

William A. Fraser Middle PAC

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PAC General Meeting Minutes: September 28, 2022 Library Learning Commons

IN ATTENDANCE: Michelle Bastien (President), Kylie Hutton (Vice-President), Becki Volt (Treasurer), Pallavi Gupta (Secretary), Dean Johnston (Principal), Graeme Kemp (Vice Principal), Tammy Siganakis, Dee Sekhon, Dal Pabla, Jackie Sovick, Shannon Bull, David Elliot,

QUORUM:

Quorum has been met with a minimum of 4 voting members, 2 from the Executive and 2 Non-Executive members.

CALL TO ORDER:

Michelle Bastien, President called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

We acknowledge that the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people, the Semá:th and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

TEACHER REQUESTS:

1. Rock Climbing Wall

Ms Davids and Ms Webster have requested \$4547.25 to organize the field trip.

They did it last year with Grade 7 students, who are now grade 8s. It was a great celebration for the kids, there were no busses required. Every child got to try it and it was great to see peers encouraging each other to be courageous and persevere. They did ask Grade 8s opinion, and the kids were okay with only grade 6 and 7 doing it this year. It will be held over 3 days – June 19, 20, and 21.

Ques: Why are grade 8's not included?

Ans: We asked them, and as a group, this is what they decided. We do have other fun activities planned for them as well.

Ques: Is it considered a field trip if it is onsite?

Ans: Yes, it is.

2. Grade 8 Hoodies

Ms Pestana has requested PAC to contribute \$5.00 per piece to the cost of the alumni hoodies for grade 8s. The hoodies cost \$45.00. With PAC's help, they will cost \$40 each. They are champion

brand, so good quality. There are 250 kids in grade 8, but usually only about 140 kids would purchase one.

3. Breakfast Club

Mr. Kemp, on behalf on our support teacher has requested \$1000.00 to set up a breakfast club at the school. This would help about 50 kids struggling with food insecurity.

Ques: Who will be supplying the food? The school district?

Ans: Hoping to use the funds from the PAC for food. The district program is for lunches. The grant gives about \$1500 for the year to cover lunch for 5 to 6 kids. The New Affordability Grant – we just found out how much we are getting but still have to go over the fine print. One of local church groups has provided supplied food but it is mostly snack food, not really filling and nutritious.

Ques: When would the breakfast be made?

Ans: Before school bell in the mornings

Ques: Don't we already have a kitchen in the school?

Ans: Yes, there is the canteen kitchen and the explorations kitchen, but they are not available in the mornings since the teacher needs to do setup and Aida is preparing canteen meals. The breakfast club space would be more geared to help the kids prepare their own meal.

Mr. Johnston: I have been here 6 years and the need has been increasing in the school.

4. Sensory Room

Mr. Blades has requested \$800 to make the new sensory room more comfortable and engaging for the kids with the highest levels of need in the school. It will be used to purchase stuff like games, art supplies, sensory toys and other equipment.

5. Brain Break

Our youth care workers Mr. Herr and Mr. Preston have requested \$800 to set up a safe and comfortable space for students in all grades where they can give their brains a break and be protected from emotional harm.

This space is not for academic support and does not have the intensity of a sensory room but is more geared towards social emotional and behavioural learning. A place where they can self-regulate.

Ques: Is there an overlap between these programs?

Ans: Yes, the space is being used by multiple programs. There are conversations that need to happen about everyone cooking in their own rooms and safety or sharing equipment like induction plates and griddles.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

1. Vision for the school

We continue the work to reflect on our school plan and better the school. We are bringing in some new programs this year such as the breakfast club, a brain break room to help reduce opportunity gaps in the school and create more supportive learning environment.

2. Building maintenance

The district is conducting roof inspections on all the schools. Our roof is about 19 years old, so there will be some repair and maintenance coming up.

The elevator repair is still waiting on provincial approvals

The stairs on the portables were repaired and rebuilt.

The conversation re: ramps on the portables is still ongoing with the district.

