



**David Livingstone PAC
General Meeting Minutes
October 16th, 2019**

Acknowledgement (Julia):

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 Tseil Waututh First Nations.

Approval of Agenda (Jo):

No new items to add

Approval [Minutes from September](#):

Move to approve: Aaron

Second: Vanessa

Everyone was in favour

Minutes approved

Two guest speakers tonight:

Carla Aird, Tupper Community Schools Team

- Has worked in school catchment for 15 years
- She works at 6 schools in the area
- Long history with holiday hampers/canned food drive
- Canvassing David Livingstone and Tupper families to donate - kids would decorate paper bags and fill them with food items
- Over the years they changed drastically - the quality of items really improved
- It got so successful that the labour was hard to manage for a few volunteers - way more donations than they could manage
- Ended up getting classes from Tupper involved
- Decided to change things - this will be the 3rd year of changed model
- Little Mountain Neighbourhood House, DL and, Tupper run the holiday program
- There were no longer contributions from David Livingstone
- Last year they implemented the "Cookie Walk" - bake cookies and walk them down to Tupper to be included in the hampers

- Carla want to know how they can get the community more involved.
- People can contribute to the LMNH donate page
- Krista - what did we switch to? - Carla - something went in the newsletter to ask folks to donate to the LMNH
- Donations can be made by way of gift cards
- Build hampers for families that include minimum \$50 gift card
- LMNH is buying the gift card, so it would probably be more efficient to donate money rather than a gift card
- Jo - we could do a poll on our Facebook page
- Kim - would prefer to do something to get kids involved
- Jillian - kids could do a bake sale and donate proceeds to LMNH
- Carrie - "Toonies for Terry" worked well. We could do a drive for toonies
- Julia - we want kids to be involved and give back to the community
- Litza - So no more paper bags? Carla - No...not necessarily great for the families who receive it. Canned items are not typically how people eat
- Jo - we'll do a poll as a parent group and she will coordinate directly with Carla. We can then bring back to the larger group so we know we can support as a community
- Carla also shared the Tupper school programs and LMNH flyers, which are available at the DL office (CREW for preteens is one of the LMNH programs for pre-teens)

Barb Finlay & Samantha McKenney - Project Chef +short Q&A

Big thank you to everyone here and in the PAC for supporting the program. Super excited to be here.

Kitchen is set up in the classrooms - any parents can come and volunteer.

Project Chef is a hands on food education program. Goal is to encourage healthy eating habits.

Cooking Healthy Edible Food

Focus on where food comes from - sustainability and local food

Learning to prepare food

Sharing food with the group - socializing over a meal - encouraging conversation...creating a positive environment around food.

We live in a very different world compared to previous generations. Convenience foods, processed foods, busy people - we need to start bringing back values around food and food education.

Studies have shown that kids develop their eating habits at a young age - it's a lifelong skill

Samantha shared photos from some of the classrooms

They have kits that allow them to transform classrooms into a kitchen

Kids get set up with their ingredients and recipes

Set up students in stations in small groups

Parent volunteers are integral to running the program

Once the dish is prepared, they dine and are given “Doggie Bag” homework - for students to reflect on what they learned that day

They develop food knowledge (what is healthy and what may not be a good choice)

They develop immense pride in their skills and what they have accomplished

Project Chef is at Livingstone “In Residence” for 8 weeks

Q&A

Krista - do you see pickiness in kids?

Sam - we encourage an “open mind” and an “open mouth”

Carrie - cool thing about it being K-7 is all the different kinds of learning that’s happening at multiple different levels

Tony - my daughter prepared one of the dishes for our Thanksgiving dinner

How are food sensitivities handled?

Sam - staff in contact with the teachers and make modifications based on allergies/sensitivities. Depends on the severity of the allergy.

Barb - we have accommodated every allergy throughout the years

Karin - how are you funded

Sam - its a bit of everything. Long term private funding, in-kind food donations, school pays about 1/3 and the rest is raised through grants

Krista - what kind of rotation do you have around the VSB

Sam - through an online application form (there is a waiting list), applications are processed and prioritized

Karin - is the program growing every year

Sam - yes, it's based on the capacity to accommodate

Carrie - it's a great mesh with the new curriculum

Principal's Report: Carrie Froese (15 minutes)

- Thank you to the garden people - the garden is looking good
- Tomorrow is the BC Shake out drill (10:16) - practice drop, cover, hold on - and then evacuating to the field
- Good to talk to kids about why we practice drills
- Monday - polling station - good opp to discuss voting with kids
- Ms. Geri has been promoted as Vice Principal at Nootka - she will be leaving Nov 1
- New student teachers and SSA
- Parent teacher conferences - next week
- Full implementation of communicating student learning - 2 x reports and 3 x other ways of communicating learning
- Pilot - some teachers doing online reporting
- There are a number of ways that teachers can communicate student learning - Carrie will send home information about it - it's different for every teacher
- Jo - will the VSB continue to check in with parents?
- Carrie - they are in implementation mode but they can still build in feedback
- We are on the first wave to get a water bottle station
- Seismic - we are still at the beginning of the evaluation for the scope of the work that needs to be completed
- Cross Country - will do everything to not cancel it - unless it's a torrential downpour, it will go ahead.
- Jo - we should discuss bringing a tent - will send a note out on the FB page
- Parents are not allowed to be inside the finish line - you need to stay out of the caralling area
- Lindsay - if Ms. Geri is leaving what's happening to student leadership
- Carrie - will depend on the next person or someone stepping forward to volunteer
- Ms. Geri's role is Library, Library prep and resource

