

PAC meeting minutes October 20, 2020

In attendance: Jason Dodd, Tiffany Perreault, Bekki Stemp, Karli Reimer, Cindy Schaeffer, Kelly Farmer, Victoria Schindle, Allison Murray, Jaret Thiessen, Mark Lawson

Call to order: 6:33 p.m.

Secretary Report:

Tiffany briefly reviewed the minutes circulated from the February 4th meeting

It was motioned by Jaret Thiessen seconded by Cindy Schaeffer that the minutes from Feb 4 be accepted.

Treasurer Report:

Kelly reviewed our last budget. The only item on budget for this year so far is interest. Our draft budget is balanced so far.

Fundraising ideas for this year- Gift card to Family Foods? Kelly will speak to them and see if they are willing to partner with us again. Bekki asked if there were any rules we needed to follow due to COVID restrictions with fundraising. Mark stated that there were no restrictions, just the health and safety protocols need to be followed. It would be best to do this type of fundraiser before Christmas to use with Christmas shopping.

Kelly reviewed areas that PAC has supported the school with (sports equipment, reading materials, math materials, music program item, etc.)

Committee positions: Kelly will continue as treasurer, Tiffany will continue as secretary, Cindy will continue with hot lunch. Jason will step down as president. So far no one has stepped up to take over.

Principal's Report: Welcome Mark!

- New staff was introduced: Mark Lawson, Daria Rody, Chelsey Lowry, and Peter Oliver
- Reviewed COVID updates and planning: focus for K-8 is in-person learning.
- Mark welcomes any questions from parents about protocols and procedures.
- Halloween- no school wide costume parade, will do a photo slideshow instead with students dressed up in their classrooms. Activities will happen in classes that follow guidelines.
- Virtual book fair Nov 2-13
- Progress Conversations will happen by video conferencing or phone appointments
- School Plan- Literacy, Numeracy, and Well-being. Guided math workshops will be happening for some staff. Early literacy planning is also being done by some staff. Project 11 is being used to promote Mental Well being

Questions for Mark:

Jason asked about the possibility of live streaming lessons for kids that are home sick. Mark replied that this would not be viable for a variety of reasons at this point.

Bekki asked about hand washing- some kids are having to wait too long to wash their hands and then not having enough time to eat. Mark said that if we have concerns, please let our child's teacher know. Tiffany asked about kids not being required to wash hands before eating, being given the choice to use sanitizer instead. Mark said he appreciated the feedback and would look into making sure proper protocol is being followed.

Bekki asked about class size- some classes are very large, while some are very small. Would this continue to be the case or will more consideration be given to small class sizes because of the pandemic? Mark said that it was hard to predict at this point.

Jason asked about staff absenteeism and if this has been an issue. Mark stated that the division has hired surplus teachers to help alleviate this problem. Support staff hours have also been topped up to help support classes.

Christmas concerts, Christmas dinner- most likely not happening this year.

Victoria commented that Stonewall Collegiate did a great job of containing and dealing with the one case that has happened in our area so far. She said that talks with the province and the division are evolving daily and that schools are doing a great job.

Teacher/School Wish List? So far the school has been focused on the new routines and getting settled into the new normal. At the next staff meeting, a wish list could be discussed.

Hot Lunch program: So far the division has put these on hold. The question was raised about partnering with the Rec Center for a possible hot lunch in the future. More info would be needed on this in the future.

Old Business:

Karli asked about the possibility of having a payment system set up so parents can pay online for items. This is something that has been asked in the past, and Karli has looked into it. There doesn't seem to be an app available out there yet that is user friendly for schools. Jason stated that maybe Kelly could talk with the bank about whether something could be set up. Mark stated that at his previous school there was a system where parents could e-transfer money to the school. Mark will look at setting this up for our school. Jason asked Karli to discuss this with Mark and Kelly.

New Business:

Jason asked what our new goals will be for this year. He asked the PAC to think about what our future plans could be and he asked Mark to talk to the staff about possible needs from PAC this year.

Next meeting date: December 1 at 6:30.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.