

Sidney Elementary School PAC Meeting

The regular meeting of Sidney PAC was called to order by:
Kristina Littlejohns at 6:30pm on January 16, 2018

PRESENT:

Kristina Littlejohns, Christine Etele, Christina Smith, Christina M Smith, Adi Parker, Lesley Goodwin, Anita Dzus-Spady, Jessi Petrick, Terrisa Tate, Tara Varma, Alison Scott, Lisa Duong, Scott Hill, Jay Schwartz, Maggie duMonceaux, Allison Gratz, Marzena Kaniewska, Rachel Goddard, Jessie Wellbourn, Tom Vickers, Carolin Meausette

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda distributed by Kristina Littlejohns, approved by Terrisa Tate

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Kristina Littlejohns, seconded by Maggie duMonceaux to approve the minutes of December 12th 2017.

ADMINISTRATION: Principal - Tom Vickers and Carolin Meausette

Appreciations for the turnout of the PAC meetings. We have a strong core group who volunteers a lot of time.

Anawim House - This is the 6th year we have been visiting Anawim House. This year we had 40 students hand out 50 bags. It is a very powerful experience for the children to hand these bags directly to another human. The children were actually applauded for handing the bags out. It helps to redefine the stereotypes we have of people in need. A video will be shown to the school at assemblies.

Outdoor Learning Space - It has evolved to include a covered area. We now have solid backing from the PAC, \$10,000 through donations, and up to \$15,000 from the Sidney Rotary. There will be a committee on staff to determine how best to develop this and will also have some direct input from the students. We are hoping to see ground break on this project this year and potentially over the summer.

Learning Literacy Program - This would be similar to the Reading Recovery Program that works with Grade One students who are most vulnerable. A coordinator between Victoria, Sooke, and Saanich School Districts has met with staff to develop a whole school literacy program. Sidney will be the test site for this. It is for all vulnerable readers not just grade one students. It is a substantial plan with continuity in mind.

We will have a doctorate student working with parent groups over the next year. She is putting on 3 info sessions.

Our reading volunteer program now has 19 volunteers in the school. They have received training on how to correct reading errors.

Fresh Grade - We are the only school in the district where all teachers are on board and using the program to some degree. We want to make sure that all parents are aware of how to use it and to answer any questions. There will be an info session on Feb 13th from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm right before the next PAC Meeting, Main questions seem to be about report cards and how it should look to the parents. There wont be a formal report card; it is more of an ongoing assessment. At the end of year in June there will be a summary sent home as well as a permanent copy on their student record.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

PRESIDENT/CHAIR - Kristina Littlejohns

Jay Schwartz brought to the PAC attention the crosswalk off Henry and Chicory. There is terrible visibility and concerns about cars parking too close to the crosswalk as well as just not adhering to the safety rules. There are close calls almost daily. The school has been working with the RCMP and the town of Sidney, as well as the Safe Routes to Schools team. We are asking for more funding to provide additional crossing guards at this location. We are also asking for a greater RCMP presence in regards to speeding and parking. Tom will have an update within 1-2 weeks from the town. This would be a very powerful message come the PAC, Administration with the support of the RCMP.

Kristina Littlejohns made a motion to draft a letter to the town council regarding the issue of the crosswalk. Jessi Petrick seconded the motion. All in favour.

Ms. Alberrings class will make a thank you card to the Army and Navy Airforce Veterans.

VICE PRESIDENT - Jessi Petrick

Staff Appreciation Lunch - She will meet with Christina M Smith who organized this for the past 3 years and follow up.

TREASURER - Christina Smith

Sheets have been updated so they are now displayed properly in the budget. Expenses were added for the Bad Moms Movie Night. Nothing happened in December so there were no further updates.

It was suggested to break it down to a monthly explanation of charges so its easier for parents to read and understand.

SECRETARY - Liz Richmond/Anita Dzus-Spady - (Nothing to report)

COMMUNICATIONS - Jessie Wellbourne and Heather Carley (Absent) -

Jessi asked for suggestions to get more parents involved. We discussed a live broadcast on Facebook or perhaps audio only but it was felt that people feel most comfortable just sharing in the immediate environment. We will continue with the Monday Morning meetings and make sure to mark the minutes as draft only until they are approved at the following PAC meeting.

FUNDRAISING CO-ORDINATOR - Christine Etele

West Coast Seeds just went out this week. There is a 40% profit margin. The easiest way to order is from the website as it calculates taxes directly for you. Payment is due back January 26th but orders likely won't close until the first week of February to allow time for all orders to come in.

February 22nd will be the next movie night. We will decide which movie and send out emails to parents. February 23rd is pro-d day so no school for children.

Holiday Fair - vendors are already emailing back wanting to join for next year which is great. We are looking into a community use permit which will allow us to have a janitor on site at a cost of \$25/hour which will cost \$200 for the event but will allow us to open up more of the school. The next Holiday Fair will be November 17, 2018.

Spring Fling - the date will be May 25th. We are looking to put together a committee now to start dividing jobs up and have people take on different jobs. Lisa Duong offered her house as a meeting place.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM - Maggie duMonceaux

Hot lunch forms went home today. The first one will be on Tuesday February 20th to avoid another conflict with the movie night. It sounds like the kids love having a choice for hot lunch. It is not feasible to change the timing of lunch on hot lunch dates so we will stick with what we have in place.

BREAKFAST CLUB - Terrisa Tate

She is looking into making muffins for breakfast club. FoodSafe is a concern, although Jessi Petrick has certificate so will see if that is ok. Talking about shutting down kitchen 5 minutes before the bell so kids are not late to class or bringing food into classroom. Treys will meet with Tom and Jessi about this.

Meeting Adjourned 8:08 pm.

Next meeting February 13th, 2018 at 6:30pm.