



**Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2018**

Welcome and Acknowledgement

Judy acknowledged that the land in which we gather is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

Intention

Judy began by setting an intention: this PAC meeting is being held with respect, inclusiveness, and the understanding of others. We are gathered to create and share ideas that will enrich the education of our children through community based learning.

April 2018 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve April 2018 minutes: Vanessa. Seconded: Julia. Motion approved.

Chair Report - Judy

Year End Potluck. Last year PAC hosted an appreciation lunch for the teachers in June; families contributed a variety of dishes. The event was very appreciated by teachers. Families expressed a willingness to do this again this year. Judy will have Andrew distribute a Google document so families can sign up for the potluck. A couple of parent volunteers will also be needed to set up and decorate. This will be on a Friday near the end of June.

Playland Trip for Special Needs Children. Heather Craig (one of the school SSWs) submitted a funding request for \$455 to provide a day at Playland for 11 designated special needs children. The fee pays for food, drink, and admission. In past years, Livingstone won a lottery for the children to attend for free, but did not win this year. One parent was concerned that this day isolated special needs children. Judy explained it is an opportunity to attend Playland on a special day where the atmosphere is made less intense (e.g. music is turned down, crowds are smaller).

Motion to approve \$455 for the Playland trip for the special needs children: Vanessa. Seconded: Jo Anne. Three abstained (Corinna, Alisa, Tony). Motion approved.

Author Talk. Ms. Moy has requested \$100 to have author Gabrielle Prendergast come to her class and speak. Ms. Moy used most of her 2017/18 PAC literacy funds on books for the class that were written by this author. The total cost is \$150 but Ms. Moy has \$50 left over from her

literacy fund. Jo Anne clarified that not all teachers spent all their literacy funds, so this \$100 can be provided from the leftover funds.

*Motion to approve \$100 for Ms. Moy for an author talk: Jo Anne. Seconded: Vanessa.
Motion approved.*

PAC Executives. New and continuing PAC executives will be voted in at the June meeting:

- Treasurer: Rebecca Clapperton stepped forward to be a co-treasurer next year.
- Co-Chair: Judy will co-chair next year but won't stay on as single chair. In past years there have been 2 or 3 co-chairs, which spreads the work out. Hayley Gordon has confirmed that she will co-chair with Judy.
- Secretary. There is an opportunity for a co-secretary to take minutes in alternating months.

Volunteer Committees. Send PAC an email at livingstonepac@gmail.com if you'd like to join one or more of the following:

- Fundraising: currently includes Jo Anne, Julia, Vanessa, and Karin
- Community Giving Back: creating a strategy for community giving
- Advocacy: contacting VSB or Ministry of Education
- Communications: website, class reps, Facebook admin
- Popcorn: Sophie willing to be co-organizer next year
- Recycling: liaison with Ms. Cassie
- Fun Lunch program: need a person to run sushi days next year
- Garden: Jillian has agreed to be mentored by Lea next year
- DPAC (District PAC) representative(s): Stephanie willing to be a co-representative
- Parent education

Walk-A-Thon: This fundraising event will happen on Friday. Still needing volunteers, especially lap checkers. Please sign up on the Google doc shared by class reps.

Car Free Day: The volunteer sign up will be circulated soon.

Treasurer's Report

Jo Anne reviewed the Treasurer's report dated May 2018. The balance in the general account was \$28,914.74. There are outstanding cheques totalling \$4,257.72 that have not yet been cashed. There will be another reconciliation at the June meeting.

The Gaming Grant balance was \$3,080.45.

We will vote on the 2018/19 budget at the June meeting, after we know how much was raised at the Walk a Thon. Susan, the new office administrator, is helping to reconcile the school accounts before the June meeting.

Families are asked to review the budget online (<https://livingstonepac.weebly.com/meeting-documents.html>). If you have questions, please email Jo Anne (joanne@getfreshpr.com) prior to the June meeting so the discussion can be quicker. Most funds in the budget are very similar to previous years, with some adjusted to reflect actual costs.

Our bank account looks big now but much of it is already allocated (e.g. \$16,000 in teacher funds is given out at the beginning at the year). To start off next year, we will have roughly \$16,000, plus Walk a Thon funds, plus anything left over from 2017/2018.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Julia. Seconded: Stephanie. Motion approved.

2018/2019 Fundraising and Programs

PAC currently has four major fundraising initiatives planned for next year:

- Fall fund drive (Oct)
- Soiree (Feb)
- Walk a thon (May)
- Munch a Lunch

There are also smaller, community-building initiatives, including the Welcome Back BBQ, Car Free Day, popcorn, recycling, Spud, and Mabel's Labels.

