

J.W. SEXSMITH PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting date: NOV 7th , 2019

Location: Sexsmith's Library

Time: 18:40 to 19:45

Chairperson: Christina Brown

Members present: As per attendance sheet.

*A big thank you to all the parents who came to the meeting.
We encourage you to continue attending the upcoming PAC meetings.*

Principal's Report – Joel Levine

- Brian and the Rotary Club are confirmed for Breakfast with Santa.
- A reminder to parents to fill out the Heart and Mind Survey. We have had 3 years of free support, with the goal of increasing awareness of social and emotional skills. Workshop's have been provided last year, this year and next year. The surveys are important to help keep track of how we are doing.
- An email was sent out to Sexsmith's families regarding the parking restrictions in front of the school.
 - We have identified a problem at the intersection of 59th Avenue and Manitoba with vehicles parking too close to the intersection and have asked the city to post signs and lengthen the space so cars can turn more easily on to Manitoba from 59th.
 - We also have identified a problem with motorist continuing to park and leave their vehicle in the no parking zone in front of the school during drop off (roughly between 8:30 am and 9:00 am) and pick up times (roughly between 2:30 pm to 3:15 pm). As mentioned several times in the newsletter and on signs posted on the school's entryway doors, motorists may stop in that zone to drop off and pick up their child for up to five minutes; but, they are not permitted to park and leave their vehicle. For more information about parking restrictions in school zones, please refer to the City of Vancouver's bylaws by visiting: <https://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/school-zones.aspx>.
 - Please do not pick up students or drop them off using the staff parking lot. Children move through that area and it is not easy for vehicles to turn around in. You may use the roundabout for picking up and dropping off. We have asked city parking enforcement to come and give warnings and tickets to parents who continue to violate these rules. The safety of our students is and will always be our first priority.
- There fire alarm was activated during today's Remembrance Assembly. It was an accidental activation.

- Hot Lunch Milk Carton Recycle Plan. Grade 7 students will rinse collected gable top milk cartons and dry them out. Once dried, they will then be crushed and placed into the schools blue mixed recycling bins.
- The Lost and Found Area under the stairs (lower level) is meant as a place for children to recover lost clothing and school items (lunch kits, bottles, coats, hats, scarves and mittens). Recently someone has begun leaving bags of donated clothing items in this area. The school will post signs in that area reminding parents that it is not to be used as a clothing donation drop off area. The school encourages parents to continue helping to donate clothing, accessories, toys, and housewares to our local community by calling or texting Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver at (604) 526-2447 to schedule a pick-up with them. You may also schedule a pick-up time online at: <https://www.bigbrothersvancouver.com/clothing-donation/book-a-pick-up/>. Just leave your donation outside your house before 8:00 am on the day of pick-up marked "Big Brothers". The driver will stop by between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm to pick-up your donation (much easier then lugging it to school).
- Foundation Skills Assessment ("FSA") testing was completed today.

Financial Update from the Treasurer – Angela Wong

NOVEMBER 7, 2019 BALANCES

Currently there is \$22,734.12; breakdown is as follows:

PAC General account	\$ 18,652.46
PAC Chocolate	\$ 0
PAC Fundraising	\$ 0
PAC Gaming account	\$ 8,082.04
Membership shares	\$ 5.92
Less: Committed fund	\$ -4,007.20
TOTAL	<u>\$ 22,733.12</u>

The outstanding items are for Highjump equipment (\$2,307.20) and Grade 7 graduation (\$1,700.00)

Hot Lunch Program Update from Eva and Chris

- We are halfway through Term 1 of the Hot Lunch Program. We are on target to achieving our projected net funds raised.
- Order Form for Term 2 will be sent out on November 25th. The forms need to be completed and returned to the school (along with accompanying payment) before 3 pm on December 2nd. No late forms will be accepted. In Term 2, there will be the option of Ham and Pineapple Pizza instead of the BBQ chicken option.
- We are trying to become more “green” with our program. At the moment plastic straws are only given to the kindergarten pupils, we are investigating paper straw options.
- As Mr. Levine mentioned previously, we will be placing blue bins around the cafeteria and asking students to place used gable top milk containers in these bins. Grade 7 students will be rinsing these containers out for us and setting them out to dry. Once dry, these containers will be flattened and recycled in the schools blue mixed recycling bins.
- Thanks to all the volunteers that cut up the tickets and come out to help on Wednesday and Friday’s.

Diwali Celebration Update from Deljit

- Once again the Diwali Celebration was a big success. This was my first year of volunteering. There were many people involved including the students that were dancing, the teachers were dressed up and did a dance too. All the kids were very excited and the event showcased the school’s community spirit.
- A big thank you to Vandana and to all the parents that volunteered. Parents helped Thursday to decorate the gym and the stage. And then on the day of to decorate the library and to serve the teachers and then help take down all the decorations. Also, thanks to Gurmit and Rana for being a huge help and support and to Jazz the supervision aid for coordinating the juice boxes and samosas and to Ms. Mayumi. It was a huge team effort.
- \$1,100 in PAC funds were allocated to the Diwali celebration. After all the receipts were process, they came under budget at \$938,88.

Chocolate Sales- Update Chris

- World's Finest Chocolate sales started on November 4th. The boxes were gone quickly and sales started to trickle in. There are approx. 20 to 25 people for Tuesday's draw for the prize of movie tickets.
- Some additions have been made to the final prizes. We already had \$100 Grandview Bowling Gift Certificate for older kids, we have added to that a \$50 Chapters gift card and a \$15 Tim Hortons Gift Card. For the younger kids we had two sets of 4 Kidropolis Tickets which were donated. We added to the younger kid prizes a \$15 gift card to Tim Hortons.
- If we need to we can order more chocolates, there is no personalization this year so subsequent orders are delivered with 4 working days.

Questions and queries

- Other schools charge \$5 for the same box instead of \$2, maybe we could charge more? Chris suggested that next year we consider the Laura Secord chocolates at \$3 per individual chocolate box as parents seemed to prefer the taste of these chocolates.
- Next year we will try selling the chocolates earlier before Halloween and Christmas. Maybe sales will be higher.
- Parents asked about where to hand the money in? Chris clarified that students should hand money collected from chocolate sales to their teacher.

Upcoming School Events

- Breakfast with Santa; scheduled for Dec 20th. We will organize and coordinate the breakfast in December.

Any other business or questions

- A parent shared information about a grant up to \$12,000 through South Hill United Way, the grant can be used in the community and to apply for it you must live/reside between Knight and Ontario between 41st and Marine Drive.
- The book fare will be held in April and Deljit will be the volunteer coordinator.
- If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Deljit, email address sexsmithvolunteers@gmail.com; or, checkout the volunteer opportunities on Sexsmith's Website: From Sexsmith's main web page go to the "Families" Tab, select "Volunteers" or type the following link into your browser <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/jw-sexsmith/Families/Volunteer/Pages/default.aspx>

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Next meeting date: December 5th, 2019 at 6:40pm. Location: Sexsmith's Library

Proposed Future Meeting Dates in 2020: Jan 9th, Feb 13th, Mar 5th, Apr 2nd.

Signatures of the 2019/2020 PAC Board members are as follows:

Chair – Christina Brown _____

Vice Chair – Deljit Beesla _____

Treasurer – Angela Wong _____

Secretary – Jacqui Crawford _____