

**Thompson PAC Minutes
for the February 17, 2021 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 am by Jen Dahl, PAC Co-Chair.

In Attendance

Jen Dahl, Harjeet Manhas, Pavan Padda, PAC Co-Chairs, Raj Chatha, PAC Treasurer, Mandy Lichtmann, PAC Secretary, Bill Juhasz, Principal, Josephine Wei, Pavan Pada, Delphine Sanchez, Liz Ritchie, Maloie Suanico, Imelda Nurwisah, Lucy, Sophia

Approval of the Minutes of the November 2020 Meeting

A motion was made by Pavan Padda to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Liz Ritchie. **Motion carried.**

Welcome – Jen Dahl

Thank you for joining us.

Volunteer Opportunities – Harjeet Manhas

- Crossing Guard is going well. Monday afternoon shift is still open. Thanks to everyone who is volunteering to make sure our children are safe and parking lot rules are being followed.
- Yearbook is well underway. Sonja and Harjeet have been working on it. At the end of February, a note will be sent to grade 7 students requesting a baby photo of themselves and a write-up. There is also a Yearbook cover contest coming out around March 11 or 12 and will run until April 1. All students are encouraged to participate.
- A big thank you to Bill Juhasz for taking lots of photos and capturing important events in the school.
- There will be an online store to purchase Yearbooks this year.
- New Exec Positions for PAC next year, 2021/2022. Please call or email Harjeet or Jen if you are interested:
 - o Special Events Coordinator
 - o Treasurer. Raj – there is a person who is interested in being the Treasurer for next year. Catherine Wang is an accountant so it will be a good fit.

Treasurer's Report – Raj Chatha

- \$14,619 opening balance
- \$4,000 Gaming
- \$4,200 Parent donations (exceeded expectations)
- Hot lunches – additional lunches added – will cover all the credits from last year
- Raj – asked what should we do with any credits owed from last year that haven't been used yet? Jen said for those families who have left the school, we should just write off those debts. Also, some of the families who have credit owing may have students learning from home.

- Small goodbye and good luck gift for Mr. Stokes was purchased
 - o Bill Juhasz: Monies for building the new playground – there is a Facilities Grant that we are hoping to receive in 2022. It has been \$125,000 in the past for other schools
 - o Raj asked if we could use some of the funds, we have this year through family donations to purchase a single piece of new equipment?
 - o Bill - The District will prepare the foundation then the apparatus company will install the piece of equipment
 - o We have to decide what piece of equipment we want
 - o Where will a single piece fit in with the bigger plan for the playground – we should think about the big picture
 - o Raj – is there enough time to use the funds this year toward an equipment purchase?
 - o Should there be a PAC Playground Committee?
 - o Bill thinks yes, there should be a committee to work on details of new playground fundraising and plans
 - o Jen – following March Break, will sent out a communication re: the feasibility of the playground. How much will we have to raise in addition to the grant we will receive from the District
 - o Raj – for Gaming Funds we have \$2,792 that has to be used by the end of the year
 - o Josephine – we should stick with the same supplier who will build the entire playground when we purchase the single piece of equipment.
 - o Jen – the Gaming Grant funds cannot be used as part of a new playground, but they may be used for an additional piece of equipment. Can Bill find out which suppliers other schools have used recently for playgrounds?
 - o Liz – we should first look at the planning / layout of the playground.
 - o Raj – she will ask the Gaming dept how funds can be used for a playground
 - o Under the Enhancement List will ask Karen to take \$2,300 from parent donations and last year’s donations to a Playground account (\$1000 from last year + \$1,300 from this year’s playground parent allocations).
 - o Pavan’s husband Ramik has approached Telus Foundations and The United Way to see if there is any funding we can receive for playground. If there is anyone who is part of an organization who might contribute to our playground fund over the next 18 months, it would be wonderful if you are able to approach them or let the PAC Exec know about your connections
 - o Bill will organize catalogues of different types of playgrounds and structures we may consider for Thompson

Principal's Report – Bill Juhasz

- Not a lot to report as there is not much going on, it is very quiet
- The classroom teachers are just hunkering down in their classrooms
- The students seem generally happy
- Our school is at 63% of students at school and the rest are at home doing transitional learning.
- The hope is the transitional learners will return to school but we respect parents' decisions
- 97% of the students wear masks; all of the staff wear masks
- Assembly on Feb 24 – Sharing Assembly
- Still trying to have our monthly Spirit Days
- Showed us the video screen that runs photos, updates, jokes
- Kindergarten registration is on now. There are quite a few inquiries from out of catchment families who hope to attend our school in the Fall
- In May, Bill and staff will start looking at projected numbers for attendance next year.
- Imelda asked if there will be any gardening projects happening this year? Bill – we have just received some organic soil. Ms. TV and Ms. Bus are interested in getting a gardening project going. If there are any parent volunteers who are interested in helping with gardening, please let the school know.
- Jen asked if any Grade 7 parents are talking yet about Grade 7 Farewell
- Bill – last year we had the ceremony in the parking lot. There was a nice display for a photo opportunity as the students received their diplomas. There will be something this year most definitely while following the recommendations of the Health Dept.
- Outdoor Ed will not be happening this year, but a reservation has been made for next year.
- Liz – has booked a date for a grade 7 dance and is hoping to have the event this year including a DJ.
- Raj asked if fundraising needs to be done for the grade 7 farewell. Harjeet said we should have enough funds leftover from last year for a simple celebration.
- Karen Fung manages the grade 7 farewell account; she will know how much is in that account.

We will have another meeting in April and May.

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 am