

Meeting Minutes

Queen Mary Elementary School PAC Meeting

November 15, 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:

Laura Atkins, Jasmine Ma, Sandra Nelson, Elyssa Derban, Amber Sessions, Natalia Kravchenko, Holly Liu, Erin Schwabe-Fry, Clara Wang, Kris Bobko, Heidi Neinaber, Zsuzsanna Hollander

Regrets from Exec: Raymond Wong

Meeting

1. Welcome and Land and Territory Acknowledgement (Laura)
2. Agenda Approval
 - Motion: Natalia Kravchenko
 - Second: Amber Sessions

→Carried
3. October 2023 meeting minutes approval
 - Motion: Jasmine Ma
 - Second: Amber Sessions

→Carried
4. No Parking Zone along 6th and along Trimble & Dangerous crosswalks at Queen Mary (Laura)
 - The issues:
 - People consistently parking in the no-parking zones
 - People consistently parking beyond the signs
 - Pedestrians of all ages find it difficult to cross to the school and back, especially at 6th and Trimble, as they can't see if traffic is stopped and cars can't see if there are pedestrians
 - Pedestrians crossing diagonally at 6th and Trimble
 - U-turns occurring in front of the school
 - Quadra preschool has 2 parking spots for staff in front, plus they have young kids going in. They have no stopping signs by Quadra, but yet lots of people are there to park
 - Active Transport Week was a big success
 - In the past QM had parents (and ? students) as crossing guards, but stopped this because they had conflicts with drivers
 - How can we get to a place where we have safe drop-offs/pick-ups?
 - Comments/Suggestions from attendees:
 - Erin: Could the older kids at QM be crossing guards? It could be a leadership opportunity
 - Elyssa: in the district, there is the ability to have students trained as crossing guards

- Natalia: we used to have grade 6/7s doing the crossing guard duty, but doesn't feel like this would be safe
 - Elyssa: the crosswalk at 5th is more visible and less bad behaviour so perhaps this one would be better to have the older kids be crossing guards at
 - Could there be more Active Transport weeks?
 - Elyssa: we do have a week in spring which is a Bike to School Week
 - Sandra: Perhaps we could ask the city for help for the intersection such as a 4 way stop, re-painting the lines and/or flashing crossing?
 - Laura: can ask this through 311
 - Amber: is it usual for there to be no parking in front of a school like we have?
 - Elyssa: the no parking sign means that you can't leave the car if you are stopped there, however people frequently park and leave their car in the no-parking spots. Some schools, like downtown, have no parking at all available in front of the school
 - Elyssa: since we have a lot of new families at the school, it would be good to provide messaging about parking/traffic safety in other languages
5. Motion: Approve \$314.53 from the General Account to purchase large 45 inch traffic cones
- Motion: Amber Sessions
 - Second: Natalia Kravchenko
- Carried
6. Principal's Report (Elyssa Derban)
- Review of events since last PAC Meeting:
 - FSA for grades 4 and 7 are complete
 - Cross-country running has wrapped up
 - Volleyball has started
 - Kenneth Oppel, author, came and was very engaging
 - Active Transport Week – had a road safety talk by police
 - Friday will be the Remembrance Day Assembly
 - Coming up:
 - Pro-D Day on Nov.24 will have an Indigenous focus
 - Dec.1 – first written learning update will go home
 - Dec.4 – Saleema Noon parent information session
 - Dec.7/8 – Saleema Noon presentations for students
 - Comment from attendee: the gravel field wasn't great for the bike sessions that the older kids had – her child fell
7. PAC executive open positions, new roles and election (Laura)
- Jasmine is currently Vice-Chair but would like to move out to Member at Large
 - Motion to elect Amber Sessions as Member at Large:
 - Motion forwarded by: Natalia
 - Seconded: Jasmine Ma
 - All in favour → Approved
 - Motion to elect Sandra Nelson as the DPAC representative
 - Motion forwarded by : Jasmine Ma
 - Seconded by: Amber Sessions
 - All in favour → Approved

- Motion to elect Jasmine Ma as Member at Large
 - Motion forwarded by: Amber Sessions
 - Seconded by: Natalia
 - All in favour → Approved
 - Current open positions: Vice-Chair and Co-Chair
8. Holiday Fundraiser campaign deadlines (Laura)
- Growing Smiles order deadline is Tuesday, Nov.21
 - Purdy's Chocolates deadline is Wednesday, Nov.29
9. Treasurer's Report (Laura Atkins on behalf of Raymond)
- October treasurer's report
 - We receive a Gaming Grant for this year \$6120
 - General account is quite healthy, but have some committed funds
 - Have around \$4000 in general account in non-committed funds

QM Treasurer Report

Financial Status School Year 2023-2024

Cashflow Oct 1, 2023 to Oct 31, 2023

Account	Opening Balance	Withdrawals	Deposits	Closing Balance
General	10,337.17	- 25.20	896.40	\$ 11,208.37
Gaming	300.40	- 10.00	6,120.00	\$ 6,410.40
TOTAL	10,637.57	- 35.20	7,016.40	17,618.77

