

Salmo Elementary School Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Held on Zoom on November 15th 2021

Welcome:

Meeting called to order at 3:03 pm

Danielle McLean, Chair, welcomed those present. Territorial acknowledgement.

Review of Minutes:

Approval to accept minutes from meeting on October 18th, 2021

Motioned: Dawn Leslie **Seconded:** Monica Juhas **Carried.**

Correspondence Update:

- Lots of correspondence regarding fundraising efforts – Fresh to you, Scholastic Book Fair, etc.
- DPAC has offered to cover our BCPAC registration fees – **ACTION:** Danielle to complete this registration form.

Business Carried Forward:

- Playground Construction Acknowledgement:

A tree for the playground is on hold at Mountain Edge Nursery and will be planted in the spring.

Action: Submit thank you letter to Salmo Valley Newsletter. Research for plaque options for tree. Facilitate Thank You cards drawn from students. Monica Juhas, Dawn Leslie, Sheri Pawlyshn will finalize this project.

Approval of Playground Construction Acknowledgement – **Motioned:** Heather Verigin **Seconded:** Parker Sawchenko **Carried.**

- Grinchmas Christmas Giving:
 - Salmo Community Services has given PAC an outline for sponsoring local families within the school for the holiday season.
 - Candice Simms will spearhead this project. Ms Hatt, Mr K and Ms Fox are interested in partnering with her.

Principal's Report:

- Highlights:
 - Pumpkin hunt was a great success.
 - Halloween for Hunger – huge highlight for the students. Lots of food collected. Salmo Community Services provided hotdogs for lunch to thank the students for their hard work.

- Remembrance Day Assembly hosted by grades 5 & 6. Each class put together a themed art display for an Art Walk throughout the school. White doves created in each classroom to represent peace.
- Ongoing:
 - Metis Awareness Month
 - Louis Riel Day on November 16th
 - Literacy programs and assessments for all students.
- Moving Forward:
 - Reporting Point of Progress sent home by November 17th. Reports touch on literacy, numeracy, social skills to provide parents with an update on their child's progress. Full report card will be completed in January.
 - Superintendent Visit November 17th
 - Scholastic Book Fair November 16th – 18th
- Questions from Parents:
 - School Fees: The \$40 paid by parents covers consumable items - pencils, crayons, glue sticks, headphones, paper, binders. Each teacher curates a list depending upon their classroom needs. Most of the leftover items go home with the student at the end of the year, though some supplies get passed onto the next teacher for that student for the next year. In general, there is a deficit as not all families can cover this fee. Last year, a local church donated \$1200 to cover the deficit.
 - Outside Supervision: there are 3 adults supervising recess. The school will implement high-vis vests so kids can easily find teachers when needed. 1 teacher remains inside for sewing club and other indoor activities during recess.
 - Forest Play: With staffing shortages, the forest had been closed because of insufficient supervision. The forest will reopen soon as all staffing positions have now been filled. New staff will be briefed on boundaries of the forest to ensure safe play for students.
 - EAs: The school district has allocated 7 EAs to our school. We have recently filled every position. The EAs work under a shared inclusive support model. Some students assigned EAs have higher needs than others. The school is currently working to allocate hours to all students in need now that all positions have been filled.
- How can you partner? The school is always happy to have volunteers. There are lots of opportunities to get involved – fundraisers, winter outdoor activities, classroom volunteers, etc. Please get in touch with the school or your child's teacher and/or PAC.

Teachers' Report:

- All teachers present introduced themselves to the group and were given space to share some highlights and concerns of the year so far.

- Ms Hatt voiced concern about running low on classroom supplies, specifically specialized art supplies. She was wondering if there was a way PAC could help source extra materials.
- Mr Korbacher is organizing a Maker Space and will also be looking to source materials from the community. Additionally, he has been organizing basketball with intermediates and it is going great! Volleyball will be starting soon with the help of Mr V.

ACTION: PAC has requested that all teachers compile a wish list of supplies for their classrooms and other projects. Once wish lists are received, PAC will discuss how we can help. What can we source from the community? Do we want to fundraise? Do we have funds to donate?

Chair report:

- Executive meeting held to discuss items brought to PAC such as school supplies, EA support, recess.
- Work completed on subcommittees - Fresh to you Fundraiser, Lunch Committee, Grinchmas Christmas Giving, Outdoor Kits grant via Salmo Valley Fund.

Treasurer's Report:

- Financial records and banking information were only transferred to new treasurer, Robyn Baird, a few days prior to the meeting. A more accurate report will be given at the next meeting.
- As of September 30th, the Kootenay Savings account held:
 - \$23,429.75 in everyday banking
 - \$25 in membership shares
 - \$46 in patronage shares

ACTION: Complete signing authority change over. Create a sub-account for Garden Club grant (see below).

PAC Subcommittees:

- GARDEN CLUB:
 - Pumpkin hunt was super successful
 - Aim is to host an activity once a month if timing allows.
 - Next projects will be festive tree and/or wreath making.
 - Always looking for more volunteers to help out.
 - Monica Juhas has been in communication with Aaron Burke from Kootenay Savings. He has offered to sponsor the garden club for \$500. These funds are to be used to provide supplies for garden club activities.

Approval to accept this sponsorship: **Motioned:** Parker Sawchenko. **Seconded:** Robyn Baird. **Carried.**

- GRADE SIX GRAD:
 - Dates for camping trip selected

- o Grade Six students are looking to raise some money for Grad. PAC would like to offer them \$250 from the Fresh To You Fundraiser if they help unload the food from the delivery truck.

Approval to donate these funds pending job completed: **Motioned:** Sheri Pawlyshn. **Seconded:** Shelley-Anne Jorgensen. **Carried.**

- **FUNDRAISING:**

- o Fresh to You – Great participation from families. There was a miscommunication between PAC and Fresh to You. We were only supposed to sell 70 bundles but sold over 100. Fresh to You will honor the error this year. PAC, Salmo Elementary School and Salmo Community Services, will distribute extra bundles. Profit of about \$800 to PAC.
- o Popcorn days are going great!
- o Scholastic Book Fair – November 16th – 18th. Contact Amy Pol to volunteer.
- o Attic Treasures – A store will be set up for students to purchase gifts for their family for the holidays. Small items will be donated by families for the store. Leanne, Danielle McLean and Monica Juhas will assess feasibility of this event.

ACTION: Monica Juhas identified further grant resources from Kootenay Savings for spring of 2022 that could be beneficial to PAC. Fundraising committee to look into this opportunity.

- **COMMUNITY CUPBOARD COMMITTEE:**

- o Intend to meet soon.

- **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**

- o Proposal has been approved.
- o Actively seeking more volunteers to help get this off the ground. Sheri Pawlyshn and Robyn Baird are interested in helping.

ACTION: send proposal out to PAC community.

- **PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE:**

- o Lots of cleanup was completed after Halloween shenanigans.
- o With snow in the near future, ongoing projects will be put on hold. Committee will ensure everything is safe or stored away until the spring.
- o Maintenance, upkeep and phase 2 discussions on going.

- **PARENT EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

- o A few parenting workshops have been posted on PAC Facebook page.
- o Will meet soon to discuss further education opportunities for the new year.

- **DPAC:**

- o Parent advocacy: Dawn Leslie recently attended a 2 part series offered to SD8 parents. It outlined how to advocate for kids in the school system in a

way that follows school policy, is timely and efficient. Dawn would like to be a Parent Advocate Liaison.

CARRY FORWARD: further discussion of Parent Advocate Liaison.

Next meeting to be held:

December 13th at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm