



**Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2017**

Welcome and Acknowledgement

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

September 2017 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve September 2017 minutes: Caroline. Seconded: Jessica Z. Approved.

Chair Report – Judy

Staff. Two new teachers have been hired, including Ms. Nielsen who started this week.

School Board Trustees. Nine new school board trustees were elected during the by-election on October 14. Info on the new trustees is on the VSB website.

Munch a Lunch. As in previous years, other school lunch programs were researched to ensure that Munch a Lunch is still the best choice for Livingstone. Other schools have 5 day/week programs, but this requires much more volunteer support than we have (we rely on the same 9 parents week after week). Munch a Lunch is also an efficient fundraiser; we make as much from one day per week than other schools do with a 3-day per week program. Roughly 100 to 120 children participate each week, although every child does benefit because of the fundraising. PAC will support any child that would like to participate but faces financial barriers; families or teachers can approach Mr. Peeters regarding support.

Lunch Furniture. Mr. Peeters is working with VSB's manager of material services to get more furniture for the gym for lunch. Three more tables are expected soon. Mr. Peeters is looking at Engineer's set up time, storage options, and overall storage solutions for the school.

Allergies. Some classrooms have allergy alerts on the door; this means that children in those classes have life-threatening allergies. Parents are encouraged to educate their children to avoid food sharing, use proper hand-washing techniques, and avoid taking food into the washroom.

Seismic Upgrades. Livingstone is on the list for seismic upgrades; Mr. Peeters is awaiting more information on a timeline. In the interim, parents requested as much school preparedness as possible. We discussed the frequency of drills, early warning pilot programs, evacuation procedures, and the student release policy.

Families are encouraged to have a family emergency plan, have an earthquake kit at home, and decide who will pick children up from school.

Parents are also encouraged to contact the new provincial government and new VSB trustees to voice their concerns around the seismic upgrading process.

Request for Event Tents. Staff has requested 2 event tents for sporting events and outdoor activities. Each tent would be blue and would include the Livingstone logo.

Motion to purchase two branded tents for a maximum of \$1,000: Vanessa. Seconded: Julia. Approved.

Saleema Noon: The budget for Saleema's team has already been approved. Judy and Vital will coordinate the booking for a March date.

Babysitting Course. The babysitting course (for grade 6s and 7s) is run at the school but is not a school or PAC initiative. Class reps will send more information. Teachers can advise Mr. Peeters if there are any students who would like to enroll but face financial barriers; PAC can support those students.

Treasurer's Report - Judy (for Lennie)

Judy reviewed the Treasurer's report dated October 2017. The balance in the general account was \$35,765.99. The Gaming Grant balance was \$6,727.82. The Gaming Grant was approved, and a new system from the Fun Lunch vendor has reduced the Treasurer's work this year.

There was a \$570 profit on BBQ. We learned this year that tables needed to be ordered in the previous school year.

Motion to approve treasurer's report: Aaron. Seconded: Jessica C. Approved.

Committee Reports

Garden. Thanks to the summer helpers! Continued support will also be needed over the winter. Leah is looking for someone to take over for next year; Judy is interested but would like a helper.

Diversity Event. The committee working on the diversity event (the new version of multicultural night) have met and will make a presentation in November.

East Van Soiree. This event is scheduled for Feb. 2 from 8pm to midnight, at Heritage Hall. The evening will include a silent auction and is being organized with Brock Elementary. The committee is looking to get each division involved. There will be 100 tickets for each school. Please contact Julia or another committee member if you have anything to donate; more information will be coming from the class reps.

Walk and Wheel Week. This was a success.

Budget and Fundraising. Nearly \$20,000 will come out of the PAC bank account soon, to cover the allocations for teachers, and books for classes and the library. The library computers and a large number of books have already been delivered.

The approved budget includes \$250 for each SSW (Student Support Worker). The budget was approved assuming 4 SSWs; there are actually 6 this year.

Motion to approve additional \$500 for SSW allocations: Lindsay. Second: Jessica C. Approved.

Jo Anne clarified the teacher allocation; this used to be \$15 per student. Now that class sizes are reduced, PAC decided to increase the amount to \$500 for each class. Teachers often had to request small items, so PAC is giving them a larger discretionary amount that they can use as they see fit. Each class also receives \$500 for literacy. Some teachers have combined their literacy funds for group purchases.

Principal's Report – Mr. Peeters

Pick Up and Drop Off Protocol. Judy and Mr. Peeters clarified the reasoning behind the revised pick up and drop off policy. When there are large numbers of people in the hallways at drop off and pick up time, the noise can disrupt classroom learning; congestion in the hallways is unsafe (especially if there were a fire or other emergency); and staff are unable to identify strangers or persons that are not permitted in the school.

Parents discussed the trade-offs between safety and a desire for community interaction. It was agreed to that further discussion might identify find ways and locations for parents and children to interact while maintaining a safe and quiet school atmosphere.

Ideally, children will be dropped off and picked up from outside. If you have to come to school early and would like to come in, please check in at the office, please keep noise to a minimum, and ideally wait in the entry hallway (the children's mural and the new

furniture furnished by PAC was intended as a gathering place). Family members can also check in with teachers to arrange meetings or observe or help in the classroom. Volunteers should check in with the office. Individual teachers will clarify their pick up and student release procedures through the class reps.

Rain. Mr. Peeters is investigating VSB policies about outside time. The current policy is that students remain inside if it is dangerous outside (e.g. lightning), but otherwise students will go out at recess and lunch. Students should dress for the weather. The school does not have space or supervision for students to be inside. Parents expressed concern about children getting wet. Mr. Peeters will examine the policy in light of VSB guidelines.

Staff. The two new teachers for the grade 2 and 6/7 classes have been hired. Both were external candidates found by District HR.

Other Business

Jillian is going to set up a fundraiser through Spud (the grocery delivery service). An email promotion will go through class reps.

Motion to adjourn: Julia. Seconded: Jo Anne. Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

The next PAC meeting will be November 15, 2017 at 7pm in the staff room.