3. Affordability Grant

We are going through the process to apply for the grant. We have some students from Ukraine and others that need support.

4. Staff Update

Welcome to Mr. Kemp. He joins us from Abby Middle.

5. Enrollment

We were projecting about 660 students this year, but we have 641 currently enrolled in 23 divisions. We went up a division based on the composition, so that is no more than 3 students with designations in a classroom. So, we have a Grade 6/7 split with a small class. Grade 8 is completely full. We have 210 spaces; they are all taken.

6. Truth and Reconciliation

The kids each wrote a word on a feather that represents what it means to them. The feathers were then all collected and put together to make a wonderful falcon.

7. School events

- Meet the teacher night was successful. It was great to see families in person again.
- We are doing COPS for Cancer and Terry Fox Run again this year. Last year, we raised about a \$1000 for each charity. Hoping to do the same this year.
- Picture Day – We have switched companies this year, so hopefully it will be a better service.
- Sept 28 District wide Pro-D Walking Forward Together is being held at the Abby Entertainment Centre. Every Abbotsford school district employee will be there.
- Parent Teacher Conferences – In-person this year, but online booking system is the same. These are 10-minute appointments. If you have deeper concerns, please book a separate time with your child's teacher.

Ques: What is student led conference?

Ans: That's where kids come with the parents to the classrooms and show off their work.

APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Pallavi apologized for not having printed copies of the minutes. Michelle was able them on her phone and read them aloud.

June 2022

MOTION:

Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve the June 2022 minutes as presented. Shannon Bull seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gaga Ball Pit Update:

A spot for it has been identified, close to the basketball courts. Facilities can remove or cut out the tetherball posts currently in that area.

Cost is a major concern. It increases significantly if we want a black top base. To make it equal access, a door is needed, and lumber prices have increased as well. We can purchase the metal frame, then facilities can come in and set it up. We would then have to train all the kids on how to play it properly.

The other concern with it is the rules. At middle school level, play can be rougher. They sometimes could target an individual student, the type of ball used is important as well (soccer ball vs basketball). Grade 6s could get pushed out by Grade 8s. In general, it would require to be policed more.

Ques: Can we have 2 pits? Why have we only identified one space?

Ans: 4 squares is still very popular with the students and we have 8 or 10 of them. To have another pit, we would probably have to take away space from that.

The Administration team will poll the students to see if they would like to see a Gaga Ball pit added to the school yard and will report back at the next meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Michelle Bastien appointed Kylie Hutton to the Vice-Chair position.

We are still looking for DPAC Rep to be our school's voice at DPAC meetings which are held on the 4th Thursday of each month.

The schedule for our PAC meetings has changed. We used to be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, but had to change it to the 4th Wednesday of the month after looking at the school district calendar for the year.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The bank balances as of September 28, 2022, are as follows:

General Account: \$11,532.50

Gaming Account: \$37,288.64

Total: \$48,821.14

See attached Financial Statement

Ques: Due to covid, there have not been many field trips, so we haven't used much from gaming account. Don't we have to use up the funds within 3 years or they take it back?

Ans: We have about 1.5 years' worth of funds left in the gaming account. None of them are "expiring" before 2024, so we have some time. We do like to keep about 1 year's worth in the bank in case the grant doesn't get approved.

Proposed Budget:

1. General – Classroom support materials 23 x \$100 = \$2300
2. World Teacher Day Treats for 65 teachers & staff = \$175
3. Immunization Day juice boxes, only Grade 6 = \$200
4. Teachers and Staff Appreciation 65 x \$10 = \$650
5. Secretary Appreciation 2 x \$75 = \$150

Ques: Do we need extra \$100 for the PE teacher?

Ans: We typically don't do that for the PE teachers or the explorations teachers.

Ques: Are there any other standard or expected expenses or is this it?

Ans: The only other expected request is from the library teacher, who would typically request up to \$5000 for books.

Ques: So, do we take that into consideration when looking at the budget?

Ans: No, the requests are approved on a First come First serve basis.

MOTION:

Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve the proposed budget for \$3475. Tammy Signakis seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.

