

PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

April 10th, 2024 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Longstaff

In Attendance

Miyuki Davidson | Marc Andres | Hayley Watkins | Anna Carmichael | Renee Nixdorf | Amandeep Duhra | Amy Parr | Natalie Taha | Karyn Audet | Amber Orchard | Christina Service | Courtney Daws | Marti Longstaff | Erin Shaw | Rachel Abercrombie |

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM.

Land Acknowledgment

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

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Approval of Agenda: Renee Nixdorf moved, Karen Audet seconded, approved.

Approval of February Minutes: Renee Nixdorf moved, Courtney Daws seconded, approved

School Trustee | Marc Andres

- Our new superintendent should be announced soon!
- The communications manager is reevaluating the board's communications standards and setting realistic expectations.
- Sports equity is under review.
- Budget public consultation is underway and a survey will be going out on April 15th, and can be completed until the 26th of April.
- We have seen 24% population growth in schools in the last ten years
- Indigenous Council Foundation has been approved. This program runs parallel to the school board and has been funded by the province.
- QayQayt's population is growing and will have 730 students next year - two new portables will be brought in over the summer
- The hope is that Fraser Elementary helps alleviate the stress from QayQayt.
- The Queen Elizabeth expansion will help as well as the expansion will allow up to 710 students
- If you want to see the topics that will be discussed at the next school board meeting, check out their website for meeting agendas as it is continuously updated.

- There will be a kids book exchange in May. Students will bring in old books to exchange with other students.
- The Saleema Noon presentation went great - staff was pleased!
- Thank you for Mike's Critters, the K's and 1's were thrilled!
- PAC has decided that the cost for Mike Critters will be built into next year's budget.
- The Card Project was a success. There were over 185 orders!
- It was decided that spring is a better time for this project than Christmas.
- Grade 4 student learning surveys are completed and the survey has been sent out to parents and must be completed by May 3rd.
- Early dismissal next Thursday for collaboration afternoon. Our French teachers are meeting with Tweedsmuir teachers to discuss their school learning plan and our English teachers are doing their own school learning plan.
- By Monday you should be receiving an invite for student led conferences for the following week
- Conferences will be on Wednesday and Thursday, April 24/25. There will be an Usborne book fair going on concurrently in the library.
- The grade 2's will be attending the VSO on May 2nd.
- The whole school will be going to Boundary Bay May 7th and 8th. 12 divisions will go on the first day and 11 divisions the next.
- This trip will be funded through the universal grants. The students will be exploring and learning more about climate change and their ocean themed activities
- The reading link challenge was a success, 80 students participated
- The winning two teams will compete in the district reading competition
- We have a new indigenous support worker, Sierra Mcray, who grew up locally and has Algonquin, Mohawk and Metis ancestry
- The Grade 5's are going to Otter Co-op on Friday June 7th for their grad celebration day. We will need to look into Fun Lunch refunds.
- Welcome to Kindergarten will be the morning of May 24th
- The Grade 5 leaving ceremony is on June 14th
- The school will be holding a school wide sports day this year on June 20th in the morning at Queens Park South field. There will be more info to come.
- PAC to provide freezies
- School capacity is down, the school will be down one division next year
- Ms Ranford will be holding a parent's day again. The students will perform what they have been learning in music/theatre. Date TBD, but will occur sometime in May
- Mrs Fleming will be leaving us next year and Cassidy Ranford will be on maternity leave
- Our secretary, Cheryl, will be retiring June 14th

Chair's Report | Marti Longstaff

- The official call for PAC Nominations - Nominations are now open
- Marti will chair the Nominations committee. Please contact her directly verbally or via email herbertspencerpacchair@gmail.com
- We are looking for a Chair/Vice Chair, two people can share the role of co chairs, if decided
- Secretary is also open
- Members at Large make up the Events, Fundraisers and Members Communication/Yearbook committees
- Events Committee: put on a line of fun social events for the year, that include; movie nights, the carnival, halloween howl, etc. These events usually benefit the school community and are not generally fundraisers.
- Fundraising Committee: raise money for the PAC through different fundraisers, that include: hot lunch, Purdys, Neufeld Farms, etc.
- Members Communication/Yearbook: manage the PAC website and social media, parent ed and yearbook

