

## École Oceanside Elementary School

### PAC Meeting Minutes for January 13, 2016 Start time: 6:31

Attendance: Brenda Fischer, Sharon Todd, Erica Dragani, Marc Beaulieu, Gwendolyn Flynn, Julie Mercer, Emma Fukushima, Michelle Whitney, Andrea Button, Erin Luksay, Sarah Kroeker, Elaine McCulloch, Angela Dodd

Approval of November 12, 2015 Minutes – Approved by Sharon Todd and Seconded by Michelle Whitney, all approved.

Grade 4/5 Buckley Bay Camping Trip – Angela Dodd – discussed need to get support from the PAC to cover the cost of the bussing for this camping trip. Dates and funds requested: June 6-8 for Mr Dodd's 4/5 class (sharing cost with students from Arrowview Elementary), bussing costs (return trip from school to ferry) is \$350.00 plus cost of bus on the islands is \$183.75. Also requesting funds to cover cost of 3 parent volunteer vehicles at a cost of \$47.50 each (\$142.50). June 13-15 – Mme Ravaglione's, and Mme Dodd's/Mme Stagg's 4/5 classes bussing costs (return trip from school to ferry) \$350 plus \$367.50 for bussing on the island. Also requesting funds to cover cost of 5 parent volunteers at a cost of \$47.50 each (\$237.50). There are potentially up to 10 students (4 english and 6 french) that need support to be able to come on the trip at a cost of \$150 each. Total request \$3,131.25. PAC discussed option of letting these classes sell Panago Pizza certificates in order to help cover some of these costs. Currently the classes have been collecting bottles to raise funds.

Band – Marc Beaulieu – Marc asked the PAC if it was possible to help support a one day Band Camp. He is looking into ideas as to having the one day Band Camp at the school on a Saturday or at an external site sometime during the week. He is looking for support to help fund the workshops and food. He expects this to happen sometime in April and is looking toward coordinating something with Springwood Elementary school. He plans on returning to the PAC meeting next month with some more information.

Marc also let us know that there is beginner and intermediate band which are open to grade 6/7s. Choir which practices at lunch on Fridays is open to all students from 4 to 7 and a jazz band that practices at lunch on Tuesdays.

Marc has also proposed that the broken instruments in the band room be reviewed to see if they can be fixed and he is going to give us some costs next meeting once he knows what can or cannot be fixed. He feels that the costs of repairs range from \$30 to \$200 each depending on repair required.

PAC discussed the options on trying to find out if there are any grants available that can support the music program, but require a parent volunteer to apply for the grants if any available.

Suggestions were made that the band could possibly utilize the Campbell Soup Label program that Erin Luksay signed up for the school last year. Erin explained that the school is already registered, they just need a class/group that is willing to collect/count and redeem in order to raise funds.

#### Principal's Report – Gwendolyn Flynn

Both Girls Basketball (Mme Chamberland and Ms Kolmatycki) and Boys Basketball practices (Mr Bown) are being held at lunch. Game days are Tuesdays. Parent drivers are still being requested. Local Free Throw Tournament will be held on February 13th at Springwood School and Regional will be held on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at Oceanside. Was wondering if PAC might want to host a Concession. The tournament is from 9 to 1 hosted by the Knights of Columbus. PAC discussed that it would be a good idea to set up a concession and sell pizza, chips and water.

Grade 4/5 Ski Pass at Mt Washington for students in Grades 4 and 5 or age 9 or 10. If students apply in Grade 4 the pass is good for 2 years until the end of grade 5. Cost is \$29.95 and entitles students to ski and ride the ski lift up to 3 times each year. Sarah Kroecker let us know that it also is good for all the local mountains.

Caught in the Middle – A program for Divorcing and Separated Parents at a cost of \$60 one hour for 3 weeks. Cindy Thompson [www.maplescounselling.ca](http://www.maplescounselling.ca). Contact for the next session, which maybe starting at the end of January. Sharon Todd has agreed to add the details on the Facebook page.

Artists in the school and visiting scientists are being organized by teachers. The Librarian at the school is arranging to have authors visit the school for all grades for book chats.

