

## PAC MEETING MINUTES

2015-2016 AGM

September 16, 2015

Attendance: Jocelyn, Christine O, Leni, Ali, Becky, Katrina, Clare, Tina, Damon, Corrinna, Valerie, Maureen, Carmen, Tammy, Sharon and Lorin.

Meeting was called to order at ~6:30 pm by Jocelyn.

Brief introductions were made to welcome new faces to the PAC Meeting.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

It was announced that the executive positions up for election at this time were:

Chairperson

Vice-Chairperson

Secretary

Members at Large - 2 positions

DPAC Rep - up to 2 positions

SPC Members - up to 3 positions

Teacher Liaison

Christine briefly described each of the position's duties. Lorin and Sharon explained that the SPC is no longer applicable as of last year so the SPC positions will be removed.

Corrinna nominated Leilani for the position of Chairperson, Valerie seconded the nomination. Leilani was only able to attend the start of the meeting and was not present for the vote, however, before she left the meeting she let the PAC know that she would let her name stand. There were no other nominations and Leilani was appointed Chairperson.

Becky nominated Jocelyn for the position of Vice-Chair, Corrinna seconded the nomination and Jocelyn let her name stand. There were no other nominations and Jocelyn was appointed Vice-Chairperson.

Ali nominated Christine for the position of Secretary, Jocelyn seconded the nomination and Christine let her name stand. There were no other nominations and Christine was appointed Secretary.

Corrinna and Clare both expressed interest in being Members at Large so Christine nominated Corrinna and Clare for the positions and they let their names stand. It was noted that Diane sent an email stating that if needed she would be willing to put her name forward, but since two people stepped forward she was not nominated and Corrinna and Clare were appointed Members at Large.

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Ali nominated Valerie for the DPAC position, Christine seconded the nomination and Valerie let her name stand. There were no other nominations and Valerie was appointed DPAC Rep.

Jocelyn nominated Ali for the Teacher Liaison position, Clare seconded the nomination and Ali let her name stand. There were no other nominations and Ali was appointed Teacher Liaison.

At this time the nominations were closed and the DTE PAC Executive Committee is as follows:

Chairperson - Leilani

Vice-Chairperson - Jocelyn

Treasurer - Leni

Secretary - Christine

Members at Large - Erika, Corrinna and Clare

Our DPAC representative is Valerie and our Teacher Liaison is Ali.

**MOTION by Christine that the minutes from the June PAC meeting be accepted as posted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ali. CARRIED**

There were several additions to the agenda at this time. Jocelyn suggested that updates on Scooter Racks, Compost and Waste management and the playground be added to Old Business. Clare requested addition of creating positions for a Facebook Coordinator and Fundraiser Chairperson be added to the PAC in New Business and Tina requested adding a topic of Fine Arts at the school to New Business also.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Mrs. Cooley provided an electronic copy of her report which follows. Any further discussion or comments regarding a topic has been added in **BOLD**.

Wednesday, September 23 – Cross-country Run at RL Clemitson

Thursday, September 24 – Early Dismissal

- Open House

Friday, September 25 – Non-instructional Day

Monday, September 28 – Terry Fox Run between recess and lunch

Tuesday, September 29 – Bentz/Martin to McQueen Lake

Wednesday, September 30 – Ache Brasil performance 10:45

- Photo Day

- Arthur Stevenson Cross-country Run

Monday, October 5 – Earth Rangers presentation

Wednesday, October 7 – District Cross-country

Thursday, October 8 – Rock the Arts performance 1:15pm

Monday, October 12 – Happy Thanksgiving!

Wednesday, October 14 – Power of Being a Girl – Ms. Bonthoux and students

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Thursday, October 15 – Shake Out! (earthquake drill)

Monday, October 19 – Grade 6 Immunizations

Thursday, October 22 – PAC meeting 6:30

Friday, October 23 – Non-instructional Day

Thursday, October 29 – Photo Retakes

- 1) 398 students – 16 divisions
  - Mrs. Pagnotta is teaching primary prep
  - We have a posting out for an intermediate prep teacher who will be teaching French and/or Fine Arts
  - We have a posting out for a Grade ½ teacher
  - We have a posting out for a Grade ¾ teacher
  - We have a posting out for 0.3 FTE to cover Mr. Martin's class when he is providing school-wide behaviour support and to provide LART numeracy support
  - Mrs. Bonthoux – FNEW
  - Mr. Toews is teacher-librarian
  - Mrs. Wilkinson/Mrs. Schneider –LARTs
  - Mr. Ngo will be working in Mrs. Brennan's class the times she is doing LDP. He will be working in Mrs. Carr's class when she is providing school-wide numeracy support.