Program	Income	Expense	Net
BC Gaming Fund - Gaming	\$ 6,120.00		\$ 6,120.00
Bank charge - Gaming		-\$ 10.00	-\$ 10.00
Bank Interest - General	\$ 0.09		\$ 0.09
Lice Screening Program - General	\$ 896.31		\$ 896.31
Sandra Nelson Expense 2023 Teacher Appreciation - General		-\$ 25.20	-\$ 25.20

General Account Outstanding and Committed Fund	Deposit	Withdrawal
Strong's Market Donation	\$ 191.63	
Teacher Support Fund (approved in Sept 2023)		-\$ 2,700.00
Zoom Membership (approved in Sept 2023)		-\$ 224.00
Movie Night License (approved in Sept 2023)		-\$ 425.25
Kenneth Oppel Visit 2023 (approved in June 2023)		-\$ 577.50
Printing Expense for direct drive Sandra Nelson		-\$ 133.39
Author Visit 2024		-\$ 400.00
Health Workshop Saleema Noon		-\$ 1,575.00

Gaming Account Outstanding and Committed Fund	Deposit	Withdrawal
All accounted for		

10. Craft and Games Fair (Laura)
- big fundraiser before the winter holidays on Dec.15
 - Hand made student crafts – each division will create a craft or two that they will sell at the fair. Supplies are purchased through monetary donations from the PAC community.
 - New this year;

- Single donation request: one-time donations will cover the event (craft supplies, each student will get a punch card and each child will decide what they spend it on). Ideally each family will donate \$20 per child
- Holiday boutique – scarves, candles, etc to buy with cash only
- New games and new fun activities – more age appropriate games
- Families are invited to attend from 3-5pm
- No prize draw this year
- Musical cakes – will be a virtual form available to volunteer to donate storebought cakes
- Volunteers – fair extension will require enough volunteers to clean up between 5-6:30 on Dec.15
- Volunteers needed for all aspects of the event
- Flyers going home either tomorrow afternoon or Friday about the event
- Sandra to help send messaging to class parents

11. Calendar Update (Laura)

- Beach clean-up was a success on Nov.4
- Lice screening: it was new to have paper forms with online payment. But 9 families still outstanding that didn't pay yet. Big thank you to Jing for coordinating this!
- Coming up is the first Movie Night of the year. Will be showing Encanto in the gym on Thursday, Nov.23. Tickets need to be pre-purchased and are available on the queenmarypac.com website
- Holiday hampers – deadline passed but if still want to help out can email Lara Osen

12. Multicultural celebration

- Jasmine is taking this on
- Currently have signed up Mexico, Indian Punjabi culture, Iran (person culture and china
- Still welcoming more cultures to join!
- Plan:
 - Time 1-2 hours before PAC meeting on Feb.13
 - Location: school gym
 - Culture booth show and culture art performance show
 - Support needed!
 - Volunteers
 - Art show performance supports
 - Culture souvenir/material exhibition support
 - Fund donation supports

13. Direct Drive Update (Sandra)

- Last year we raised \$23,505
 - Purchased:
 - Wobble stools 1 per classroom
 - Light table
 - 30 ukuleles and 15 tuners
 - 175 levelled books for primary years home reading
 - High jump mat, elastic cross bar and shotput balls
 - Long jump pit (awaiting installation)
 - Specialized art supplies
 - Basketball and volleyball jerseys, leather basketballs (awaiting jerseys purchase)

14. New After School Program (Sandra)

- Lights Up Musical Theatre will be doing an after-school program in the winter at Queen Mary
- It is not a Vancouver School Board program, nor does it have VSB staff
- The program will be on Wednesdays right after school from 3:05-5:15pm. 9 sessions from Jan.10-March 13
- It will be for grades K-7
- It costs \$345 plus GST
- Spots are limited
- Registration is on their website at: <https://lightsuptheatre.ca/afterschools/queenmary/>
- Sandra will inform parents/caregivers about this program by a) putting up a poster on the PAC bulletin board b) sending out an email via the class parents c) putting it on the PAC Facebook page. Hoping to get the word out before the week is done

15. Facebook (Sandra Nelson)

- Sandra Nelson created a PAC Facebook page ([facebook.com/queenmaryelementaryPAC](https://www.facebook.com/queenmaryelementaryPAC)) as another way to get PAC and school information to the QM community
- Posts are made on upcoming PAC events/info/fundraisers and school information (such as Pro-D days, holidays)
- How to get more followers?
 - Suggestion by attendee: any distribution from PAC could include Facebook link
- Should posts be made on local community events (such as a local festival, for example) or on local classes for children/registration dates if organizations approach us (ie. Jericho baseball Little League registration is open)
 - Comments from attendees:
 - Might be hard to decide where to draw the line?
 - Could consider just doing this once a week
 - if it's useful to me as a parent, then would be great to have this information on FB

16. Next PAC Meeting will be in-person on Dec.5