- The Saleema Noon presentation went very well. Over 100 people attended
- Attended the AP520 info session. It was decided that there will be a committee to revise the report based on their findings, the new report will be presented for approval.
- DPAC survey email was just sent out
- The DPAC is our strongest voice at the municipal level. Please fill out the survey to get your voice heard.
- Thank you to the events committee for working so hard on planning the carnival
- And thank you to the fundraising committee, the Purdy's fundraiser was awesome!
- Yearbook is well underway, thank you Simran for the amazing pictures
- Be sure to order your yearbooks NOW!

Treasurer's Report | Christina & Patrick Service

- Budget review night coming up
- The committee will meet Sunday April 21st at Marti's home at 5. Everyone is welcome!
- Profit from Purdy's fundraiser was \$190.64
- Created by Kids fundraiser profit was \$2,227.80
- There is still a line item of \$1000 allocated for athletic programs. Will there be a track event? Could this possibly be used for the school sports day?
- Freezie Friday is a big fundraiser for us. We should start planning dates.

CPF Report | Allison Mounsey

- No report

DPAC Report | Natalie Taha

- Advocacy around capacity - This media attention came out of the staff report delivered at the March board meeting to be aware of the options being considered for the 2025-2026 school year that may impact your school community.
- DPAC January Minutes
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ESnnXTnuF875RVxvocobO7wJOYIS00AKfbRtrbgYZZI/edit?usp=sharing>
- Neurodiversity Celebration Week - advocacy around this was well received by the Board of Education, and the district did post about NCW on their social media.
<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/2024-event-recordings>
- DPAC Parent & Caregiver Survey - The feedback will be used to inform budget requests at the April board meeting. The survey is open until Sunday April 21st at midnight
<https://forms.gle/tD5qHr6O9iUYicfE9>
- Parent Ed Funding Requests - if the PAC has run any parent education seminars, DPAC can reimburse using the Gaming Grant funds.
- DPAC AGM - need a secretary!
- April DPAC Meeting - Thurs April 18th at QayQayt and on zoom
- AP520 discussed - How will funds be distributed through PAC's? Where will the fundraising efforts be distributed?
- Initially there was no consultation from PACs. Now there is a committee, PAC involvement and further consultation. There will be a sampling from elementary, middle and high school levels.

Committee Reports

- Events Committee:
 - Carnival - event coming up on Friday May 31st from 5-8pm. There will be carnival games, food trucks, bouncy houses, cotton candy, cake walk, obstacle course, petting zoo, and tons of fun!
 - Save the date poster is going out
 - Tickets are \$15 for a child, inclusive to all events, and parents are \$5 - BUT if you volunteer your fee will be waived!
 - Families that need assistance can reach out and be given wristbands
 - There will be prizes for all
 - Volunteers will be key and needed! Each shift will be roughly 30 minutes
 - Middle school and high school kids are welcome to sign up and volunteer
- Facility schedule dates have to be booked now as we need to book school and gym space well in advance of next year. Start thinking of what events we want for next year. An email survey will be sent out

- Fundraising Committee:
 - Neufeld Farm will be starting next Monday - pick up date is May 8th evening

 - Members Communication/Yearbook
 - The yearbook design is well underway
 - Thank you Simran for the photos!
 - BUY your yearbooks now
 - Jen has draft RFP for the PAC website overhaul - to be sent out in the next few weeks
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New Business

- No new business to report
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Questions and Comments

- No questions or comments to report
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Next Meeting

May 1, 2024, at 6:30PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM, Natalie moved, Caroline seconded, approved.