

Meeting Minutes

Queen Mary Elementary School PAC Meeting
October 10, 2023 · 7:30pm
Virtual

Executive

Chair: Laura Atkins Non-voting Member: Elyssa Derban, Principal
Vice Chair: Jasmine Ma
Secretary: Sandra Nelson
Treasurer: Raymond Wong

In Attendance:

Natalia Kravchenko, Raymond Wong, Elyssa Derban, Athary, Sandra Nelson, Holly Liu, Heidi Nienaber, Jasmine Ma

Meeting

1. Welcome and Land and Territory Acknowledgement (Laura)
2. Agenda Approval
 - Motion: Raymond
 - Second: Natalia**Carried**
3. September 2023 meeting minutes approval
 - Motion: Raymond
 - Second: Holly**Carried**
4. Treasurer Report (Raymond)
 - Laura will re-write cheque for Sandra Nelson
 - Allocated some committed funds that were approved at last meeting
 - So not much money movement in September
 - Laura got notification that our gaming grant is approved for \$6120
5. Chair Update
 - PAC fundraisers going on right now: Purdy's chocolates on sale now, some items do sell out for this fundraiser. We get 25% proceeds back to the school
 - Growing Smiles: delivery date Dec.6, but website not ready yet so Raymond will let us know when ready to start ordering
 - Craft and Games Fair – big fundraiser – planning to start soon
 - Mabels Labelsn - ongoing
 - Stong's Grocery Delivery - ongoing
 - Cobs Bread on Broadway - ongoing
 - PAC meeting schedule – tentative for now except November which is confirmed. Will alternate between virtual and in-person
 - Beach clean-up to help clean up Halloween garbage on Sunday Nov.5 (see PAC calendar) – don't need to bring. Wear brightly colored clothing

- Room parents – have 9 out of 14 divisions. Please consider volunteering if your class does not have a room parent
- Lice screening -forms have gone out. Not accepting cash – can pay online (will be a surcharge) and cheque (no surcharge)
- Movie night – Encanto on Nov.23. Will charge a small fee for tickets

6. Direct Drive Update (Sandra Nelson)

- Each year the PAC raises funds for items not paid for by the school board or province that can enrich, support and beautify the school and the students' experience
- This years' goal is \$23,000
- Raising funds for:
 - Stream of Dreams Fish on Fences program
 - A school-wide program, performance or workshop
 - Schoolyard Updates and Beautification
 - Benches
 - Picnic tables
 - Sunshade
 - Outdoor painted mural on wall behind basketball courts that extends into primary playground. This is a long-term project as estimated to take 3-4 years to complete and cost between \$15,000-\$25,000
 - Aim is to achieve goal by Nov.30

7. DPAC Update (Sandra Nelson)

- Sandra attended the virtual DPAC meeting on Sept.28
- Had a guest – Tracy Wilkins from Vancouver municipal School Active Travel Program
 - Goal is to improve safety and get more kids walking and rolling to school
 - Their initiatives on education and encouragement:
 - Walking school bus
 - School active travel education
 - Mobi community pass for high school students
 - Walk, bike and roll mini grants: have 40 grants for 2023-24 available and applications due Nov.3
 - Their initiatives on infrastructure and safety
 - School travel planning
 - School Streets (4 week program in May): expression of interest due Nov.10 for May 6-31, 2024
 - Year round/expanded School Streets
- Student Liaison Officers (SLOs) are being re-introduced into 2ndary schools now and later this year to elementary schools
 - The BC Civil Liberties Association (BCCLA) published a pamphlet titled Know Your Rights: Police Interactions in Schools to educate students about their rights during encounters with police officers, including SLOs
 - DPAC believes it is imperative for all students to be aware of their rights

- Thought the pamphlet was too long so are working on a shorter, more kid-friendly version
- PACs are able to print-out and distribute the document, if desired
- DPAC has a number of working groups
 - Any parent can join
 - Examples: Food Framework, Health and Safety, Inclusive Education, Facilities
 - They are looking to start an Accessibility Working Group
 - Contact DPAC if interested

8. Principal's Report

- Orange shirt day was on Sept.29
- Last Friday had a new parent meeting. Invites went out to parents who arrived after school had started
- FSAs starting tomorrow (for grade 4 and 7s)
- Half-way through cross-country season. One mini meet on wed and district finals oct.19
- Shake-out – earthquake drill big bc shake-out -1 in October and 1 in may
- Oct.24-25 – CSLs meetings (parents meet with teachers)
- Kenneth Opal author visit for Divisions 1-8 on Oct.23
- Parking and arriving: looking for people helping with ideas on how to do better in messaging to parents
- Updates on lunch- tomorrow a staff committee meeting. Kids starting to using time more wisely. Looking at options still: maybe adding more time and/or expanding time
- ➔ Question by attendee- prior to covid had volunteers working cross-walk. Seeing a lot of bad driving. Elyssa's response: Possibly a future idea. But want to start with education thing and statistics and maybe if get to a place can re-visit. If PAC is interested could look at it, but Elyssa thinks education should come first and has had feedback that in the past parents were yelled at.

➔Question from attendee about SLOs (Student Liaison Officer) – what is the purpose? Answered by Elyssa Derban: Used to be SLOs up until about 2.5-3 years ago, but a lot of movement about defunding police and issues with police in schools and a number of groups brought it forward to the board. There was an exploration. Based on feedback that they got and the outside group that collected the info they are introducing as SLOs re-imagined. Lots of opportunities. Elyssa's experience has been very positive with SLOs in the past, as can be a great resource. She received an email from our SLO to introduce themselves.

9. New Library Fundraiser

- Used book sale has been cancelled. Not a lot of volunteer offers, couldn't find a coordinator and the room isn't available for the dates we have set, so becoming complicated.
- Elyssa spoke to teachers and Laura spoke to Ms.Lam. Thinking of having a read-a-thon instead. Also idea of having a free little library, but need people to manage that. Stay tuned

10. Craft and Games Sale

- Will be the big topic for next PAC meeting in November
- Have 2 people who will coordinate
- Will be games, kids making crafts, and will make some games that are easier for young kids

- Will be increasing money to make the crafts so room parents don't go out of pocket
- Each class will contribute a prize for the prize draw. Every child is given a certain number of tickets to enter the draw
- Craft part – each division picks a craft to create, the room parent gets the supplies and organizes volunteers to help with the crafts. On the day of the fair, the kids can buy the crafts back.
- Event is Dec.15

Next meeting: Nov.15 (virtual)

Nov.8 at 6:30 is virtual Saleema Noon Body Science Parent presentation (tentative)

Meeting end time: 8:23pm