

# Thompson Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

## Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2019

### Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Jen Dahl, Chair.

### In Attendance

Jen Dahl – Chair, Pavan Padda – Co-Vice-Chair, Mimi Wolf – Co-Vice Chair, Crystal Huang – Treasurer, Olivia Berumen, Secretary, Bill Juhasz, Principal, Liz Ritchie.

### Approval of Minutes from the January 16, 2019 meeting

Liz Ritchie made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2019 meeting. Olivia Berumen seconded motion to approve the minutes. **Motion carried.**

### PAC Information

PAC information and documents are now available from the Thompson website under the PAC section.

### Volunteer Opportunities at Thompson

- RDPA Meetings
- Executive Positions for 2019-2020 school year

### Treasurer's Report

Crystal Huang informed that she got a few updates. Regarding the parents' donations, a cheque was received from the school board for \$2,100, and \$3,355 is still on the way. The statement only shows a partial donation, but we received over \$5,000 from the parents' donation. Regarding hot lunch, so far we got \$3,959 that is already 70% of our whole budget. Nova Foods we received the cheque for the period of September to December, and this is \$219, which is a little below, but we're still okay.

Crystal suggests promoting the Nova Foods option more to parents.

For the PAC operating expenses there are some bank fees updates. For the PAC contingency, \$54 was used for the memorial of a Thompson parent to the Richmond food bank society. A cheque for \$1,000 was put for Outdoor Education. Some cheques have been given to some teachers for the Teacher Allotment. Cheques have been given for some field trips and the Bollywood dance.

### Principal's Report

Principal Juhasz updates on basketball teams, and they are doing really well. The girls' team is very tall and very comfortable playing. The girls are having fun. The boys are as well. For the kids' sake, in his opinion, they are focusing on skills more than competition. However, they are also keeping a score. Winning or losing is not helping the kids for skills development. They are focusing more on what are their strengths and what they can do to take them to the next level, just like in the academics. When the kids go to high school they'll have their chance to compete; in the meantime they'll have a positive experience with being on a team sport. The jerseys are very good and have been getting compliments from other parents and schools.

The school committee is meeting on Friday to talk about communicating student learning number four. This will look like number two where a piece of paper comes home and there are four artifacts. Parents will be

directed to the e-portfolio and expected conferences to go with that. Grade 6 and 7's have many items in the e-portfolio. Parents will see so much on the e-portfolio that perhaps is not necessary to have a conference, whereas the younger kids are unable to add as much into the e-portfolio that a conference might be more advisable.

Communicating student learning five will look different (and an example was displayed on the multipurpose room TV.) The physical layout hasn't been decided by the ministry. The school is working trying to anticipate what information they want to see, but don't have a definite answer yet. The physical template will be changed by the ministry in the end. The school is currently just talking about the process. However, the teacher and student relationship is not changing, as it is still all about skills and improvements.

Principal Juhasz confirmed that Mr. Dimmick, Mr. Stokes and Mrs. MacCaskill are the leading edge, not only in the school, but in the province. They are really top notch with their education and style of teaching. Another interesting initiative that we are starting, and they'll have a meeting on Thursday to talk about, is the AD&T which is the Applied Design and Technology curriculum. That is basically how to use technology as a tool. All the older students are doing this already, but the younger students no so much due to issues of login in and typing names. Andrew Forest (a resource teacher at Thompson) is doing the AD&T by going into the primary classes and going into the lab and using iPads, teaching the teachers how to utilize and get tech skills a little bit more. So that the AD&T curriculum basically says that students need to make the decision about what technology tools they can use to perform the task they want to do. Then, they'll create something, and then they'll share it. They want to have a common vision with the K/1 teachers. They want to discuss what are one of the most important things that they want the K/1 kids to pick up and do between now and June, as well as finding the sequence and order in which they're going to do those things. They'll be meeting on Thursday and see how the meeting goes, but Principal Juhasz is optimistic that it will go well.

The school is having something really cool happening in April on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> where an ultimate group called Elevate is coming to the school. They will be doing three PE classes for each class Grades two and up. They'll be focusing on the ability for kids to throw a disc and to catch it. They'll not be doing this for the kids of the smaller grades at this time, as the throwing and catching will be too difficult for them. Adam Stokes is coordinating a district wide tournament. The people from Elevate are also sponsoring that tournament. Some of the instructors from Elevate are on the Team Canada. The school will have top notch instructors. It is a new sport, and the school has a number of the staff that is into ultimate as well, so it will be cool to sort of build a culture in the school. The sportsmanship and the spirit of the game, in Principal Juhasz opinion, is the most impressive thing he has ever seen in any sport, in terms of self-referee and respect and thoughtfulness. That will cost the school \$1,900 for a week of instruction and the school is prepared to pay for it.

### **Movie Night and Vaisakhi Parent Meeting**

We have movie night on Friday. Doors open at 5:30pm, and movie starts at 6:00pm. Vaisakhi meeting is also happening for parents to meet during movie night at the library.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 9 am