



JAMES THOMPSON ELEMENTARY

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Meeting Minutes Wednesday October 16, 2024

IN ATTENDANCE: Nicolle Kit (Co-Chair), Terry Nowak (Co-Chair), Pavan Padda (Vice Chair), Catherine Wang (Treasurer), Gillian Yen (Secretary), Kevin Vines (Principal), Jasmine Bains, Inderpaul Nahal, Sarah Leung, Kay Li, Albert Wei.

CALL TO ORDER

9:01 am Nicolle Kit welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Terry Nowak **MOVED** a motion to approve minutes from the September 18, 2024 PAC meeting. Albert Wei **SECONDED** the motion. All in favour. **MOTION CARRIED.**

PAC BUDGET REPORT REVIEW

PAC Treasurer Catherine Wang gave a brief summary of the PAC's financials for last school year.

- Revenues - PAC major source of revenue was from gaming deposit to support gaming related activities during the school year, raffle revenue, playground donation, school donation, and Hot Lunch Program.
- Expenditures - teachers and EA allotments, winter concert, dance workshop, outdoor education every other year, Grade 7 farewell \$500 that the PAC supported annually, some bank charges. PAC also spent \$500 to support the library books last year.
- There were 4 bank accounts but by the end of the year, we would be closing the playground account because it had been accomplished. School Bank Account, Gaming Account, and regular PAC account with a total remaining balance of \$18,000.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Principal Kevin Vines showed a slideshow of the playground, Terry Fox Run, Truth and Reconciliation Day Assembly.
- Staffing updates: NHS Yasmin Khatoon, Resource Teacher Louise Mah retired
- Learning Updates: Conference next week on Oct 23 and Oct 24 early dismissal at 1:45PM. Teachers will provide personalized and strength-based descriptive feedback for every student. Literacy, numeracy, social emotional, and core competency.
- Pro-D Day PSA Pro-Day for the whole province. Staff will be back together on Dec 2, 2024. Great session working with Ellen Hsu and her social responsibility team to support the staff.
- Extra-curricular Activities: Volleyball lots of practice and games every student showed up every Tuesday and Thursday. Cross Country Run on Oct 22 after school - Mr. T, we hope for nice weather. 2nd Evacuation Drill of the year tomorrow - Great Canadian Shake-Out.

- TCO2 presentations focus on Grade 4/5 and Grade 6/7 students about online safety on Nov 5 and 6: looking into unsafe boundaries, online safety tips, warning signs, safe adults and ways to reach out for help. Parent Education Series in November on zoom offered by the District. Safer School together.
- October 31: Pumpkin Carving and bring carved pumpkin, family teams with big buddies.
- November 4: Grade 6/7 Immunization Day. November 8: Remembrance Day Assembly at 10:35am. Photo retake day on November 8, 2024 at 1pm.
- Gardening Potential: Idea for garden beds, greenhouse, west coast seeds, seed library. Parents liked the idea and believed gardening could motivate the kids to eat vegetables, a good idea to put in the WAAG. Outdoor learning space, sense of ownership in the garden is valuable.
- School Courtyard: Imagination playground, foam blocks. Kevin suggested we can look into sourcing these blocks to be placed at the existing courtyard. Cost around US\$2000.
- High Jump Mat - will look into the cost of replacing a new one.

RICHMOND DISTRICT PAC MEETING

- Albert Wei was at the Richmond District PAC Meeting. It was hosted once a month on a Tuesday night hosted by Richmond District PAC Board. Our new School Superintendent Christopher Usih. There were 4 associates of the superintendents. He emphasized that if there were any issues parents are concerned about, the starting point and resolution was with the principal who is empowered and to manage and look at those issues to help resolve. If it was not resolvable from the school level, parents could approach the School District and one of the associates would be assigned to look after the matter.
- New Chair Connie Huang - train a new generation of PAC 101.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THOMPSON

- Richmond District Parent Association (RDPA) PAC 101 Workshop - Nov 5 6:30-8:30pm.
- Sarah Leung was invited to shadow the Treasurer.
- PAC was also looking for volunteers for the Hot Lunch Team and Yearbook. Terry said that Walk to School Day was a success and suggested we could do it again.
- In lieu of fundraising, a donation letter would be going out to the parents.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10am.

NEXT PAC MEETING: Wednesday November 20, 2024 at 9am in Thompson School Library