

J W Sexsmith Elementary

7410 Columbia Street Vancouver, V5X 3C1

Topic: Sexsmith PAC September General Meeting

Date: Nov 24th, 2021 6:30 PM

Location: Online via Zoom

PAC Executive:

Chairperson: Mandeep Sidhu (not present)

Vice-Chairperson: Mike Atwal (meeting host)

Treasurer: Novella Lui

Secretary: Kim Aujla

Fundraiser: Penny Wong

Guests:

Principal: Jenny Chin Peterson (interim)

Agenda:

1.Standing Items (Mandeep)

- a) Welcome and Acknowledgement
- b) Approve Agenda - First motion to approve - Penny / 2nd motion to approve - Deljit
- c) Approve Minutes from last PAC Meeting - First motion to approve Mike / 2nd motion to approve Kim

2.Principal's Update (Jenny)

- Laura Rhead - new principle incoming
- Quick update from Jenny on the school events that have been held over the last month.
- Pumpkin patch was a huge success although it rained.
- Shout out to Carol and all grad 7 helpers and parents who came. Everyone enjoyed it!
- Another big event was the Diwali celebration. Big shout out to parents and volunteers including past parents of previous students.

New Diwali banner was fantastic. Money well spent! Staff and students were very appreciative of the individually wrapped samosas and PAC lunch which was graciously brought in for the staff. It was delicious!

- Remembrance Day Assembly - number of classes participated in virtual assembly which included songs & poems. Pulled everyone together for a school wide announcement while sharing a moment of silence over the PA system.
- Started Kindergarten Registration on November 1. Let your neighbours, family and friends know that KG registration has started across the district. Registration closes at the end of January 2022.
- Purchasing for the School Wish List was approved and items are underway. Approval Request for trophy case to be built by VSB has been submitted by Jenny. Gurinder our Librarian has started purchasing diversity collection books in the library. Mr. K has started and ordered all outdoor playground equipment to be used outside.
- Also approved presenters coming into school. No major decisions have been made yet but we've had recent free presentations around financial literacy from previous students. (To Grade 7's).
- Field Trips - happy to report, we are starting field trips - in the process of being worked out. Our grade 7 classes received a grant from science world (transport and entry fee covered for field trip). Thrilled to be chosen for this grant. Walking to the skating rink as well.
- Parents should have received a letter from VSB regarding the delay of field trips due to increase in gas prices. Delay field trips to avoid transportation costs.
- Parents of students in Gr. 4 and 7. - we completed the foundational skills assessments as required by the Ministry of Education. These are foundational tests in math and literacy. Almost marked. Results will be sent home in the next week or so.
- Good news - changed the traffic process around the roundabout There was no real painted cross walk across Columbia street (towards dead end road). Tassy has contacted the City of Vancouver and a crosswalk has been approved. Should happen in spring or summer of 2022.

3.Treasurer's Report (Novella)

The PAC General Account balance this month opened at \$9,629.45 with committed expenses for the Gr. 7 Christmas Card Fundraiser in the amount of \$250 and for Teacher Appreciation Day in the amount of \$117.77. The adjusted PAC General Balance comes to \$9,261.68.

The PAC Chocolates balance is \$1,088.99. The balance in the Fundraiser account is at \$9,393.67. The total balance of all 3 accounts comes out to \$19,744.34.

The PAC Gaming Account balance for this month opened at \$21,419.21. Membership Shares balance is \$6.25. We have a few committed expenses such as Halloween Decorations \$94.27; Diwali backdrop and decorations \$580.39; Pumpkins for pumpkin patch \$654.00; Trophy Case which was quoted at approximately \$3,000; Sports equipment in the amount \$2,000; Library books \$1,000; Christmas treats (candy canes & mandarines) \$1,200. With these committed balances, the adjusted balance of the PAC Gaming Account is \$12,896.80.

4. Hot Lunch Coordinator's Report - Mike

We can discuss the new year as per Mandeep.

Some parents want Subway.

PCI wants to support hot lunch for families in hardship. More discussion to come in the new year.

5. Fundraiser Report (Penny)

Penny reviewed some photos of pumpkin patch even which are on Facebook.

3 ongoing fundraisers:

1) Partnered with Funscrip - they are a gift card provider. Many retailers. % of sales goes towards fundraising accounts. You can have a physical gift card mailed or digital card emailed. 2) Oliver's Label. Second year we are doing this. They offer great prices for personalized, durable labels. Login to Sexsmith Elementary account. Whatever you buy, PAC gets 20% of purchases. 3) Purdy's - 5K goal. We are at 3,100. Not bad. Campaign started Nov 10. Last day to order is Wed Nov 29th. Products will ship to school around Dec 10. Parent volunteers will sort and bag and deliver to the classrooms.

Month of December - decorating the library - needs 3-4 volunteers. Need 150\$ - 200\$ for decorations. Penny has loaned the school her decorations in the past. Schools are slowly starting to purchase their own.

Penny showed photos of last year's library decorations. Friday Dec 3rd - put up decorations.

Would like to continue Christmas class photos on Dec 8th. Hope to have photos for students before they go on break.

Breakfast with Santa has been canceled due to Covid.

Comments from Jenny:

- Important to represent all cultures and celebrations. Jenny suggests purchasing decorations for other types of celebrations as well.

- Re: Sexsmith PAC Facebook page - make sure any photos being posted do not show faces of the children or staff. Penny has taken this into consideration.

Purdy's Chocolate - Penny needs a few volunteers to sort and bag. Also requesting 3 volunteers for library decorations and 3 volunteers to help with class photos.

Question from Penny: Last Sept, teachers requested if PAC could pay for any field trips. Ex. Mixed Nuts - 5\$ fee. PAC could have paid for this.

As per Jenny, only a few classes are going to Mixed Nuts. Private transportation is tough right now due to gas/timing etc. Jenny will follow up to see how many classes are going. Lots of schools and traffic at the theatre during Mixed Nuts performance usually. But Jenny will inquire further about this topic.

6.New Business / Additional Items for discussion

Need replacement for Penny's fundraiser position next year as her child will be leaving Sexsmith.

Penny's motion to approve Purdy's chocolate lollipop purchase - approx. \$1200

- First motion Penny / Second Motion Deljit. Jenny's thoughts - thinks it's too much - are there other options? Healthier options?

Food in School Guidelines were forwarded to Mandeep. Jenny would like to know if there is an alternative to chocolates or candy canes? Perhaps mandarin oranges?

Penny's suggestion - If we forego chocolate lollipops, can we get mandarin oranges through the Fruit & Vegetable Program? How do we source large quantity of mandarins.

Jenny suggests reaching out to produce wholesalers. Jenny thinks \$1200 is costly and would like to review other healthier alternatives to promote healthy eating.

Mike will contact his connection at Fruiticana to source the mandarins.

Holiday gifts for students - budget 1200\$ max if we do chocolates. Motion to approve by Penny / Second Motion by Mike. (Novella - lets aim to be lower than \$1200)

Do we celebrate Hanukkah? We should have diversity. Mr. Levine would recognize Hanukkah.

Maybe teachers can ask students - have conversations in the classroom (Laura Rhead).

Could be pictures, books, simple just so kids can see their own celebrations being recognized publicly (Jenny).

7.Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Mike
Second Motion by Penny.

Next Meeting Scheduled: Jan 19th Wednesday for 6:30pm