MOTION:

Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve \$4547.25 for the Rock-Climbing Wall field trip. Jackie Sovick seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.

Ques: Can we contribute \$10 instead of \$5 for the hoodies. Perhaps more students would buy if it is lower in cost.

Ans: We know Ms Pestana probably has another ask coming soon for the end of the year pizza party for Grade 8s.

Ques: How early are the hoodies handed out?

Ans: Typically, before Christmas.

Ques: Can we approve like additional \$300 to pay for hoodies where a student wants it but can't afford it?

Ans: If a need is identified by the teachers, since they know their students best, we can make it happen.

MOTION:

*Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve \$1050 for Grade 8 hoodies (\$5 * 210). David Elliot seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.*

MOTION:

Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve \$1000 for the breakfast club. Shannon Bull seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.

MOTION:

Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve \$800 for the sensory room. Tammy Signakis seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.

MOTION:

Michelle Bastien made a motion to approve \$800 for the brain breaks space. Jackie Sovick seconded. The motion was carried without opposition.

DPAC REP REPORT:

The school board trustees elections are coming up. The DPAC is hosting an all-candidates forum on Oct 3rd at 7:00 pm at the Abby Arts Centre. The questions must be submitted prior to the event. It is NOT an open-mic format.

There is also a PAC 101 night on Oct 5th at 7:00 pm, on Zoom.

DPAC is holding a parent survey on the DPAC FB page, to find out what parents want in terms of workshops, education, activities, etc. They have a large amount of funds from gaming grants that have not yet been used, so DPAC is looking for ideas.

Next DPAC Meeting is Thursday, October 27 at 7 pm at the School Board office.

OPEN FLOOR

Ques: Should we hold our PAC meetings in person or on zoom? What is the consensus amongst parents?

Consensus in the room was that alternating between the two formats is good. First meeting of the year and the AGM at the end of year, would be good to have in-person.

So, our next PAC meeting will be on Zoom.

PAC Donations:

Ques: Do we do fundraising? What has the school done in the past and what should be expect this year?

Ans: Typically, we don't do any fundraising. We will be asking for donations once per term on School Cash and hope that families will donate \$20 per student.

Discussions around organizing some fun activities for students at school, the challenges with finding volunteers, the effort vs earnings for fundraising activities, opportunities for parent involvement etc.

Coffee and Connect – new program at school, on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, to provide parents a chance to meet other parents, as well as our Mental Health clinician and youth care worker. It is drop-in format and a resource for parents to discuss any issues they might want to.

Ques: After volunteering in the canteen for a year, is it possible to get scannable cards instead of punch cards for the kids?

Ans: There is a steep cost to bringing in scannable cards. Punch cards are also easier for kids to know how much money they have.

Ques: Intramurals – Do we have them currently, or will they be happening in the future?

Ans: Currently, we do not have any intramurals at the school. It is a big ask from the teachers, because they have to give up their break to run it. They are entitled to uninterrupted 30 min break. Our PE teacher is only a 50% position, and we are the only middle school in the district to even have a PE teacher. The PE blocks in the afternoons are run by the classroom teachers.

Ques: Basketball nets. Last year, we were informed that it is a liability issue and a district policy. But some of the other middle schools do have them.

Ans: It could be a difference between the metal nets vs the nylon ones. Mr. Kemp will look into getting the nylon ones for our school.

Ques: There has been a rumour going on that there were 3 pods in the gym at a time.

Ans: No, what happened is that there is a pod of 3 classrooms in Grade 8. When they have PE, 2 classrooms so 60 kids are in the gym and 30 in the Multipurpose room.