Proposed program expenditures were posted on the PAC website and are described in the April minutes. Teachers have provided feedback on these program ideas, and decided that some of the program ideas put forth by families (e.g. mindfulness and Aqua Van) would be best for individuals classrooms rather than school wide. If it fits with their curriculum, individual teachers can ask PAC for funds for these programs. Families can also get teachers on board and then can apply to PAC on the teacher's behalf.

We voted on each program, with the contingency that Jo Anne will assess how each can fit in the budget (especially regarding timing/cash flow). Jo Anne did not see a need to prioritize the programs.

Project Chef:

*Motion to approve \$1500 for Project Chef subject to budget constraints: Maggie.
Seconded: Stephanie. Motion approved.*

Backpack Buddies: Teachers support this project, and wondered if there are any Livingstone kids who would need support. Backpack Buddies can do that; it would be up to teachers to identify children in need. Livingstone would probably be assigned to a partner school.

*Motion to approve \$6,000 for Backpack Buddies subject to budget constraints: Maggie.
Seconded: Alisa. Motion approved.*

Stream of Dreams: We received the \$2,500 grant. The total cost is \$5,250. We just need to determine the date. Teachers have supported it.

Motion to approve \$2,750 for Stream of Dreams subject to budget constraints: Julia. Seconded: Jillian. Motion approved.

Playground Mural: This project is on City land (the cement area alongside the lower sand playground) and would be subject to City approval.

Motion to approve \$700 for Playground Mural supplies, subject to budget constraints and City approval: Jillian. Seconded: Stephanie. Motion approved.

Virtual Guest Speakers: Jo Anne mentioned several inexpensive Skype learning opportunities such as San Diego Zoo, NASA Astronaut appearance, Royal BC Museum. Mr. Peeters explained that many teachers are doing these already, although families may not be aware.

Sister School. Several past conversations, as well as one proposal at the April meeting, have put forth the idea of starting a “sister school” relationship, to support a school that may not have the same resources as our PAC. Mr. Peeters explained there are many complicating factors such as school size and budget, and preferred to begin with relationship-building between Principals.

There was broad agreement that a Giving Back committee would be useful to establish a giving strategy and focus area(s). By June, we will have a better idea of the budget that this committee might be able to work with (or, we may identify a need for an additional fundraising initiative).

It was pointed out that the Backpack Buddies program may organically grow a relationship with another school.

Principal’s Report – Mr. Peeters

Catchment Boundary Changes. Parents raised concerns about the proposed catchment boundary changes for Livingstone (younger out-of-catchment siblings are not given priority), and requested support from PAC regarding the changes.

Corinna has already drafted a form letter. Alisa will connect Corinna and John to have that letter and/or a Google sign up sent through class reps and on the Facebook page. Once they have gathered parent support, the PAC can take a formal position.

Mr. Peeters explained that the VSB has two policies in conflict: sibling priority, and procedures for boundary changes. He has been told that one of these policies is likely to be changed. Judy reminded families that there will be a vote for VSB trustees in October.

Surveys. The Mid-Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a survey that asks grade 7 students how they feel about life at school. The school uses its data to improve the school experience. There is also a Student Learning Survey.

Both the MDI and the SLS are different than the FSA (Foundation Skills Assessment) standardized test, which the BCTF (BC Teacher’s Federation) opposes. Some families opt out of the FSA. Mr. Peeters emphasized that the MDI and SLS are different, and encouraged students and families to participate.

Welcome to Kindergarten and Ready Set Learn. These events are happening this week. Ready Set Learn is for 3 to 5 year olds in the neighbourhood.

New Scoreboard. Mr. Peeters showed the new scoreboard and described its features.

Tents. The Livingstone tents arrived. Staff is currently looking for a place to store them. They will be available for the track and field meets.

Grade 7 Trip. The exchange students from Quebec were here last week. Our students will go to Quebec next weekend for a week. There is some concern about the West Jet strike position, but the tickets can be switched if necessary.

Badminton. The badminton season has ended. Badminton appeals to some students who might not participate in other sports. The team played at a tournament at Tupper.

Track and Field. Track and field is going on now. Livingstone participates at mini meets at Van Tech. Livingstone has been invited to the final meet at Swangard because we have a grandfathered invitation.

Staffing. The process has just started for determining staff for next year. Mr. Peeters expects to bring back most teachers, but will have a better sense of staff by the end of the school year. The first job posting period is the first week of June.

Seismic Upgrades. Livingstone was not on the priority list for funding that was issued in March. Mr. Peeters does not know specifically why other schools were given higher priority.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

The next PAC meeting will be June 20, 2018 at 7pm in the library.