Anderson Elementary School

Parent Advisory Council

September 17, 2019

General Meeting Minutes

* Meeting started approximately 5:30 pm in Staff Room
* Administration present:  Principal Christine Marin, Vice Principal Leah Scharf
* Members present:  Mary Hsi (Acting Chair), Marine Walic (Vice Chair), Flor Chung (Acting Treasurer), Jose Pacheco, Selina Chen, Susanna Garrido, Yuebing Lyu, Qinny Wang, Corinna Ng, Yiang Li, Chris Zhang, Hajira Hussain, Atoosa Sotoodeh, Winnie Liang, Sandra Tang, Crista Burke, Sophia Zheng, Joe Cordingley, Steffi Zheng, Penny Chan, Limin Ruan, Yi Chen, Joanna Wang, Stella Huang, Aloha Lozada, Mira Koro, Aija Gruznova.

1. **Welcome**

Great turnout tonight; Positions open in PAC

1. **Administration Report**
   1. **School organization and staffing for upcoming year**

New Vice Principal: Ms. Scharf (Mme Douglas at Gilmore)

Mme Rudy is back, new K/1 Mme D’Urso (from Montreal), K Mme Pabari (Mme Fitzpatrick is in family leave until December), Ms Chang resource teacher, Mr. Forrest resource teacher, Ms Jang Monday and Tuesday as resource teacher

New Outdoor classroom teacher: Ms Fenn

🡪 Administration happy to have an amazing team.

Biggest Elementary school of the district: 600 students.

* 1. **Terry Fox Run and Meet the teachers: September 20, 2019**

Meet the teachers in the classroom from 8 to 8:30am

Terry Fox run from 8:45 to 9:45am in the gym: explanation followed by run on schoolground.

* 1. **Parking lot**

Needs attention to keep people from parking and leaving cars in drop off spots

Parking packed mainly due to size of school.

* 1. **Meeting with new families: October 3, 2019, 5:30pm**

Invitation for new families (K, new at school), SWIS worker families; it will be posted on school website.

*Questions from parents:*

* + Are the homerooms fixed now? Yes
  + How are grade K students taken care of outside? Teachers and administration outside to look out for them; they are kept on the small playground.

1. **Treasurer report: Flor**
   1. **Fundraising**
   * Book Fairs (English and French): we are planning to do both this year; English Book Fair revenue has decreased slightly last year.
   * Chocolate fundraiser: done in February, for Valentine’s Day; funds to be kept for playground’s future replacement; brought about $15 000 two years ago and $11 000 last year – will we do it this year? We need someone to take on Sowon’s role (previous years organizer).
   * Pizza Day: last year $15000, every two weeks; has been a huge source of revenue;

Have to change from Fresh Slice (costs have gone up), maybe back to Dominos

Would like to start in October; still every 2 weeks?

🡪 Need volunteers!!! To be posted on school website.

* + Explanation to new parents of role of money fundraised: everything goes to school (PAC members unpaid): Teachers wish lists, technology, library, etc.
  + Total cash $34 000 (beginning of June is fiscal start of school year).
  1. **Gaming Grant**

No news yet, likely by the end of September.

1. **PAC elections for this coming year**
   * Open positions: **Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary**

Description of positions on the school website.

* + Election of **Stella Huang** as **treasurer** (son in grade K): works with Flor so transitioning should be easy.
  + Election of **Crista Burke** as **co-treasurer** (daughters in grades 3 and K): the one handling the books isn’t the one handling the money.
  + No one elected as secretary or co-secretary yet: PAC needs to keep a record.
  + No one elected as chair or co-chair yet.

1. **New business**
   1. **Traffic signage**

No update.

* 1. **Soccer goalposts**

Approved by schoolboard but have been waiting for 3 years now: Mme Marin to check if will soon be done.

* 1. **Outdoor classroom**

7-10 garden beds to be added in woodchips area; a big shed; logs.

* 1. **Safe Arrival volunteers needed**

See pamphlet received from school for explanation regarding safe arrival; about 1hr commitment, once a week.

* 1. **Class liaison:**

Description of the role by Marine: 1 parent per class responsible to send email, keep class informed, come to PAC if there is specific request; each division has unique news, needs, challenges.

Mme Marin to send email with description in attachment.

*Questions from parents:*

* + Reason behind split classes: configuration easier number wise; advantage to have same teacher 2 years in a row; consolidation year when older kids become leaders and young kids have role models; doesn’t reflect whether a kid is “good” or “bad”.
  + Agendas: used by teachers from grade 1 to 7; if not needed, class doesn’t have to pay.
  + Agreement teachers/government: currently break into negotiation; will go back to bargaining table; Mme Marin positive about it.
  + PAC bank account in need of Vancity long standing member name on the account so it won’t be closed: Crista Burke is Vancity long standing member; Flor to update banking resolutions.
  + Kids volunteers for pizza day: usually grades 6 and 7 but not set in stone.

1. **Meeting adjourned**

Approval of minutes from June’s meeting postponed to the next meeting.

Congratulations to the new PAC executives!

Next PAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 8, 2019**.