



**Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2017**

Meeting Highlights: *We discussed potential impacts to Livingstone of the Supreme Court decision on class size and composition; reviewed several upcoming events, including a possible fall multicultural night and related education opportunities; and approved \$13,700 in expenditures to support student learning and enrichment.*

Introductions and Acknowledgments

A round of introductions, and an acknowledgement that we meet on the traditional Aboriginal territories of the Squamish, Musqueam, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

January 2017 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve January 2017 minutes: Jo Anne. Seconded: Stephanie. Approved.

Principal's Report – Mr. Mitzel

Alternative Reporting Methods. VSB is looking for parent representatives to discuss new reporting methods, including templates from other districts. They would like reps from all grades, special needs, ELL, and mini schools. They will meet 2 to 3 times between March and October. Email Darren if you are interested in participating.

Mannequin Challenge. Instead of the flash mob dance from years past, students are doing the Mannequin Challenge (see video that Darren sent in the newsletter). The goal is to promote a positive message of acceptance. Classes are doing some filming and hope to launch the product next week. Teachers will let each class know when to wear their pink shirts.

Garden Workshops. These are underway, rain or shine. Each class has specific jobs to do. Workshops run from now until June. There will be summer dates during which anyone can show up, and classes will resume work through October. They are making the garden into an outdoor classroom.

Hip Hop. This program is starting Feb. 27, and there will be a showcase on Friday Mar. 3.

Class Size and Composition. The Supreme Court of Canada decision on class size and composition will result in a new 1.0 (full time) resource person for Livingstone this school year.

Staffing and class sizes are still being worked out for next school year. If the language on class size and composition is restored to 2002 levels, class sizes at Livingstone will be reduced. This might increase the number of enrolling classrooms that the school needs to utilize, with possible impacts on the Music and Resource rooms. This may also impact the number of kindergarten students that the school can accommodate, so the draw for kindergarten spaces has been postponed.

Winter Break. To align Winter Break with other districts in the Lower Mainland, the VSB has approved a schedule change. Winter break next school year will be Dec. 25, 2017 to January 5, 2018.

Teams. Thank you to Ron (Jenna and Leah's dad) and Mr. Phillips for coaching basketball. The teams had a large turnout this year. Track and field and badminton will start up after spring break.

Co-Chair Report – Judy and Andrew

District Parent Advisory Committee. Due to a schedule conflict, the DPAC chair Nathan Wilkes was unable to attend the meeting. DPAC has official recognition from the school board, and is trying to reach out to all schools to represent parent voices. DPAC posts regular blogs and tweets, and is looking for parent feedback on two current issues: (a) questions for an upcoming meeting with the Minister of Education, and (b) input regarding the BC Hydro proposal for substations and elementary schools downtown. If you have questions or input for DPAC, please send them to Judy or Andrew. Also, if anyone wants to be a Livingstone rep to DPAC, let Judy or Andrew know. Cara volunteered to report back from a spring citywide event.

Advocacy. The Livingstone PAC website has a list of several upcoming advocacy events.

Multicultural Night. Staff have been working on a multicultural day in the spring, so a PAC multicultural night has been delayed. A September welcome back event is one possibility. Several parents encouraged complementary education around diversity, especially in lead-up to a multicultural night. A sub-committee could be formed to look at this aspect of the event; Beth, Tova and Cara agreed to connect and provide additional information for next month's PAC meeting.

Upcoming Events

- Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators: Feb 21st 6:30 – 8:00pm. This parent education presentation will complement the in-class sessions with the students during the school day.
- Garden: Cara and Leah will discuss the outdoor classroom at the March 8th PAC meeting.

Expenditures

The following items were proposed for PAC expenditures. These items complete the list of teacher requests to PAC from last year and this fall:

- Library \$1,500
intermediate books
- Music \$1,500
sashes
- Technology \$5,500
10 more iPads
- Microscopes \$1,500
- Classroom Gardener: \$3,700
The full cost is of the program is \$13,000. PAC is paying a total of \$6,700, including \$3,000 that was previously approved. Darren secured funding for the balance.

Motion to approve expenses: Cara. Seconded: Jackie. Approved.

PAC executive is seeking new requests from teachers and staff. Parent ideas are also welcome.

Treasurer's Report - Lennie

Lennie reviewed the Treasurer's report dated February 2017. The balance in the general account was \$31,314.69. The Gaming Grant balance was \$8,680.72.

Most of these funds have already been committed (including the \$13,700 approved tonight). Only a few thousand are still uncommitted. Andrew has the detailed numbers for anyone who is interested.

Motion to approve treasurer's report: Stephanie. Seconded: Parisa. Approved.

Other Business

Direct Drive. The fall fund drive raised \$9,294. The average donation size, number of participating families, and total funds raised were all greater than last year. Receipts should have arrived in the mail recently.

Parent Social. Thanks for Krista for organizing the Nomad social. Nomad created a different layout for this event and participants really enjoyed it.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Next meeting: March 8, 2017 at 7pm in staff room.