

## PAC MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2015

Attendance: Leilani, Jocelyn, Christine O, Ali, Becky, Katrina, Valerie, Erika, Kristy, Diane, Clare, Lorin and Sharon.

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

**MOTION by Christine that the minutes from the October PAC meeting be accepted as posted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ali.** Discussion - Val felt that she was misrepresented in the minutes in reference to the incident she witnessed at the school. Christine suggested Val email her an amendment and she would update the minutes. **Minutes approved with Val's pending amendment.**

There were 2 additions to the agenda. Val requested an update on the Thought Exchange results and Jocelyn had requested to add a topic regarding supervision at the school. It was also suggested that PAC have a laptop to be used for taking meeting minutes instead of pen and paper.

Supervision Discussion: Jocelyn asked how many supervisors were at the school. Sharon said that there were 11 supervisors at the school, 7 CEAs, 1 FNEW and 3 paid parent volunteers. This is in addition to the teacher teams that supervise at recess. Jocelyn asked if any more supervisors were needed. Sharon reported that the general rule is 1 supervisor for every 100 children and Sharon said that they did not need more supervisors at this time. Ali reported that the District was actually looking into the possibility of removing the paid parent volunteer positions and just having CEAs cover lunch supervision at some future date. Jocelyn wondered if PAC might be able to pay for an additional supervisor. Sharon said she would look into the possibility of PAC paying for additional supervision.

**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**.

Fri., Nov. 20 – PINK Day

Mon., Nov. 23- skating –Poirier/Martin

Wed., Nov. 25 –Come Read With Me – grade one

-skating – Bentz

- Senor Froggy lunch

-Brennan/Hansen visit Telus home

-Marchese to Secwepmec Museum

Mon.,Nov. 30 – skating –Poirier/Martin

Tues.,Dec. 1 – WITS program – Noble/Caissie/Webster

**A parent asked what the WITS program was and Sharon described it as a social behaviour program that focused on dealing with bullies and peer pressure situations. (WITS stands for Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek help)**

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- Wed., Dec. 2 – Hot Dog day  
-skating – Bentz/Jensen  
-First Nation Mug'n'Muffin
- Mon., Dec. 7 – Non-instructional Day
- Wed., Dec. 9 –Pizza day  
-skating – Webster/Marchese
- Fri., Dec. 11 – You Can Count On Me – Pitman's class  
-Term One report cards go home
- Tues., Dec. 15- concert dress rehearsal
- Wed., Dec. 16 –skating – Webster/Marchese  
-afternoon concert – families A-K  
-First Nation mug'n'muffin
- Thurs., Dec. 17 –chicken alfredo lunch  
-afternoon concert – families L-Z
- Fri., Dec. 18 – last day of school
- Dec. 19-Jan.3 – Winter Break
- Mon., Jan. 4 – first day back at school

- 1) **Christmas Concert** – Mrs. Bentz and Mrs. McCauley are overseeing the Christmas concert – “Melton the Warm Hearted Snowman”. There will be two afternoon performances both starting at 1pm. December 16<sup>th</sup> will be the concert for families with surnames ending A-K. December 17<sup>th</sup> will be the concert for families with surnames ending L-Z. The leadership students will be collecting non-perishable food donations at the door.
- 2) **Cup/speedtacking world record breaking event**– Mr.Marchese's class participated in this event. We are waiting to see if cupstackers world wide broke the record this year.
- 3) **Report cards** – Originally report cards were going home on December 4. However the system on which teachers do report cards was down for one week in November so in order for teachers to have adequate time to complete report cards the date for them to go home has been moved to Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. This is taking place district wide
- 4) **PBIS** – there is a “Hands Off” Blitz to re-teach the importance of students keeping their hands to themselves. This will run November 23-December 15<sup>th</sup>. If they fill the front windows with hands by December 15th they will receive an afternoon recess that day.
- 5) **Chromebook Project** – this is taking place in Mrs. Brennan and Mrs. Blacquiere's classes.
- 6) **Chromebooks** – a class set of 30 chromebooks and a chromecart have been purchased for class use. This means we will essentially have 3 mobile labs consisting of a total of 90 devices for use in classrooms.

**At this time Lorin explained a little about what a Chromebook was. Chromebooks are like a lap top but usually do not have a hard drive and do not operate under Windows, but have a ChromeOS (or Chrome Operating System) so all files live in the Cloud and use google docs for word processing etc. The Cloud has some security/privacy**

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**concerns so an educational domain was created to keep student information and work more private and not openly shared with the world. DT is currently negotiating with the Henry Grube to trade our existing laptops for Chromebooks so that the school would be 100% chrome book based making it more consistent for kids to learn on one type of device. A Chrome book currently has a price tag of ~\$200.**

- 7) **Ukuleles** – Mr. Wood found a deal that is feasible for David Thompson to purchase. The school will pay half of the cost. The school will arrange for appropriate storage and other needs such as tuners.

