



## BME PAC Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2015

Location: Learning Commons

Attendance: Melanie, Rhonda, Colleen, Lori, Dawn, Arlene, Julie, Tanya, Stephanie, Linette, Margherita, Donna, Jeanne, Cory, Rhonda, Kristy, Lacey, Julee, Janet, Janelle

- 1) Call to Order at 6:04pm
- 2) Adopt the Minutes and Agenda: Stephanie motioned to adopt the minutes and Margherita seconded it. Dawn motioned to adopt the agenda and Colleen seconded it.
- 3) Introductions by Bonnie-Lee
- 4) Officer's Reports
  - a) President's Report by Bonnie-Lee: Bonnie-Lee passed around a thank you card from Julia Bauer, the RSS student who was the bursary recipient. A Worries and Woes Event is coming up on November 5<sup>th</sup>; the presenter is Dr. Lynn Fowler.
  - b) Treasurer's Report by Allie: Our total cash position is currently \$11,781.72. Allie presented the budget spreadsheet on the smart board. Allie motioned to accept her own report.
  - c) Fundraising Report by Bonnie-Lee (Val is away): \$300 has been raised so far from our family photo fundraiser by Candice Johnson Photography. Our next fundraiser is the Scholastic Book Fair which will be Monster themed. The book fair will run Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> until Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Volunteer sign-up sheets are in the office. There will be teacher wish lists posted if you would like to buy some books for the classrooms. There will be a coloring contest again as well as a guess the candy in the jar contest. There are lots of great prizes to be won. On November 6<sup>th</sup>, our Purdy's Chocolates fundraiser will begin. Around November 18th the sales will end. There will also be a prize raffle at the Christmas concert again this year. No poinsettias for sale this year.
  - d) Hot Lunch Report by Linette (Rachelle is away): We now have 268 students registered for our hot lunch program. This Monday is the deadline for November ordering. December ordering will close at the end of November. By the first week of November, Rachelle hopes to have the menus for January posted. Pizza Fridays have already raised \$1000 for the grade 5's year end trip and their grad hoodies. Rachelle is happy to see some new parent helpers on Mondays so thank you to all of the volunteers! Both old and new! We are also now accepting e-transfers for the hot lunch program. Thank you Allie for setting this up for us! The password is BME (all uppercase) for the security question for the e-transfers. Our Hot Lunch Program is our biggest fundraiser of the school year. We really appreciate all of your support.
  - e) Fruit and Veggie Report by Julee: The kids have recently had apples and pears. Things are going well. They entered a contest to win a shopping gift card.

f) COPAC Report by Cory: In December there will be a computer CODING awareness week happening. With so many new faces at our PAC meeting, Cory explained a little bit about what COPAC is. There are 40 schools in our school district and COPAC is a group of parents made up of one representative from each school as well as the school superintendent. One of the events coming up is by Chris Ovelson, and it is called The Blueprint, and is intended for Grade 7 students and older. Parents are allowed to attend pro-d days at school. The cost is \$35. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, there will be a parent conference called PAC 101. This is just for our district. This is designed to help PAC's get on their feet and inform them of how everything works. The Oregon school shooting was discussed at the beginning of October at the last COPAC meeting and all administration staff is extra aware and on alert, just in case there was ever a copycat incident. They are starting a task force for French immersion in our school district. Traditionally, if your child is 7 years or older, you shouldn't start French immersion at that age. Now, they are reconsidering that theory. The downtown schools in Kelowna are looking into rubberizing their school playgrounds so that there will be no wood chips or pea gravel. This will hopefully prevent needles and other unsafe items being discovered by children on school playgrounds. The Hub at Pearson Elementary School is in the works. Any questions you have about how to help your child will be available there; a pediatrician, counselling services, practicum work, food, shelter, childcare, strong start, aboriginal education, children's programming, women's shelter, violence help, abuse help, etc. The Hub is currently in development. This will be a central location that will have lots of information for community families. Cory passed around an information sheet about upcoming parent events. On the COPAC website, you can also find all of this information. Janet will put the link to this on the school website also. Anyone and everyone are welcome to attend the COPAC meetings. Cory is looking for another parent at our school to attend the meetings with her and learn what she does, as she is expecting a baby in the spring time and may be too busy to continue her position. COPAC meetings happen on the first Monday of every month (the next meeting is November 2<sup>nd</sup>). Cory says the COPAC meetings are very exciting and very informational. The COPAC meetings are always held at the Hollywood Road Education Centre.

g) Communications Report by Dawn: 189 likes currently! Dawn is posting at least once a day. Reminders, notices, news, etc. Great job Dawn!

