

## PAC Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

IN PERSON – in the multi-purpose room

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

### PAC Executive

Caitlin Adam (CA), Co-Chair

Emily Lefebvre (EL), Co-Chair

Julie Cole (JC), Treasurer

Sara Hyde (SH), DPAC Rep

Taryn Hayes (TH), Past CoChair

Sara Osenton (SO), Co-Vice Chair, Regrets

Tiffany Muller Myrdahl (TM), Co-Vice Chair

Megan Atkinson (MA), Secretary, Regrets

Marlene Cummings (MC), AOWG Rep

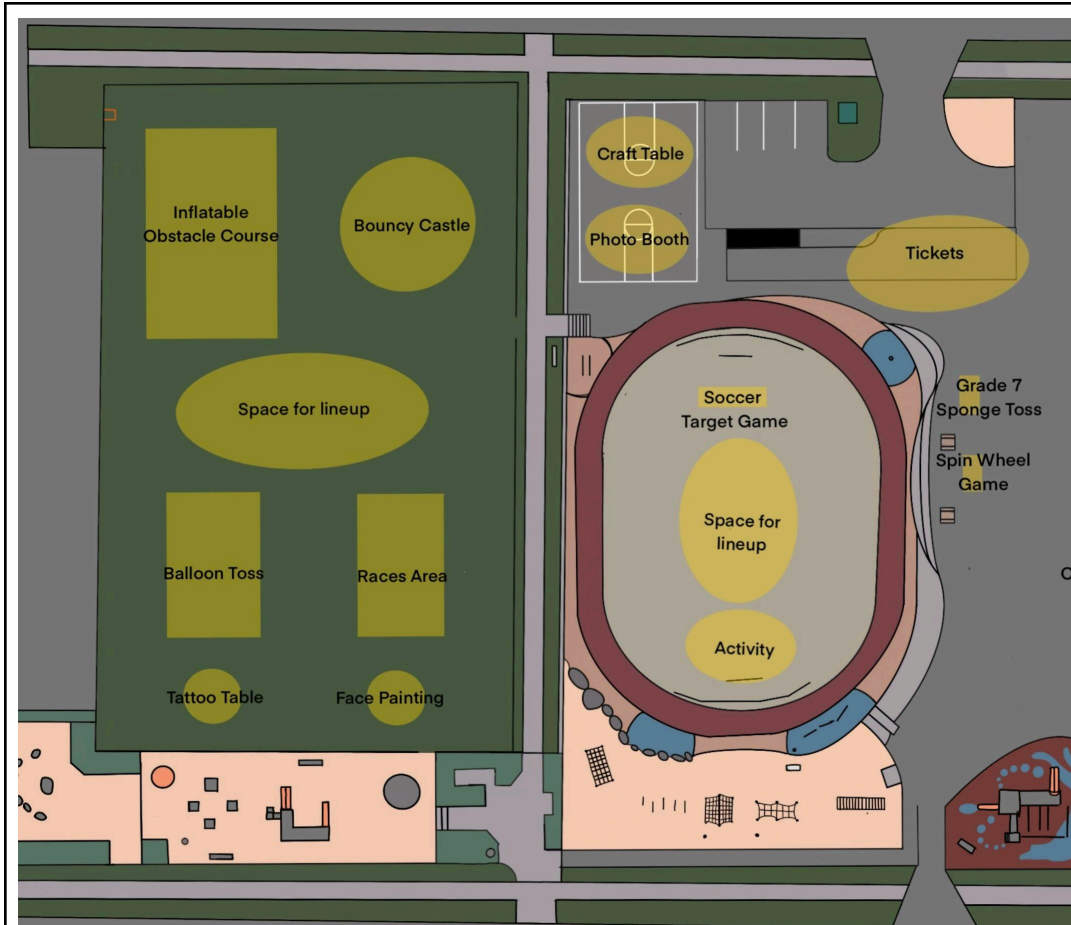
Rachelle Woodman, Garden Committee Rep

### School Representatives

Jason Eng (JE), Principal

Tim Oftebro (TO), Vice Principal

ITEM	LEAD	TIME
1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions	CA	6:35-6:37
2. Additions and Approval of Agenda  No additions. (Sara H, Taryn) Approved	EL	6:37-6:40
3. Treasurer Report  See attached report	JC	6:40-6:42
4. Upcoming Events, Fundraisers, and Volunteer Opportunities  ● Spring Fair - June 14th	EL	6:42-6:55



- Feedback about the map for the spring fair? Email us.
- About half of the volunteer roles have been filled, but lots more opportunities, depending on your availability. [Sign up here.](#)
- Volunteer Opportunities:
  - Caitlin is leaving the school as a parent this year! This means two positions are open on the Exec:
    - Hot Lunch Coordinator
      - Deadline for a new HLC is set for June 13th. If a new HLC is not identified by this date, we will have to make the difficult decision to end the hot lunch program.
  - Co-Chair of the PAC
    - How much time is this role commitment?
      - It is what you make of it; PAC only takes on what it has capacity to do, so this is very open
    - Is the PAC doing advocacy work to improve the school community?
      - Indeed, the PAC could better communicate about the advocacy work that we do to contribute to the

