



# David Livingstone PAC

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

6:30 p.m. in the Library and on Zoom

### Acknowledgement:

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land in which we gather is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil Waututh First Nations.

### 1.0 Approval of the agenda

*Moved that the draft agenda for the meeting on October 16, 2024 be approved.*

Moved by: Maria

Seconded by: Callie

Discussion: Any items to add?

Diversity added by Nav.

Call for the vote (motion carried/not carried). Carried.

### 2.0 Approval of the Draft Meeting Minutes (Sept 2024): [September Meeting Minutes](#)

**Moved that the draft meeting minutes from September be approved**

Moved by: Callie

Seconded by: Kara

Discussion: Any items require amendment? None.

Call for the vote (motion carried/not carried). **Carried**

### 3.0 Chair Report (Caroline)

- **Fundraising:**

- **Apple sales** - \$726 raised. This is a new orchard that we've never worked with, so we're hopeful they are great quality. Apples will be delivered on Thursday the 24th (day before Pro-D and early dismissal).
- **Fall Fund Drive** - Lesley Stokes leading that committee.
  - A very aggressive goal set - \$30,000.
  - This is an easy, direct fundraiser, with donations accepted through School Cash Online webportal. Tax receipt provided.
  - Goal is to raise enough funds to purchase 30 new laptops (1 full classroom set), which will live on a portable cart available for classroom teachers to sign out.
  - Sharon sees a benefit with the extended keyboard for word processing and Microsoft Suite. This will supplement the current set of laptops, which have a limited lifespan, and are nearing the end of their lives. \$17,000 raised last year, big stretch goal this year!
- **Best Buy Grant**  
Best Buy offers a \$10,000 tech grant for K-8 elementaries in Canada, for the purpose of getting new or updated technology into schools that need it. Sheila submitted the grant application with Sharon's signoff, and now we wait to hear if we will get it. If so, we'll have a \$10k head start to our tech fundraiser!

- **Art cards by students**
  - Sheila connected with a company - Art Cards by Kids. 300 sheets of paper delivered to the school - kids can decorate/draw whatever they'd like.
  - Completed cards will be returned to the company and then a mock-up sent to each family. Families can order 8-200+ cards, mouse pads, ornaments, magnets etc...
  - Artwork needs to be returned to the company by mid-November for ordering in time for the Holiday Season.
- **Diversity celebrations:**
  - This year will be themed the "year of dance" - each celebration will showcase a dance by that particular culture.
  - Diwali Dance - All kids in the school attend the performance (20 mins),
    - Plus a smaller performance or workshop; Sharon will draw 3-4 classes to participate.
    - Details to be announced early October.
  - Lunar New Year - UBC Kung Fu Association - Lion Dance (10mins).
    - Red envelopes & gold coins will be sourced as a giveaway.
- **School Dance/Kelty Foundation (January 31, 2025) -**
  - We're fortunate to have the Kelty Foundation partner with the school - for the new "Kind Mind ConfiDance" program, which is a month-long project bringing mental health resources to students, teachers, and parents (lots of useful info, but shouldn't be more work for the teachers).
  - The finale to the program is a dance at the end of January. Tegan Moss is the President of the Kelty Foundation and will provide more information in the coming weeks.
- **Walking School Bus -**
  - 11 kids registered for morning walks.
  - Students/families are still welcome to join! Email [walkingschoolbus@scyofbc.org](mailto:walkingschoolbus@scyofbc.org) if you would like to join.
  - A paid employee will replace the lovely volunteer (Sara) who's currently managing the morning route. Once the paid employee starts (by the end of October), the afternoon route will be able to start!
  - What is a walking school bus?
    - What are parents saying? Allows parents to get their children out of the house quicker, and helps create a community among the children.
    - Short Video! [What's a walking school bus, and why we need it](#)
    - [Instagram Reel - why kids love the Walking School Bus!](#)

#### 4.0 Principal's Report (Sharon Vieira)

- **Garden:**
  - SPEEC - Society for the Promotion of Environmental Education. Representative (Charmaine) met with Sharon and will give ideas on how to move forward with the rehab of the garden beds.
  - Charmaine will provide a quote and figure out how to work with the Parks Board/School Board to remove the wood and material and start from the beginning. Bonus: fence and water already in place.
  - Charmaine will visit October 21st and 28th to work with the students, and the plan is to be ready to plant in the new year.
  - Sharon will chat with the Parks Board about the ability to have volunteer contractors/labour/supplies.