ADJOURMENT:

Michelle Bastien, President, adjourned the PAC Meeting at 9:13 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 26 @ 7:00 pm via ZOOM

September 28, 2022

Principal Update for PAC

UPDATE:

1. A Vision for Middle Schools: A joyful inquiry-based experience that creates access to opportunities to develop agency, identity and connection
 - a. Our school plan:
 - b. How can we promote the conditions to enable all students to reach their full potential while grounding our approach in equity centered and trauma informed practice?
 - c. How do we further develop our school to help reduce the opportunity gaps and create a more supportive learning environment?
2. Building maintenance - roof inspection and planning
3. All portable steps were repaired and one rebuilt.
4. Affordability Grant
5. Staff update:
 - a. Vice Principal - Graeme Kemp
 - b. Teachers - Mike Ross, Jamie Leeman, Kanto Irimoto, Julia Baranowsky, Hannah Schmidt
 - c. EAs - Christine Ramos, Angela Pedersen, Karen McConville, Stacey Baulme
 - d. YCW - Karm Herr
 - e. Library tech - Katelyn Brauer
 - f. Day custodian - Leah Steel
 - g. Cameron Cal - Good luck at Howe Middle!
6. Enrollment & Configuration: 641 students
7. Truth & Reconciliation - Falcon Feathers



Previous

Events:

- Sept 22 - Meet The Teacher
- Sept 22 - COPS for Cancer
- Sept 23 - Terry Fox Run
- Sept 27 - Picture Day

Upcoming Events:

- Sept 28 - District Wide proD - Walking Forward Together
- Sept 29 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Oct 19 - Half-Day for students - afternoon & evening parent teacher conferences
- Oct 20 - Early Dismissal
- Oct 20 - Drop, Cover & Hold Drill - Great BC Shakeout
- Oct 21 - Professional Development

W. A. Fraser Middle School PAC
Statement of Revenue & Expenses and Cash Balance
as at Sept 28, 2022

	<u>General Account</u>	<u>Gaming Account</u>	<u>Total</u>
Regular Class "A" Equity Shares	35.30	-	35.30
Opening Balance (Aug 31/2022)	9,442.50	24,528.64	33,971.14
Revenue			
28-Sept Province of BC	-	12,760.00	12,760.00
28-Sept W.A. Fraser Donations	2,090.00		2,090.00
	<u>2,090.00</u>	<u>12,760.00</u>	<u>14,850.00</u>
Expenses			
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Ending Cash Balance	11,532.50	37,288.64	48,821.14
Outstanding Cheques			
June 27, 2022 #126 / ASD 2021/22-21 #2021-10-03/ #2022-01-09/ #2022-04-02		1430.68	1,430.68
June 28, 2022 #127 / ASD 2021/22-22 #2022-04-05	-	1,050.00	1,050.00
June 30, 2022 #128 / ASD 2021/22-24 / #2022-05-01 / #2022-01-04 / #2022-01-01 / #2022-01-02		1,980.55	1,980.55
Oct 03, 2022 #158 / Novus (Cobbs) WAF002	110.55		
Total Outstanding Cheques	110.55	4,461.23	4,571.78
Ending Cash Less Outstanding Cheques	11,421.95	32,827.41	44,249.36
Budget PO#	Committed Funds (Budgeted Items)		
#2022-09-01	General – Class room support materials 23 x \$100	2,300.00	2,300.00
#2022-09-02	World Teacher Day Treats	175.00	175.00
#2022-09-03	Immunization Expenses (2019 \$112.91) (2021 \$123.05)	200.00	200.00
#2022-09-04	Staff Appreciation 65 x \$10	650.00	650.00
#2022-09-05	Secretary Appreciation 2 x \$75	150.00	150.00
#2022-09-06	Grade 6/7 Climbing Wall		4,547.25
#2022-09-07	Grad Hoodies 2022 – (\$5/hoodie)		1,050.00
#2022-09-08	Breakfast Club		1,000.00
#2022-09-09	Sensory Room Games	800.00	800.00
#2022-09-10	Youth Care Worker/Brain Breaks Room "The Landing"	800.00	800.00
		<u>5,075.00</u>	<u>6,597.25</u>
Total Committed Funds (Budgeted Items)		5,075.00	6,597.25
Already paid out Funds from budget		(110.55)	(110.55)
Ending Cash Less Committed Funds (Forecast)		6,457.50	26,230.16