<p>school community; it's not just events and fundraisers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ideas were shared about how the PAC can better communicate the work we do other than fundraisers/events, such as: having more info on our website, a year-end newsletter, more emails to highlight. PAC meeting attendance would certainly improve awareness of all the things we do</li> <li>○ Table leads for the Spring Fair. <a href="#">Sign up here</a></li> </ul>		
<p>5. DPAC update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● DPAC is based a lot around advocacy, with working groups who report back to the whole group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Right now there's a big push on EA numbers/inclusion in the classroom</li> <li>○ Anyone can join a working group and/or attend a DPAC meeting</li> <li>○ Currently the really active working groups are: Inclusive Education; Facilities; Active Transport; Health and Safety</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Active Transportation presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HUB Presentation</li> <li>○ SPOT Improvements, ways to request opportunities to make small improvements</li> <li>○ Bike to School week starts June 3rd (not doing it this year, we need a School Champion to run it. Maybe next year) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This is an example of why it's important to bring up things like this in September for the following Spring before the calendar fills up</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ HUB has a free cycling program and they bring bikes AND it's free. Really reduces barriers to participation</li> <li>○ Lucy Malone is a parent in the Working Group, willing to come speak to the school about how to advocate and how to make change happen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This area has one of the highest rates of bike commuters</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● May 23rd DPAC meeting: Speaker on SOGI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bringing in Mischa, a former educator</li> <li>○ Speaker is at 7, the rest of the meeting happens after</li> <li>○ Sara will send the details to Michelle to be included in the Wednesday Weekly</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Will School Streets happen again? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No, it was way too much work and we don't have the volunteer capacity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	SH	6:55-7:10
<p>6. AOWG Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Posters up on the cork board, encouraging families to post about family-friendly Asian Heritage Month events</li> </ul>	MC	7:10-7:16

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pride club is super active. The tattoo competition was another successful event. They've been ordered and will probably be handed out in June. There will also be an assembly where the Pride club hands out skittles to everyone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jason has arranged for the Pride club members to attend Strathcona Elementary's Pride Parade</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Shayla (student teacher) has kindly offered to do a story-telling with Primaries on June 4th for Indigenous Peoples Month</li> </ul>		
<p>7. Garden Committee Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reallocation of funds to garden committee for trees, flowers, soil, etc.</li> <li>● We've seen 15 classes come through; they have classes in one a month from September-April; twice a month from May-June</li> <li>● Three new projects that have come up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ms Brenda would like to put in an Indigenous garden; Garden Committee will be contributing \$1000 towards that</li> <li>○ Kindergarten students will be putting together a found-objects/faerie garden type of thing</li> <li>○ There will also be a "Chill zone" being spear-headed by some grade 5 students</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Indoor gardening? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The kids took care of the watering, it didn't go great but they'll try it again next year.</li> <li>○ There is an organization that can be found at the Safeway who do indoor growing in schools</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	RW	7:16-7:22
<p>8. Principal's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tripping hazard near a storm drain by the Kindergarten pod has led to a sinkhole. Grounds are working on it. It will hopefully be wrapped up soon</li> <li>● A lot of activities on the horizon right now (see the upcoming events in the Wednesday Weekly)</li> <li>● Volunteer Appreciation tea is going to happen</li> <li>● Starting to plan for next year; we are a full school with no extra space to expand. Finalizing next year's school calendar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ District has moved September's Indigenous education ProD day to April next year</li> <li>○ Bringing back <a href="#">Shelley Moore</a> for a ProD next year, working hard fitting her into the schedule</li> <li>○ Parent Teacher Conferences will be October 23rd/24th and then April 23rd/24th (later in the year than usual, following feedback that doing them in February felt too soon after Winter Break)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Bell schedule next year: 9:00 - 2:58, 20 min recess and 25 min lunch</li> <li>● Tim leads a lot of the athletics at Nelson, both during and after/outside school hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tons of participation in track and field this year, June 3rd</li> <li>○ Our facilities are well used, year-round</li> <li>○ Tim does a lot of behind the scenes work in order for all the things to happen</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	JE/TO	7:22-7:55

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do parents find out what outside programs are happening at the school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Challenge is that these programs coordinate with the District, not with the school. Nelson Admin doesn't actually communicate with the programs coming in</li> </ul> </li> <li>● How is it decided how long administrators stay at a school? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It varies. Rule of thumb has been Principals stay for 3-5 years, but this isn't always the case.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Who do we talk to about making the school space more accessible? For example, to get the MPR soundproofed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Administrator is the first place to start: they ask what are the needs, what is/isn't working, what's within our capacity to change? Jason works with the different levels of management at VSB, learns from other schools. It's a dual-track process; trying to find solutions in the short-term while long-term solutions are identified <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A parent raised the issue that identifying what are the most common needs, the PAC could work for the collective. At the moment having individual parents go through Jason individually doesn't feel efficient or effective</li> <li>■ There are some parents in the AOWG who are interested in developing some advocacy work around inclusion and neurodiversity. More transparency would benefit everyone</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
<p>9. Communications / Other items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● District-level discussion about cellphone bans in schools (RW to discuss) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Technology in school generally: 9-3 kids aren't supposed to be on their phones. As a staff, hoping for strong language so they can be consistent with expectations about when and how it's used</li> <li>○ Accommodations/learning tools don't fall under these restrictions</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Potential to get an outdoor storage container - early stages yet</li> <li>● Possible purchase of tents for shared use with PAC, cross country club, and track and field. Storage space an issue</li> <li>● Welcome to Kindergarten success! Lots of new parents have signed-up for emails, and lots of people interested in volunteering</li> </ul>	EL	7:55-8:08