##### 5) Principal's Report by Janet Williams:

This is an exceptional year with many 'new' things coming our way. We are moving forward on a new journey with The Leader In Me concept. We are learning and using a new provincial online program for attendance, student records and report cards. We are reading and discussing with our colleagues the adoption of a curriculum for BC students. As well, our school has been blessed with many new staff members this year to help support our learning community.

A letter will go home with students this week from the Superintendent, regarding unplanned early dismissal days for the year to provide staff an opportunity to learn about the new curriculum together, as there is significant work to be done to help prepare for this implementation.

A school letter will go home on Monday, informing our parent population that on November 24<sup>th</sup> our students in the Rutland Zone will be dismissed at 12:15 pm for a learning day for staff. I want to invite all parents to our school assemblies. When you see them on our school calendars, please know that all are invited to attend. There is a school assembly on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be having an RCMP presentation on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> for all students regarding Halloween safety. Please ask your child what they learned from Const. G. Josephson, our school liaison officer.

We have a Crazy Hair Day lined up for November 13<sup>th</sup>. A student-initiated event - the Evans girls have asked us to support the Gaby Davis Foundation (<http://www.gabydavisfoundation.com/>) by making donations. We will promote that if a student brings in a loonie, they can have 'crazy hair' on this day at school. The Gaby Davis Foundation provides financial support to families who are dealing directly with cancer related additional costs and expenses.

I would like to meet with a group of parents to discuss the future plans (5 year) for our school playground. We understand that we are only allowed one adventure play ground however we can add other 'standard' items to enhance the grounds – providing more choices for our students. If parents are interested please contact the office. This committee would meet three times this school year. Some items that were recently added are: 3 new benches, a new picnic table and one equipment rack.

Mrs. Williams has confirmed that a new equipment cart will be purchased this year for the primary students, a larger sand box will be created, a sign will be posted twice a week for a 'Buddy Bench' concept and a work order will be sent in for school painting enhancements (ex. four square, hop scotch, checker board). The fence border around the old preschool play area may also be getting removed at some point this year.

There will also be a technology refresh happening this school year.

## 6) Old Business:

### a) Goals for the Year:

- 1) A hydration station for the school (purchased and installed) is the number one goal that parents chose.
- 2) P.E. field trips - funding being increased for these field trips is the number two goal (approx. \$25 per student will be covered by the PAC, rather than parents having to bring a loonie or a twoonie every time there is a field trip).
- 3) Teacher discretionary funds - increase these to \$200 per teacher.
- 4) New school spirit wear.
- 5) New school sports team uniforms.
- 6) A covering to go over the primary students backpacks so they don't get wet when it rains.
- 7) An update or addition to our school playground.

b) School Spirit Wear: This is a PAC fundraiser. Dawn and her husband spent quite a bit of time reworking the logo and it looks great! There are special hoodies being made for the grade 5 students for their graduation. If you want to order some spirit wear, the students will be bringing home order forms soon. You can order them at the office or you can also order online.

7) New Business:

a) PAC Budget 2015-2016 by Allie: Over the years, we have spent over \$25,000 on electronics and technology. An electronic reader board was purchased and installed, document cameras were put in each classroom, ipads and cameras bought for each teacher etc. We are looking at spending \$25,695 this year. We get quite a large BC Gaming Grant (\$25 per student) each year that Allie applies for and sets up for us. Here is the budget Allie presented to us:

P.E. Field Trips \$12,000

Hydration Station \$5,000

Teacher's Discretionary Funds \$3,400 (\$200 per teacher/17 teachers)

Agendas and Planners \$1,283

Drumming Sessions \$837 (Janet's art grant was \$2300 to cover the other costs)

COBSS Bursary \$525

Teacher's Appreciation Breakfast/Lunch \$500

Parent Education \$500

Flowers & Gifts \$500

Pancake Breakfast \$400 (Pancake/PJ Day, Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>)

Child-minding at PAC meetings \$300

Welcome Back Snack \$200

SMS Welcome BBQ \$150 (Janet suggests we revisit this)

Play Day \$100

Total Budget \$25,695

We currently have around \$11,000 in our account and it's only October. The Hot Lunch Program and The Fun Fair in May, provide the majority of our money. All parents present were in favor to accept the budget. Allie motioned to accept her own report.

A few more things:

On Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> the PAC will be hosting a luncheon for the staff and teachers before Christmas holidays.

There is approx. 45 staff working at our school so we are asking for PAC parents to provide lunch food and Christmas baking donations. We will discuss a lunch theme or come up with a way to ensure there aren't duplicate dishes.

Linette mentioned that she has a connection with a good caterer if we are interested...

We plan on purchasing some of the food and then supplementing it with parent donations.

b) PAC draw: Congratulations to Melanie who won a \$50 gas card from Petro Canada!

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Minutes prepared by Janelle Schultz.