

J W Sexsmith Elementary
7410 Columbia Street Vancouver, V5X 3C1

Sexsmith PAC General Meeting

Date: January 19, 2022 6:30pm-7:30pm

Location: Online via Zoom

PAC Executive:

Chairperson: Mandeep Sidhu
Vice-Chairperson: Mike Atwal
Treasurer: Angela Wong
Secretary: Kim Aujla
Fundraiser: Penny Wong

Guests:

Principal: Laura Rhead

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:41PM

AGENDA:

1.Standing Items (Mandeep)

- a) Welcome and Acknowledgement
- b) Approve Agenda - Motion to approve put forth by Mandeep.
Second motion by Novella.
- c) Approve Minutes - Sept 21, 2021 & Nov 24, 2021 - Motion to
approve by Mandeep. Second motion by Novella.

2.Principal's Update (Laura)

- opening remarks. introduction. Laura is meeting 1:1 with each staff member for 15 minutes to hear about the past and hopes for the future.
- Laura likes to have kids in her office and wants to get to know the

kids. Open to feedback from parents. Laura has provided her contact details to parents via Mandeep.

a) Covid 19 Protocols and updates from VCH/VCB

- Schools are receiving updated covid protocol info all the time and there are lot's of new guidelines coming out; for example, the Flow Chart for Covid 19 Symptoms, Testing & Return to School which has been sent to Mandeep by Laura.

- Concerns from parents and teachers over absences and known Covid 19 cases at home. But this is an inevitable issue. There is no contact tracing now.

- BCCDC website has contradictory statements as per Laura. Laura recommends that "If you feel unwell, then stay home."

- VSB and Vancouver Coastal Health are working closely together in various ways (ex. ventilation, different case management notifications

- Ex. If you register a positive test there is a chain of action that happens at Coastal Health, whereby they notify the appropriate parties, school districts and principals involved.

- Virtual learning has provided a way for students to see what's been learned in the class previously. Lot's of positives of virtual learning. Staff is working hard to create educational programming that is more creative and out of the box.

- Renewed sense of protocol. Teachers are getting Teams up and running again. Professional development for staff has been engaging and exciting. Grade 7 students are using Teams to supplement in classroom learning.

- Safety is important - Laura is communicating guidelines regularly. Will continue to socially distance and wear masks.

- Saying YES more often; what's necessary, what's safe and what can we say YES to! ex. Ice skating (limited contact with public), the school play during spring (rehearsing in small groups).

b) Absences and what we are doing each day to maintain safety education programming

c) What is functional closure?

- Functional closure can be an upsetting thing. If too many staff are absent it would be unsafe to continue instruction.
- All families contacted by the office if this occurs.
- Families of essential workers, special needs, would be welcome to stay with limited number of staff. We would call this day 0.
- Day 0 we make the plans and students go home.
- Day 1 is the day of remote learning where teachers provide learning through various platforms such as Teams/Seesaw.
- Hopefully it would be a short term closure.
- Could happen or just something we plan for. Not ideal. Every school site is different.
- Principals communicate with each other during functional closure. Contact partner schools for help.
- Sexsmith staff team meetings are regular. Laura broadcasting regularly and giving communication to staff. Instant communication on teacher's phones and in classrooms. Exciting tools and platforms during this time of no in-person meetings.
- Children are doing ok. They are playing and happy outside. Parents are modelling well. Wearing masks.

d) Classroom activity highlights

- Laura is still getting to know the kids. In the future Laura will give more details in written form and can speak to more specifics but for now she has only been at Sexsmith for 2 weeks. -Still getting to know children's names.
- There are some highlights in the classrooms. Laura is not privy to them all however wants to learn more.
- We have about 17-20% absent students. Numbers are pretty good. We expect a lot of absences right now. Teachers and students are still doing all their project work (filming).
- Report cards coming out on Jan 31. We have 2 terms. Starting second term in Feb. Creating lots of momentum. Teachers are doing assessments which will be shared with parents. -All reports are done online this year.

Questions:

- 1)What is being done to ensure diverse learners are getting the

support they need with regards to TOC shortages? (Tanya)

Answer: There is fairness in the way classes are covered. We have been able to get teachers in from Garibaldi. Try to share the load between teachers. We have many part time teachers in our school - our resource model might change; Laura is reviewing it. Priority is student needs. People are committed to their jobs.

