

PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

February 1, 2023 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Longstaff

In Attendance

Kailey Toth | Erin Shaw | Marti Longstaff | Madhu Gill | Lara Jansen | Amandeep Duhra | Tanya Beja | Christina Service | Caroline Marklund |

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM.

Land Acknowledgment

The Herbert Spencer PAC recognizes and acknowledges the Qayqayt First Nation, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on who's traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Approval of Agenda: Caroline & Amandeep

Approval of February 2023 Minutes: Kailey & Amandeep

Correspondence | Erin Shaw

- No correspondence to report

Principal's Report | Ms. Catherwood

- Readathon is underway, there has been over \$1000 donated so far!
- Literacy Week activities included; kids favorite book art up around the school, the school is building a story together as well and once complete will be in the library for everyone to read
- 3 way conferences parent - student - teacher went great last week
- 4-5 more classes to go to the Anvil Centre field trip, has been a great success so far.
- Gr 4's student learning survey is now complete - The school future plan was also sent out to parents
- Entry/exits of students into school is changing - We will be removing the line ups. Gr 1's will enter at the front door, all other grades back door. K's will continue to line up.
- New window art is up for the Spring season
- April 12th the Gr 2's will be going to the VSO.
- Student attendance for next year survey going out
- BC Lions presentation about climate change was fun and different!
- The Climate Club has just started - they started by cleaning up the yard

- The Maple Man came to visit the EFI students. There was lots of playing, dancing and frozen maple syrup. The kids really enjoyed this presentation.
- Kenneth Headly did a presentation for the grade 4 and 5's about the history of the steel pans in regards to black history month. It was very informative and fun.
- The Pink Shirt Day Assembly was led by the teachers and each division participated and spoke about their heroes. This was a big step for all of the students to participate in a full school assembly. It went great.
- Report Cards will go out Thursday March 9th.
- New academic assessment to come in the future, we have already been shifting to this model as you may have noticed in the past few report cards. We may hold a parent information night if needed.

Chair's Report | Marti Longstaff

- Parent Ed "The Sexplainer" is confirmed for May 10th
- The May PAC meeting will be held on the 3rd
- Green Thumb Theatre booking is TBD

Treasurer's Report | Christina Service

- The gaming grant application process begins next month, gathering up information for submission
- The planning committee gathers in April to discuss the upcoming year's budget. This meeting will include the chairs, treasurer and anyone else on the PAC committee who would like a say.
- The budget gets approved provisionally in June, and finalized approval will happen in September

CPF Report | Allison Mounsey

- BC Family French camp is currently open for registration. It is a week-long family camping experience with daytime programming for kids in French and evening events for the whole family. There are five weeks of camp to choose from, spread over three locations - Northern BC, Nanaimo and the Okanagan. www.bcffc.com has more information and Allison is happy to talk to anyone who is interested in going about what it is like.

DPAC Report | Lara Jansen

- MLA Jennifer Whiteside was on the phone for a Q&A - transportation within the district was a large topic of discussion as was advocating for parents to write letters with their requests.
- Programs of Choice is under review - Nancy Brennan spoke on this and mentioned that they are not recommending any closures of these programs but instead looking for improvements.
- Superintendent Hachlaf was discussing bullying at the high school. If you have a child experiencing any bullying issues there's an online tool called "erase report it" requests go to the district VP and then to the school faculty and on to parents/caregivers.
- Maya Russel spoke on CCTV in the high school. One question brought up was if there will be any metrics to follow to see if the new school safety rules are working.
- There will be no DPAC meeting in March

Committee Reports

- Events Committee:
 - Family Games Night on April 19th - a flyer will be included in the spring break newsletter
 - There will be family trivia, it is \$10 for a team to join, as well as pizza at a cost. Pizza can be purchased beforehand.
 - There will be board games to play and a game swap with no admission cost
 - May 13th will be Parents Night Out at the NW Curling Club, the theme will be 70's night - tickets usually sell out!

- Fundraising Committee: Kailey
 - Purdy's fundraiser has sold almost \$900 worth of chocolates, that is \$230 in fundraising funds. The final day to purchase is March 9th. Pick up will be April 4th and an email and social blast will be sent out to confirm pick up time/location.
 - The Readathon - reading across Canada - is going great! \$1100 has been raised so far. There was discussion about adding a prize for the winning classroom, or most read class, next year. This fundraiser adds books to our library.
 - Neufeld Farms order is set for sometime in May, date to be confirmed at the next meeting.
 - Friday will be hot lunch plus one more lunch the week after Spring Break. Spring round of orders to come out following Spring Break.

- Members Communication/Yearbook:
 - Yearbook is on sale until the end of the month - buy now!

- Governance:
 - Next meeting will be discussed in great detail. There will be a survey sent out beforehand for the committee to fill out.

New Business

- Middle School Visits - there will be one for the students and one for parents/family night
- Super Soakers to be order from Amazon for Grade 5 graduation water fight - confirmed 76 students
- AGM elections will occur in June. There will be a school wide email put out for nominations for the PAC committee.

Questions and Comments

- No questions and comments

Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 7:31PM - Christine & Tanya

Next Meeting: April 5, 2023