- **Capoeira** with Ache Brazil - presentation in November-ish. Thanks to Mikaela for her connection here!
- **Goal Setting Conferences** - All the classrooms are starting to get ready with their Goal Setting Conferences. Very busy time for Sharon and the teachers.
- **Division 7:**
  - The teacher is away and has been for most of the school year. The classroom has been staffed with a few different substitute teachers and families are finding the lack of continuity very frustrating.
  - Sharon has constraints around a teacher's right to privacy, and she also cannot provide information that she doesn't have. She doesn't know the details of the duration of the absence or an anticipated return date. Sharon has been planning with the teacher who's filling in and is committed to continuing to provide extra support to that classroom.
  - Concerned comments from multiple parents:
    - Sharon to provide a contact for parents to reach out to the School Board to air their frustrations.
    - She has requested a permanent substitute, and will share news as it comes available.

## 5.0 Treasurer Report: (Jitender & Maria)

Moved that the October treasurer's report be approved:  **Oct Treasurer Report**

Moved by: Jitender

Seconded by: Callie

Discussion: Any items require amendment?

Call for the vote (motion carried/not carried)

Need to vote for approval for new tech:

\$27,000 - 30 laptops

\$2,000 - New projector screen

\$600 - Portable PA system

Concerns were brought up that this is a lofty goal, and is absolutely dependent on the Fall Fund Drive. If we don't raise the anticipated \$30,000, then we will have to re-vote on a budget.

Garden wasn't included in the budget.

Budget was approved with the caveat that if the funds are not raised, a revised budget will be presented for another vote.

## 6.0 'A Tiny Fix with a Big Impact' (Emmy, Grade 7)

- Emmy shared a presentation about the condition of the girls washroom.
- See PowerPoint - re: cleanliness of the bathroom (toilet seats are yellow and "nasty"). Has requested that the PAC help fund new seats.
- Younger students can't reach the higher up locks, and some are stuck/stubborn and they don't close. She has been asked by younger students to "watch the door" because they can't actually close them.
- Menstrual products are missing from the machine. She would like pads and tampons added for the girls (for free!)
- Sharon: will ask for a new menstrual product dispenser, as those products should be in the washroom (they're currently stored in the medical room).
- Sharon: will request that the VSB replace the seats, and that they fix the locking mechanism (Sharon will submit a request for maintenance). They were not part of the seismic upgrade project, but Sharon can ask and the school will have to pay for them. This will not be PAC funded as it is a school maintenance issue, but we are so very pleased that Emmy brought this to our attention!

## 7.0 David Livingstone Playground/Park Update (Callie Service)

- We've received confirmation that the Parks Board will be renovating our playground. This is an excerpt from the most recent email from them:
  - *Vancouver Parks Board operations crew plans to work on the splash pad and playground this fall. All of the adjustments for the playground and installation of the new equipment (new swing, playhut, climbing net) will need to be completed before the rubber surface can be installed. Paved path between the two areas will be installed after the rubber surface is completed.*
  - *The rubber surface is weather dependent as it can not be done when it is wet and low temperatures, which is why we are aiming for late spring 2025.*

## 8.0 Any other business?

- A parent raised a concern that some families are leaving the school, incidents of bullying and racism, and feeling that these issues aren't being addressed.
- Issues are handled directly with children, teachers, and families, not publicly shared. More efforts can always be made, but actions are taken, and not all incidents qualify as "bullying."
- Parents are encouraged to report issues first to teachers and CC the principal. Principal is open to problem-solving together and stresses that conflict resolution is an ongoing learning process.
- Address issues with the school directly rather than on social media. The school is committed to fostering resilience and teaching conflict resolution skills to all students.

## Upcoming Meetings

**Next Meeting:** October Meeting takes place in the library and via Zoom on Nov. 20, 2024 6.30pm

**The scheduled meetings for the 2024-25 school year are at 6:30pm on the following dates:**

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| ● Nov 20, 2024         | ● March: no meeting |
| ● December: no meeting | ● Apr 16, 2025      |
| ● Jan 22, 2025*        | ● May 21, 2025      |
| ● Feb 19, 2025         | ● June: no meeting  |

\* Jan 15 is a Pro-D Day so meeting one week later

**Meeting adjourned**