Chair Report:

[PAC Chair Report](#) - Julia & Jo

Monthly highlights

Welcome back BBQ - 350 meals. Feels like a well oiled machine - thanks to volunteers

World Teacher Day - gave cards and treats for teachers - teachers so grateful

Project Chef - \$10K PAC investment

Fall Fund drive - cards will go home Monday or Tuesday. This has been an annual fundraiser for a few years now. Parents wanted to contribute and get a tax receipt. It works out to be a good fundraiser every year. This year funds raised will go toward enrichment experiences that support the school's goals. Carrie will be transparent about the funds and where they go.

Garden work party a success

Livingstone Flag is ready for sports events

Pumpkin Patch - October 22 - pumpkin by donation (parent organized - Newell Cotton) money collected goes to Backpack Buddies

Month ahead

Friday, November 1 - Teacher appreciation post Halloween

Spirit Wear - designs have been submitted, will have something ready for after the fall fund drive closes. Will be lots of different items for sale ahead of Christmas

Next PAC meeting will be the draw for pizza part or front row tickets to holiday party

Carmen Cho - school trustee will be the next speaker at our November PAC meeting (Nov 20) - you can send questions to the PAC email (please at least a week in advance)

BCTF Workshops - goal to include Brock & Wolfe

Saleema Noon (or equivalent) - need to book at least a year in advance. We have budgeted for kids but we can add on to include parents

Any ideas for community building talks, workshops - please email the PAC

How to stay connected:

Volunteer Sign Up

PAC Calendar

PAC Newsletter

@livingstonevsb on Twitter - Carrie posts quite a bit about the school there

Treasurer Report

Krista & Vanessa - [October Treasurer Report](#)

Vanessa writes the cheques and Krista balances the books.

The gaming account has been applied for - our amount came to \$6800 this year

Closing balance on gaming account is \$11, 491.74 (will almost all be used for Project Chef)

Everything is very organized.

PAC also paid for a box of apples for each class

Jo - questions or amendments to Treasurer's report?

Because there was none, the report was passed.

Garden Report

Jillian

Thanks to the volunteers! A lot of work by this small group of people.

Julie Paris

Jonathan + Oscar Horsman

Bindy, Dayven + Naryan Kang-Dhillon

Andrew + Danika Nolan

Michael + Rielly Snelgrove

Aaron Jasper

Barry Jasper

Unfinished Business

- Vote on New PAC Bylaws
- Copies were made available
- Andrew - our existing bylaws are from 20 years ago - have yet to locate a digital copy. Seemed a good idea to update and modernize. These are what guide how we operate as a PAC now and in the future. We basically looked at the bylaws from a few other schools and made some modifications based on that. Main changes - brought in line with how we have been operating - AGM and voting on exec - increasing spending for items that don't need to be voted on (discretionary) from \$100 to \$250. Should help to streamline meetings. Other than that, they are pretty standard bylaws.
- Karin - everything that's on the budget that has been voted on in May doesn't need to be voted on?
- Jo - Yes - it's already in the budget and has been approved...anything over \$250 has to come to the meeting to be voted on.
- Carrie - we have our finance committee meeting and we bring recommendations to school advisory committee...then we come to PAC with the prioritized list of asks
- The good thing about updating the bylaws is that everyone will know when budgets will be voted on and approved.
- Jo - budget went out in advance of voting, so everyone had a chance to review

Aaron - move to pass bylaws

Krista - second

All yes (one abstention)

Motion approved

New Business

- Still looking for a DPAC Co-chair - if anyone is interested let us know or email livingstonepac@gmail.com. Thank you to Past Chair Judy McLaren who has stepped up as the other co-chair.
- Enriching Experiences Supporting School Goals Fund - Vote to pass \$5000
- Jo - met with Carrie earlier in the month. Teachers have put forward what they would like to ask for from the PAC - mostly to do with outdoor education
- Carrie - one of the afterschool programs will be a "Mini Einstein" program - backpacks filled with outdoor education stuff.
- We talked about putting a bucket of funds together instead of going back and forth asking for several smaller things.
- \$5000 is the number being asked for at this point. About \$3000 is currently already being held with the school (in their school account) - not in the treasurer's report + \$2000 from our funds (will mostly be raised in the fall fund drive)
- We can revisit in January if there are additional asks
- Litsa - do all teachers have bins of sports equipment in their classrooms
- Carrie - No but we're working on it
- Litza - can we support this? It makes the equipment accessible for the kids
- Jo - this would be good for Carrie to work out with the teachers...if they need/want this, they can certainly come to us with it.

Motion to pass \$5000

Andrew - motion

Krista - second

Everyone voted in favour - motion passed

East Van Soiree - February 29

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 20th, 7:00 p.m. in the library

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 p.m.