2) Staff Wishlist updates

-Laura is working with staff on creating a robust student wishlist to support student learning / extra curricular learning.

-Drawing materials for fine arts, fidget and sensory toys for resource team, iPads.

3) Communication discussion (newsletters, etc).

-Working with staff students parents on best ways to communicate. Ex email blasts, YouTube video.

-Feedback requested on monthly newsletter? Keep doing it? Communication ideas are welcome. Will use email most of the time. Flexibility and support is appreciated.

-Safety and inclusion important.

-Parent feedback important. Please email Laura directly.

-Will send update to all families tonight (daily health check and spreadsheet shared by Mandeep at beginning of this meeting).

3.Treasurer's Report (Novella)

PAC general account currently has \$9,881.23 - This amount already included the 67.20 for Zoom expenses and 56.25 for gift card for Ms. Tassy. These expenses have been cleared.

We received \$364 from Christmas Photos.

The PAC chocolate account balance stayed the same at \$1088.99

In the PAC fundraising account the balance increased. We collected \$1788.28 from the Purdy's fundraising commission thereby making the current balance of the fundraising account \$11,181.95.

With regards to our PAC gaming account, we started with a balance of \$20,184.82. We have some pending transactions which need to

be cleared. Novella and Mike Atwal (Vice Chair) are now authorized to sign off on reimbursement cheques for PAC team purchases. Here are some of the pending transactions which need to be cleared:

Diwali decorations (submitted by Penny) \$94.27

Sports Equipment \$1692.59

(Out of Stock Equipment - invoice is still coming for these items - not included in the amount above of \$1692.59)

Library Books invoice from Ms. Tassy - \$1033.50

Christmas mandarine oranges (submitted by Deljit) - \$200

Candy canes & Christmas chocolates (submitted by Penny) - \$225.39

Pizza Lunch for Volunteers (during Christmas photos) - \$65.81

Halloween Decor (submitted by Penny) - \$101.54

Trophy Case - \$3,000 has been accounted for the trophy case however this is NOT a pending transaction.

With all that said, the Current Adjusted Balance is \$13,771.72

Comment from Laura Rhead: Thank you to Novella. Sports Equipment has arrived, looks great and donation from PAC is appreciated. Mr. K's class will be organizing that. Also received new library books (social / emotional themed books). Ms. Tassy is taking a full time position elsewhere. Ms. Tassy has been lovely for the children. Mr. Basra and Ms. Tsai are new to Sexsmith. Ms. Dearlove, TOC, is also new in Division 15.

4.Hot Lunch Coordinator's Report (Mandeep)

-Hot lunch program is still on hold and will reassess with Laura next month.

-Will have to accept that hot lunch program of today will look different than 2 years ago. Food will have to come pre-packaged to the school. No food handling at the school.

-PSI (local development company) has shown interest in contributing to the hot lunch program.

-Mandeep will follow up with PSI next month.

5.Fundraiser Report (Penny absent. Mandeep reviewing)

Fundraiser Report)

-Our 2 ongoing fundraisers - not much movement on these two items
1. Oliver's Labels - fun, durable, school gets 20% in fundraising
2. Fundscrip - buy gift cards - our school gets 3-5% of the sales.

-We have received all of the cash from the school online photo which has been deposited into the account (confirmed by Novella)

-New fundraiser to discuss for Easter - we did Purdy's Easter last year. Do we want to do it for April? There is still time to confirm.

6.New Business:

-Lunar New Year decorations

-Penny is requesting \$100 for tiger them decor. Motion put forth by Mandeep. Second Motion by Deljit.

-We already have red envelopes and chocolate coins from last year (already paid for).

-Laura was emailed by a parent who has a Chinese speaking child at Sexsmith. She would like to do a special performance for Chinese New Year. Laura will pass her contact information to the PAC. Laura can help encourage parents to join the PAC.

-Division Representatives - Laura implemented this role in her previous experience with the goal of having more people attend the PAC meetings.

7.Adjournment

Next Meetings Scheduled:

Feb 16, 2022 @ 6:30PM