Kindergarten – Mrs. Jorgenson

Kindergarten – Mrs. Dunn in for Mrs. Pitman

Grade 1 – Mrs. Poirier

Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Cattermole (until the posting is filled)

Grade ½ - Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Bojesen

Grade 2- Mrs. Webster

Grade 3 – Mrs. Bentz

Grade 3 – Mr. Martin

Grade 3/4 – Mrs. Jensen (until the posting is filled)

Grade 4 – Mr. Marchese

Grade 4/5 – Mrs. Carr

Grade 5 – Mrs. McCauley

Grade 6 – Mrs. Brennan

Grade 6/7 – Mrs. Blacquiere

Grade 6/7 – Mrs. Hansen

Grade 7 – Mr. Cinel

- 2) Terry Fox Run – Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup> between recess and lunch. Students will be asked to bring a Toonie for Terry. Mrs. Webster and Mrs. Brennan are arranging this event. Thank you to PAC for providing juice boxes to the runners.

**A parent wondered why pledge sheets were not used for the Run as the Terry Fox Foundation requests that runners do not request a minimum donation as it is intended to be a request for donations of any amount and it is not supposed to be mandatory. Christine said that she felt the request from the school did not come across as something that was mandatory but optional for kids to participate in. Sharon responded that this format has been used at various schools for some time.**

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- 3) Early Dismissal/Open House – students will be dismissed at 12:30 on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. There is an Open House from 1-3 for parents to come in to visit their child(ren)'s classroom and meet the teachers.
- 4) Roots of Empathy – is a program where students meet a baby and mother and watch the progress of the baby and get to spend time with the baby a few times over the school year. Mrs. Brennan is hosting this program in her classroom this school year.
- 5) LDP – this is a Leadership Development Program designed for teachers to learn how to use their leadership skills at school often with the goal of becoming a school administrator at some future date. Mrs. Brennan will be working with Ms. Cooley and Mr. Toews in this role for the next two school years. Mrs. Vande Pol (Early Years Coordinator for the district) will also be working in this role with Ms. Cooley and Mr. Toews this school year. She will be visiting the school each week to work on some leadership project with the school.
- 6) Cross-country Runs – Mrs. Bentz and Mrs. Campmans are looking after the organizing and training of our athletes for these events: OLPH Run, RL Clemitson (Cliff Weathermon) Run, Arthur Stevenson Run and the District Run.  
  
**Ali mentioned that David Thompson did very well at the first run today at OLPH. She said that she is explaining to the kids that the run is not about winning but about achieving their personal best and always striving to improve their personal run for the next race.**
- 7) Den Groups- there will some scheduled activities for these groups throughout the school year. School start up went very well with our senior students doing a remarkable job leading the groups through the variety of stations which taught and practiced the school matrix. All the students were able to meet all the teachers. It was a very positive experience.

I have received a very warm welcome to David Thompson. I am very happy to be working here. I look forward to getting to know the students and in turn their parents. I also look forward to working with the PAC this year on behalf of the David Thompson school community. ☺

### END OF PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

DPAC REPORT: No report at this time.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Leni reported that very little had changed since the June meeting so there was nothing new to report but stated that she would bring in the budget comparison for last year to the October meeting and we could look at the budget for the 2015-2016 school year at that time.

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### **COMMITTEES:**

**Fundraisers** - Christine explained that at the June planning meeting, the Gift Card fundraiser and the Art Card fundraiser were both talked about for this school year but no dates were assigned other than Jocelyn stating that she could do Art Cards after the new year. There was additional discussion surrounding how much fundraising dollars will be needed and for what piece of playground equipment. The idea of the donation request from PAC for funds was also brought up and Christine asked if she was adding it on to the hotlunches order forms or if we were going to wait. It was suggested that a formal Fundraiser Committee be formed as an ad-hoc committee, with changes to the PAC constitution coming at a later date to reflect this change. It was also discussed that a position of a social media coordinator would also have to be added to the PAC's constitution which can take time as there is a very specific process involved when making changes to the Constitution. The fundraiser committee would meet separately from the regular PAC meeting and come up with a fundraiser plan and then present it to the PAC at the next regular PAC meeting for the PAC to vote on. Leni, Corrinna and Jocelyn (and possibly Maureen next month) volunteered to participate on the fundraiser committee with the caveat that they would then not be expected to be 100% responsible for the PAC's fundraising activities; they would require regular volunteers to help. It was then confirmed that the plan to ask parents for a \$30 family donation would not happen with the hot lunch forms, but at a later date.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Request for Funds** - Mrs. Poirier had requested at the end of the last school year for PAC to fund the purchase of a new incubator kit for \$300. It was explained that Mrs. Poirier has been hatching chicks each year at the school for quite some time, but that her current incubator is not performing well and she has been having less and less success with hatching viable chicks.

