



**Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2016**

Meeting Highlights: *We discussed a new version of Multicultural Night; PAC support for intermediate literacy; PAC advocacy; changes to report cards; and changes to the school garden.*

Welcome

Round of introductions.

October 2016 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve October 2016 minutes: Nicole. Seconded: Allison. Approved.

Multicultural Night – Judy and Allison

Two parents are investigating ways to bring back Multicultural Night, in a new format. The proposed format is performance and participation based, with activities, demonstrations, and stations. Many parent volunteers would be needed, along with possible student roles. Teachers will be invited to come and enjoy themselves. This would be a community-building event, rather than a fundraising event.

An online survey will be sent out to parents in the weekly newsletter, to gauge interest in attending and volunteering. Survey results and possible next steps will be discussed at the January meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Helena

Report. Lennie reviewed the Treasurer's report dated November 2016. The balance in the general account was \$37,968.78. The Gaming Grant balance was \$8,679.27.

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

Expenditures. Motion to approve the following expenditures:

From General Account:

- iPad Air 4 x10: up to \$6500
- Team jerseys: \$725.60
- Desktop replacements for library: \$1500
- Science supplies: \$500
- Free Fun Lunch Day for all students: up to \$750

From Gaming Grant Account:

- Hip Hop lessons: \$3200
- Week-long lessons (TBD by staff): up to \$3000

Motion: Nicole. Seconded: Vanessa.

We discussed Fun Lunch prices. Fun Lunch is a very successful fundraiser, which also allows parents or children to avoid packing one lunch a week. The success of Fun Lunch enables us to reduce other fundraising activities.

We discussed the Fund Drive; one anticipated expenditure from Fund Drive proceeds will be additional library books. PAC wants to support literacy without directly funding items that should be a government responsibility.

In recent years, PAC has paid for primary reading book sets that go above normal core curriculum requirements. There is ongoing interest in providing support for literacy at the intermediate level. Based on feedback from teachers, Mr. Mitzel, and the librarian, the best way to do so will be to fund new library books at all intermediate reading levels. This approach is more suited to the new curriculum than buying novel sets.

Motion approved.

Co-Chair Report – Judy and Andrew

Library Safety. Parents should be advised that the back (north) door of the library is closed for safety: to prevent children from leaving, and to prevent unauthorized access. The librarian is generously providing Open Hours, on her own time, before and after school (when the school has safety patrol). PAC supports the librarian and her safety policies.

Parent Education. We are looking at parent education speakers for the new year, including from VPD. Jackie has offered to speak on supporting learners. We also hope to bring in someone from District PAC to talk about school board trustee firings, provincial funding, and advocacy. Stephanie has a friend at DPAC and can speak to her. There may be time for other opportunities, perhaps with Neufeld Institute.

Advocacy Plans. The PAC executive intends to become more active in non-partisan advocacy efforts that call for stable, predictable, and adequate funding for public education. Many PAC activities involve fundraising; we believe a balanced approach would also address the root cause of our need for fundraising. Please contact PAC if you would like to be involved. We will also keep everyone posted on ways you can join the effort (letter-writing, rallies, and so on).

Principal's Report – Darren

Report Cards. Report cards are changing. Ms. Lee and Ms. Lau are piloting “Fresh Grade” digital portfolios. These classes will not have a paper report card until third term. The system includes opportunities to look at child’s work and see how they’re doing, and lots of back and forth communication between parents and teachers. Ms. Lee and Ms. Lau are finding it easy now that they’ve been doing it, and there has been good feedback from parents. In line with the new curriculum, this system focusses more on competencies rather than content. Teachers will still have marks to give to high schools. Some intermediate classes may be trying the system in second term.

Garden Project. With an outside organization, teachers and admin have launched a new garden project. Rather than individual class plots, plantings will be for the whole school’s benefit. This will turn the garden into an outdoor classroom, including a play area, with the idea that classes can be out there every day. Teachers will now have more resources to enable them to use the garden more effectively. This will also fit with STEAM projects (e.g. building structures to support plants). There will be summer care opportunities for families, and the school will be asking PAC for funding assistance.

Hold and Secure. On November 4, Livingstone locked all exterior doors in response to an incident involving Tupper. Information was provided to all parents by email that afternoon.

Winter Concert. Will be held Dec. 14 At Tupper Auditorium.

Other New Business

There will be no December PAC meeting. Vanessa will ask Krista to organize a PAC winter social.

Motion to adjourn: Nicole. Seconded: Allison. Meeting was adjourned at 8:39pm.

Next meeting: January 11, 2017 at 7pm in staff room.