindergarten registration had 38 students at the end of the first week of registration. Have more that have registered since but will most likely be a bigger group than the current KG group.

No winter concert. But will have sing along in gym. Primary kids will do gingerbread decorating with their buddy classes. Having some programming with an artist in residence (think this isn't part of the Xmas event).

Lock Down Drill on Tuesday. Staff are aware of when it will occur and children will be talked through the process appropriately based on their ages.

School staff appreciated the staff allocation funds provided by the PAC.

Dan says Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all, as will not be back prior to the end of the year.

Next PAC meetings:

Monday, Jan. 21, 2019 at 6:30pm in the library.

Meeting adjourned.