Carnival is scheduled for Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> and the Spirit Committee has developed a great number of fun activities for all the students. Students in the Leadership Exploratory will run the activities, but will need parent support. Erica Dragani explained some of the fun activities planned and asked if donations of paper towel rolls, toilet paper rolls, etc. could be donated to help with the white sculpture art projects. Also will have games including bingo and a food truck will supply poutine. They will need numbers in order to pre-order the poutine at a cost of \$2.50 each which will go to support the CPF to help support french culture. PAC will advertise the event on Facebook as well.

FSA Assessments – for grades 4 and 7 students will begin in another week. Gwendolyn Flynn will support the students taking the assessments while the teachers will teach the other half of their classes during this one hour. The assessment incorporates assessment of English reading, writing, math, basic skills and math problem solving.

Teachers leaving/returning – Justine Bowlby last date Friday, January 15<sup>h</sup> to go on maternity leave. Her replacement is Natalina Southurst for Tuesdays and Thursday. The MWF portion of this position will be interviewed tomorrow with Mme Frisson and Gwendolyn. Mme St Arnaud will be leaving on February 7<sup>th</sup> and Amber Tanner will be returning from her maternity leave for the French Immersion 6/7 class. Louise Jones will be leaving us on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> and Stephanie Smith will be returning from maternity leave.

User Groups – smoking out in the front of the school is now becoming a problem for our custodial staff and a health and safety concern. We ask that anyone connected to our user groups remind them that this is temptation for young children and a safety concern for them. No smoking is allowed at all on the school property.

Budget Report – Irina Stafeeva – Gaming account \$9,009.18, General account \$18,260.91 and Playground account \$4,688.22. Irina will have a more complete statement of accounts next meeting which will outline how funds have been spent so far for the year.

Hot Lunch Program – Emma Fukushima – Emma discussed how the hot lunch program has been doing well with a profit so far of \$3,534.63 after expenses of \$10,274.50 and cost to purchase extra lunches for October, November, December and January of \$649. Emma also explained that the Online Hot lunch program can also facilitate the pre-orders for poutine for the Carnival at the end of January for parents who use this option for their hot lunch orders.

Bagel Café update – Sharon Todd – discussed that Bagel Café is going well and by buying Bagels in bulk from Dempsters Bakery in Nanaimo directly there is less running around trying to find cheap bagels in Parksville. The school has a loyalty card and can be used by anyone who is able to make a trip to Nanaimo. More volunteers are appreciated to help coverage when someone is away.

French Book Fair – Andrea Button – Scholastic books to be called and expect to have books available for sale the first week of February for 3 days during both recesses. Andrea will let us know when dates are confirmed.

DPAC update – Andrea Button – DPAC has arranged to have a speaker, Lynn Miller who is an Anxiety Specialist (UBC Professor) to do a workshop on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will be available to the teachers during the day and for interested parents in the evening. Further details will be posted on the PAC Facebook page.

Popcorn Day – first popcorn day will be January 22 and be held in the Home Economics room and will be sold for \$1. Primary and Intermediate grades will be sold at separate times. We expect to have popcorn days monthly with February 18<sup>th</sup> being the next one.

Playground Update – Elaine McCulloch and Sarah Kroeker – Phase 1, roof is complete, building inspection complete with next step this summer to build a storage area on the back side of the structure and to install a rainwater catchment system. We have funds earmarked for this in the Outdoor Classroom Budget. Musical instruments will be ordered this week (a drum set and a xylophone). The musical instruments are meant to be outdoors and are secured in concrete. Storyteller Chair is still in the works, but no prediction as to when it will be done. Live Willow tunnel is to be built this spring, hopefully in February. Volunteers will be needed to cut the willow and to build.

Phase 2 – Will receive 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of \$10,000 from RDN Community Parks funding for 2016 and are in the process of deciding what project we will be recommending to the PAC to proceed with. Playground Committee would like to do a project that would benefit the older grades. We are currently working on the cost of a chip trail around the perimeter of the fields. Once these costs are complete we will bring to the PAC for review.

Sarah presented a fund raising idea to PAC which is requesting a minimum donation of \$25 to purchase a fence board with paints. They ask that the fence boards be painted with the likeness of the children then return it to the school. Sarah will stain them then they will be attached to the fence around the Phase 1 playground with future ideas of having fish and/or an otter painted and attached to the opposite side of the fence boards. Playground committee is looking at having a "painting day" during the first week of Spring Break. Hoping to get 100+ fence posts donated, Cost for paint and small containers approx. \$1000 (\$10 per post) which will hope to raise approx. \$3,000.