**Leilani explained that the ukuleles were \$39 each and the school would be requesting 30 ukuleles for a class set and that the total including shipping and taxes would be \$1409.53. It was also explained that Mr. Wood offered to teach 6 teachers how to teach the ukulele on a Pro-D Day in case he is not at DT in the future. Lorin also has experience teaching ukulele.**

- 8) **Playground purchase** – a purchase order has been submitted for the piece of playground equipment chosen by PAC at the last meeting.

- 9) **Hour of Code** – Lorin explained this to the PAC.

**Lorin explained that this program was developed to get kids interested in programming. It is a program that is sponsored by code.org and introduces children to basic programming skills in a drag and drop environment. Currently it is for children in Grades 3 and up.**

- 10) **Leadership Student Salvation Army Food Drive** – this will be taking place in December. Younger classes will pair up with older classes with the goal to collect 100 pounds of food between the pair of classes. Food collected will be packaged by pairing of classes to be weighed at the city scale. There are prizes for all students.

## END OF PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Discussion and Questions regarding Principal's Report:

- Sharon reported in regards to the Thought Exchange that there is a link on the school website to the results of the Thought Exchange which shows the comments that were celebratory about the school and results that were most concerning about the school. A parent brought up that one of the concerns regarding the school was the parking lot was too small and there were safety concerns. Another parent noted that DT's parking lot is actually quite big compared to other elementary schools in town. It was also noted that the school went through the Safer Schools program via the City a few years ago and that the drop and roll area on Pinesprings Road was a result of that process. It was reported that the school tried to enforce the drop and roll area, however, the response from

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parents was very negative, so the emphasis on the drop and roll area was let go. A parent brought up that some parents park on the painted sidewalk on Pinesprings and completely block off the sidewalk so students are forced to either walk on the road or walk all over someone's lawn to get to the school. There were other ideas including lobbying the city for a raised sidewalk along Pinesprings Road. Sharon said that parents could be educated regarding appropriate parking through the school newsletter, synervoice and/or the website.

- A parent asked Sharon why Parent/Teacher Interviews and now the Christmas concert were being held in the afternoon as opposed to the evenings. Sharon answered that it was the teachers' choice to schedule these events at these times. The Christmas Concert is headed up by teachers who volunteer their time to organize and put on the concert so it is up to their discretion as to when the concert will be. A parent explained that it is not easy for parents who work to get time off to make it to afternoon events. Another parent reported that in previous years when DT had evening concerts many students did not come to the concerts which created some issues for the plays. It was accepted that the concert was a voluntary thing, but the parent still thought that Parent/Teacher interviews should have an evening opportunity to meet. Sharon simply stated that things have changed from what was done in the past. Another parent said that in her experience the teachers at DT have always been willing to meet with her at a different time than those posted if she requested a meeting with them outside of those hours. Sharon also stated that the teachers are working very hard and have a great dedication to their students and their work. The parent agreed and said that was not being called in to question at all.

### **TEACHER LIAISON:**

Ali reported that other than the ukulele request, there were no further requests for funds or questions for the PAC from the teachers.

**MOTION by Ali that PAC put \$725 towards the purchase of a class set of ukuleles that would remain at David Thompson. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane. CARRIED**

### **DPAC REPORT:**

Valerie reported that the next DPAC meeting was next Tuesday and would report back to the PAC at the December meeting.

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### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Leni was not present at the meeting and no reports were available at this time.

### **FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE:**

**Report on Donation Drive:** - Jocelyn reported that 25 families participated in the donation drive. Christine corrected that number to 26 as there was a late cash donation. 16 paper donations and 10 online donations for a total of \$1030.

**Dunes Spring Function:** Tabled as Corrinna not in attendance tonight.

**Intermediate School Dance:** Jocelyn reported that the dance wouldn't really be a fundraiser, more of a community event for the school. The idea is that Tony's DJ service would come in with a light show and clean versions of popular songs and the PAC would hold a concession with pizza and treats. The proposed date for the dance is December 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 to 4pm for Intermediate students. The cost for the DJ is \$250 and the idea is to recoup the costs for the concession. Christine felt that adding an extra \$100 to cover incidental costs would be a good idea.

**MOTION by Jocelyn that PAC use up to \$350 to put on an intermediate dance (DJ and concession costs). 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ali. Discussion: It was discussed that chaperones block off the mezzanine area and the side hallways in the school. It was also suggested that there be a small "quiet" area set aside in the front hall with tables and chairs so that kids could get away from the noise for a bit or sit while eating a snack. CARRIED**

**Spring Plant Fundraiser:** Christine reported that Coralee was willing to put on a Spring plant fundraiser as well as the pointsettia fundraiser.

**MOTION by Christine that PAC put on a Spring plant fundraiser. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ali. CARRIED**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Track and Field format:** The request to review the Track and Field format was tabled until December. Sharon and Lorin said they would be discussing this with the staff.

**Compost and Waste Stations:** Leilani reported that she purchased 16 recycle bins from Home Hardware (she was able to get the contractor discount on the bins), however the composter was not approved by the District Grounds Manager, Tim Dempster. He had concerns regarding the

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composter attracting bears which would pose a safety risk for students and staff. The posters and bins for the recycling program should be ready in about a week or so.

**Scooter Rack update:** Ali reported that she had found some metal locking scooter racks on a UK website and felt that the high school metal shop would easily have been able to make something similar. However, the District Grounds Manager, Tim Dempster, felt that the racks could not be placed inside the school for safety reasons. It was suggested to him that some racks be placed outside under the school overhangs, however, Tim felt that kids may use the racks to attempt to climb up on the roof of the school. Some parents have expressed concern with leaving their children's scooters outside in the weather because it can affect the bearings in the scooters. Ali also showed the wooden option available made by Mr. Brennan, however, Tim also felt they would pose a tripping hazard in the hallways. Mr. Dempster said he would look into some other options. It was suggested that Val ask the DPAC how other schools are handling the "scooter issue". Another parent asked why it should be the school's responsibility to ensure students' scooters are protected and suggested that if they didn't want their scooters in the weather on an outside rack that maybe they be responsible for bringing scooter covers to protect from the elements or maybe they shouldn't bring their scooters to school at all.

**Creation of Facebook Coordinator and Fundraising Coordinator positions:** This item is a placeholder for the creation of these positions next AGM.

**Plaque for Krystina:** Christine asked about adding a plaque to the new playground equipment as the PAC had previously discussed a memorial for Krystina. Jocelyn felt there wasn't really space on the new equipment to add a plaque and suggested perhaps a bench instead. Jocelyn said she would ask the playground people about a bench and ask Tim about it as well. A parent raised a concern regarding having something like a bench as a memorial because it would require upkeep of the area to properly honour Krystina. There were suggestions of a plaque in the trophy case at the school. Another parent also asked if we bought something for Krystina, should we also have a memorial for Mitch as he also attended David Thompson. This item was tabled until next meeting.

**Crazy Carpets:** Ali explained that with winter fast approaching, students would be wanting to slide down the hill at lunch and since kids can't bring their sleds from home and there are a limited number of crazy carpets available, she wondered if she would be able to purchase some additional carpets for the school. She said that she had tried in the spring when the idea first came up, however, there were none available at that time.

**MOTION by Ali that PAC spend up to \$200 to purchase new crazy carpets for the school. 2nd by Clare. CARRIED**

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**At Home Alone:** - Christine reported that an At Home Alone course is being set up for David Thompson by the YMCA on January 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:30pm. It will be held at David Thompson. She also reported that registration will open December 1<sup>st</sup> and that all registration and payments will be handled by the YMCA. There is a maximum of 15 spaces. The course will be eligible to students who will turn 10 by the end of 2016. Christine will send home notices to parents when registration opens.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**When is a PAC vote needed:** Christine added this item as there was some discussion during email votes as to when a PAC vote is needed. Christine suggested that because PAC is a council, a PAC vote is needed whenever PAC's name is placed on an event, a fundraiser, a purchase, etc even if no money is involved. If PAC's name is on an event it is implied that the PAC is supporting the event and the only way to get PAC's official support is to have a vote. Sharon agreed.

**Update on Craft Fair:** The craft fair that was approved in a PAC email vote will be held on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. The craft fair is open to anyone who sells crafts, handmade soaps, pottery, etc as well as home based businesses. So far there are 18 confirmed tables with the possibility of 30 tables available. Leilani also said there would be a bake sale going on at the fair as well. Leilani asked if there were any other ideas on how to make the craft fair better. Sharon suggested that this Craft Fair would be a good trial to see how this event goes and use the experience to see if things could be improved for next year. Some other ideas from parents were to have a blind basket raffle, where the vendors donate items and they are wrapped up and people buy tickets to win the raffle. Katrina suggested a "Lucky Dip" station and said she would think about possibly organizing one for the fair. Erika also offered her assistance to help out on the day of.

**Laptop for PAC:** It was suggested that Christine use the yearbook laptop for taking minutes. Someone else suggested possibly using a school chrome book for the meetings as well. Christine said she would try out a chrome book for the next meeting to see how it goes.

**Next meeting Thursday, December 17, 2015 at 6:30 pm.**

(Minutes recorded by: Christine Ony)