**MOTION** by Clare that PAC pay up to \$300.00 to purchase a new incubator kit for Mrs. Poirier's classroom. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leni. **CARRIED**

**Request for Funds** - Mrs. Stumpf requested a lap top for the projector in her classroom for \$550. It was decided that this request would be tabled so that Sharon and Lorin could determine if there was need for this equipment.

**Scooter Racks** - The scooter racks that were commissioned at the end of last year are still not at the school. Mrs. Brennan had been taking care of this. Ali, as teacher liaison, will check with Mrs. Brennan for an update.

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**Waste Management Program - Composter** - Jocelyn said that Leilani and her have been busy setting up waste stations for each classroom, complete with posters explaining what garbage goes where. We have bought the composter, but we have not yet received it. Sharon reported that she would be reviewing this topic with the staff at the October 5<sup>th</sup> staff meeting and that she would be requesting participants from the staff to begin utilizing the new waste management program. There was also discussion around the installation of the composter and what would be necessary for it to help deter vandalism and mistreatment of the composter, ie a gate/fence around it. Carmen volunteered to help with this project as she has experience with composting at home.

**New Playground Equipment** - Jocelyn again briefly showed the PAC what some possibilities were for the new playground equipment. As it is quite a small area, Jocelyn was concerned that people's expectations might be high and that they may be disappointed with the equipment that would actually fit in the space. Katrina suggested just be straightforward with the parent population and give them specific information regarding the piece of equipment we are looking at so there are no surprises once the new piece of equipment got here. Some suggestions for a good piece of equipment were for something that the kids can climb and engage more muscles, that is good quality and something that can be utilized by the most age groups. Mrs. Wilkinson suggested nets as being great for motor skills and that they can be utilized by most age groups. It was suggested that 3 examples would be presented and voted on at a future meeting.

There was further discussion regarding the state of the monkey bars and swing sets in the front playground and it was suggested that perhaps they could use some paint. Lorin said that he checked to see if a work order was open for this and there was not. He said he could put in a work order to get this equipment painted.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Class List postings** - Clare asked the question as to why the class lists were not posted as in previous years as this caused some confusion and anxiety for parents and students alike. Sharon stated that they were not allowed to post class lists for student privacy reasons. Clare said that she had contacted the board office for clarification and spoke with John Churchly and reported that he said there was a misunderstanding in regards to class list postings as it is ok to post class lists inside the school, administrators are just not to post class lists in external windows. Clare requested that next year, class lists be posted in the hallway to help parents and children navigate the first day of class placement.

**Fine Arts at DT** - Tina reported that there were very few children from David Thompson that joined Fine Arts at WSS and wondered how we could create enthusiasm for Fine Arts at David Thompson which may encourage kids to participate in Fine Arts throughout their education.

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Sharon reported that David Thompson does have the Strings program available at the school and that they will continue to support this program. Sharon also explained that it was not really possible to hire a band teacher specifically and that it was the luck of the draw in getting a teacher that had a band background and was willing to put on a band program. Lorin suggested talking with the WSS band teacher as the band teacher had visited other elementary schools in the area and taught a band program at the schools. It may be possible that high school band students could also help out and teach band in the area elementary schools.

The question was then asked how teachers meet the fine arts aspects in the curriculum without a fine arts program and Sharon explained that teachers can teach general concepts of music through recorders, drums and other basic instruments and general concepts of art in other forms to meet the curriculum. Sharon said that a lack of fine arts at the school was a legitimate concern and that in order to implement a fine arts program they would have to take a look at what the school can deliver and that it would depend on the talents of the teachers that teach at David Thompson. It was suggested that parents may be able to come in to the school and teach a fine arts program or run some low cost lessons similar to what PAC has done with yoga and karate in the past couple of years. Sharon suggested that they could ask in the newsletter if there were any interested parties and those parties could contact Sharon to discuss what they could offer. Sharon could then look at the proposal and see if the school was able to come up with the logistics to make it happen, ie space, cost, etc.

**Open House** - Jocelyn stated that we had discussed a welcome back "event" on the first day of school for parents, however, this did not come to fruition, so it was thought the PAC could put on a Mug and Muffin at the open house on Thursday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>. Sharon reported that Leilani spoke to her about it and she is planning to have two tables with Tim Horton's coffee and Costco baked goods available to parents at the open house. Maureen offered her assistance.

It was discussed that PAC might also request for donations at the open house, but it was felt that we would need to have a specific goal before donations were requested. It was suggested that PAC could ask for volunteers at the open house and create a volunteer list of people available to help out when needed. It was also suggested that PAC advertise the new PAC facebook group.

**Next meeting Thursday October 22nd, 2015 at 6:30 pm.**

(Minutes recorded by: Christine Ony)