Second fundraising idea is the Flocking which will be similar to last year. From May 1 to June 10<sup>th</sup> with ticket sales and guaranteed 14 flocking dates from June 13 to 26. Draw tickets \$2 or 3/\$5 dance to win 3 prizes. If more flocking dates are wanted, then can purchase at \$40 and crew will do this. First prize is flocking on last date of school, June 25<sup>th</sup>, plus gift certificate to Tigh na Mara. Second prize is flocking and gift certificate to Ocean Village. Third prize is gift certificate to Oceansands Resort and a flocking date in July or August. Costs are \$250 which includes 20 birds, printing tickets and licence (if required). Hoping to raise approximately \$1500 plus.

Questions put forward to the PAC by the Playground Committee are: Is there anyone doing Grant Writing right now? There is a list available of different grants available and their deadlines which are coming up pretty quick. PAC discussed the options and Michelle Whitney has volunteered her services and the PAC will be supporting her along with Gwendolyn Flynn to review and complete grants.

It was agreed that Colleen will coordinate with Gwendolyn with regard to the letter campaign the businesses and local organizations asking for donations. Since the letter will have the school logo it needs to be reviewed and signed off by Gwendolyn before delivery.

New Business

Kindergarten Skating Bussing costs – approx. \$60 – all approved.

Happy Hippo Bath Campaign – Emma Fukushima – Forms for this fundraising campaign to be distributed last week and the cost is \$20 per item. All items are natural and produced by a company in Alberta. For each item sold, the PAC will raise \$4.

Panago Pizza Certificates – Discussed the possibility of purchasing extra certificates from Ballenas Secondary school and Irina put a motion to request to purchase up to 200 certificates for our school and this was seconded by Michelle Whitney. All approved. PAC will be discussing with the teachers as to who would benefit best from the selling of the Pizza Certificates ie for band camp or for the camping trip. Tickets are sold for \$10 each with a profit of \$4 for the PAC.

Spirit Wear – Elaine Schworan has agreed to take this on, but not until the Otter mascot logo is complete. PAC is hoping to use the funds raised to purchase school uniforms. PAC discussed the possibility of having Spirit Wear for sale in September 2016

Spring Adult Function – Sharon Todd and Erica Dragani – it was proposed that we do an adult function which would include a band with dancing, food and drinks. A proposed date of April 16<sup>th</sup> is planned at the Parksville Community Centre. Asked about the possibility of having a silent auction to help raise funds as well. Maximum ticket sales is 550 with proposed cost at \$15 to \$20 per ticket. Further discussion is required and possibilities for a band are being looked into.

Carnival/Year-end Celebration – it was discussed that we would change the Carnival to more of a year- end celebration with a BBQ, but continue with the dunk tank. As there are so many volunteers required in order to facilitate all the different venues, it was discussed that we should scale down the Carnival and focus more on the Spring Adult Function to help to replace Carnival fund raising.

Charities at our School – Michelle Whitney – Supporting charities at the school are important, but feel that schools need to be more mindful about where much needed funds are going and what is the context of the funding. How can we as the PAC best support our teachers in the

search for appropriate charitable donations? Does the school or school district have guidelines or policies in place on school fundraising? What is the BC government's curriculum guidelines surrounding charitable giving within the school/classroom context? Unfortunately for some organizations such as the Heart and Stroke Foundations, BC Cancer Foundation, Greater Vancouver Food Bank and BC SPCA administrative costs can range from 4% to 5% and fundraising costs can range from 17% to 47% of donations.

Run For It – PAC discussed that doing the Run For It campaign again this year would be a great way to raise funds and also make the kids feel involved as it goes toward their school. Instead of pledge forms it was proposed that we prepare a form with donation basis. PAC would like to encourage the older kids to participate by helping organize, count laps, etc. PAC felt it best if we were to say that 50% of funds raised would go to the PAC and the other 50% would go to the individual classrooms. This way the students can have a decision on what they want to use their raised funds for ie camping, band camp, donation to SPCA, field trips, etc. Grade 7s could use funds for year- end party.

Movie night – set for February 19<sup>th</sup> with a start time of 6 pm. Erin Luksay is looking to get the moving "Good Dinosaur" which is still in the theatres.

Adjournment : 8:38