** JAMES THOMPSON ELEMENTARY**

**PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)**

**Meeting Minutes Wednesday February 19, 2025**

**IN ATTENDANCE**: Nicolle Kit (Co-Chair), Pavan Padda (Vice Chair), Gillian Yen (Secretary), Kevin Vines (Principal), Jen Dahl, Gurjit Bains, Dayna, Sharon, Jasmine, Albert Wei.

**CALL TO ORDER** 9:02 am Nicolle Kit welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Pavan **MOVED** the motion to approve minutes from the January 22, 2025 PAC meeting. Jen **SECONDED** the motion. All in favour. **MOTION CARRIED**.

**BODY SCIENCE WORKSHOP**

Nicolle wanted to know if there was any feedback from the kids. Most parents said their children think it was ok that they all had heard about it before. Saleema Noon next session has been pre-booked for Jan 2027.

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

1. Pro-D Day on Friday Feb14th - AM: District Presentation: Hannah Beach – “The emotional roots of aggression and anxiety: supporting change, and building resilient kids”. Come back together as a staff in the PM. School Story has been posted on website.
2. Parent Education Series – Zoom Webinars @6:30pm

* February 25th – Hannah Beach - Reclaiming Play: revitalizing childhood to combat anxiety and aggression.
* April 8th – Tiana Shafiri - Cybersafe from Exploitation

1. Board Meeting Presentation - 3 Grade 7 Thompson students are going to share about the power of circle as a way of honouring indigenous knowledge, fostering connectivity and creating space for all voices to be heard in our assemblies, and in our classrooms at tonight’s Board Meeting with school Trustees and our Executive Team including Superintendent Usih and the Assistant Superintendents.
2. Pink Shirt Day Assembly Feb 26th next week at 9am. The presentation will also include how this practice will be highlighted in our upcoming Pink Shirt Day Assembly, as we sit in circle, in pink. The staff, led by our newly formed Social-Responsibility Committee has chosen to use an anchor text, the picture book “Zen Shorts” by Jon Muth to explore, examine and ground our schools next steps to find coherence and alignment with possible common language in taking care, respecting ourselves, each other and our place.
3. 1st Garden Committee Meeting Feb 20th at lunch. We are looking at ways to use the outdoor spaces. This will guide next steps with:

* Getting seeds - Preparing the spaces
* Gathering equipment - Including student voice

1. Student Safety

* With basketball season we have had some close calls and an injury recently as students have hit or fallen into the west side wall. We have put in a work order to have mats permanently installed on the west side wall. We have temporarily put up our own mats using velcro.
* There have been several online concerns, outside of school, recently. Some reminders that: **The Discord App is not legal for students in elementary school.** These online spaces often don’t have any adult involvement. What is posted is permanent.
* As a school, we will continue to share infographics and additional opportunities to learn more, in our weekly WAAG’s.

1. Outdoor Ed - Camp Jubilee Sept 22-24, 2025. There will be a Grade 5 / 6 parent session in March and asking students to join the Water Safe program after Spring Break. We will be including camp package information and payment scheduling very soon.
2. Staffing Updates: We have Ms. Green and Ms. Roxburgh staying as the teachers of Division 8 until the end of the school year. We have hired a new EA, Beth Morden Patrigiani – she will start tomorrow, February 20th. We have hired a new NHS, Haziq Kairo, who will be starting at Thompson on Friday, February 21st.
3. Albert commented about Discord and shared about his son’s experience last year. RCMP was involved. He said there was misinformation and comments were posted on Discord. He asked the parent to help contain the situation. The PAC is asking the school to raise awareness to the community about using inappropriate social platforms. Kevin recommended the website, Common Sense Media. We need to work together on this.

**SPORTS DAY**

Sports Day is happening June 6. Albert suggested that we could motivate the parents by giving rewards since we have done with the playground fundraising. We will follow up again in April 2025.

**PAC BANKING UPDATE**

Jen Dahl made a **MOTION** PAC to confirm Nicolle Kit, Gillian Yen, Pavan Padda as the signers for the PAC regular and gaming account. Dayna **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

**NEXT PAC MEETING:** There will be no PAC meeting in March,next meeting will be onWednesday April 16, 2025 at 9am in the Thompson School Library.