



**Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2018**

Welcome and Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on 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

Our 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.

Holiday Hamper Presentation

Carla Aird, the Youth and Family Worker for the Tupper Community Schools Team, made a presentation on the new Christmas hamper program, which serves roughly 110 vulnerable families in the Little Mountain area. Livingstone used to contribute to a canned food drive. However, recipient families found that the canned food was not very useful, and the cans were heavy and labour intensive to distribute. So starting last year, the format was changed to give families gift cards, clothing, toiletries, and baked goods. Financial donations can be given to Little Mountain on their website. Closer to the winter break, Carla will provide Judy with details on ways that Livingstone families can contribute baked goods, conduct loonie/toonie drives, and make online donations.

September 2018 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve September 2018 minutes: Rebecca. Seconded: Julia. Motion carried.

Chair Report - Judy

Pumpkin Patch. In the spirit of Fall harvest, a generous parent, Newell Cotton, has organized a pumpkin patch for our Livingstone children. This is happening on Wednesday, October 24, from 1-5pm. Donations will be accepted (but are not necessary), with proceeds going towards our Backpack Buddies program. If you are interested in helping to pour hot chocolate or bag pumpkins, please speak to Judy. Thank you, Newell, for this fun experience!

School Teams. The cross-country program has just wrapped up and volleyball will be starting soon. Volleyball usually starts the week of Halloween and Ms. Nielsen is the teacher sponsor. Livingstone will have three teams: junior girls (coached by a Tupper student); senior girls (coached by parent Jer Adrian); and senior boys (coached by Mr. Peeters).

School Board Trustees. The newly elected VSB trustees are:

- Janet Fraser, GREEN
- Estrellita Gonzalez, GREEN
- Lois Chan-Pedley, GREEN
- Jennifer Reddy, OneCity
- Oliver Hanson, NPA
- Fraser Ballantyne, NPA
- Carmen Cho, NPA
- Barb Parrott, COPE
- Allan Wong, Vision Vancouver

According to the District Superintendent it will be a while before our trustee is assigned.

Playground Guidelines. Parents raised concern from intermediate students (grade 4 to 7) that they are not being allowed on the playground equipment. Mr. Peeters understands that the supervision aides have decided to reserve the equipment for younger students for the next few weeks, to keep the primaries safe, as there have been some older students acting in unsafe ways.

If they believe the equipment is not being used, and they can play in a safe manner, intermediate students can talk to the aides in a respectful and reasonable way. Mr. Peeters will confirm with the supervision aides on their policy.

Parents wondered if we need to fundraise to add more equipment. However, the playground area is actually not owned by the District, and the gravel field is well-used and often rented out.

Leadership Program. The teacher that was involved with the student Leadership Team in the past (Ms. Geri) is not going to be involved this year. Mr. Peeters has asked staff if someone else would like to take over, but no one has volunteered yet. It would help if there was a staff member involved. As a result, there is no Halloween dance planned, as that is usually done by the leadership team.

Sexual Health Speakers. Last year teachers brought in OPT (Options for Sexual Health) to complement their teaching of the curriculum. Because sexual health is part of the curriculum, teachers have to teach it, and an outside speaker shouldn't necessarily be an ongoing relationship. Staff will talk about it this year to see if they'll do it again. OPT is more in line with what the District provides and is the "delivery agent" for the province.

PAC can still bring Saleema or OPT for a parent session. Next month, Jessica will provide more details on OPT's "Askable Adult" presentation. We could provide this parent education and open it up to parents from Brock as well.

Bake Sale. A bake sale will be held on Wednesday to support Division 1 and 2 for their trip.

Treasurer's Report

Lennie reviewed the Treasurer's report dated October 2018. The balance in the general account was \$39,824.93 as of October 15, 2018. Note that Jo Anne's expense cheque was for the BBQ but also for Backpack Buddies and other programs.

We received the Gaming Grant again. The Gaming Grant balance was \$8,478.64.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Melissa. Seconded: Andrew. Motion carried.

Fundraising Committee – Jo Anne

PAC Budget. Some parents wanted clarification on how money is allocated. The PAC budget is linked on the PAC website and is updated at close to real time. If parents or anyone wants to apply for PAC funding, there is a button on the website with instructions, including a few simple questions that need to be answered before the idea is presented for a vote at a PAC meeting. The teachers' form is electronic and slightly different. For any proposal, Jo Anne may ask clarifying questions, will ask Vital if there is any school funding available, and then the idea could come to a meeting for a vote.

Backpack Buddies. We have done the first three sessions in the library, and so far the program is running very smoothly. PAC had hoped that the student leadership team would run it, but since there is no team, parent help will be required. A sign up process will be done similar to Fun Lunch: one person runs it on a particular week (perhaps once a month or every second month) and organizes volunteers. Parents would be here 8:50am (on Thursdays) to set up; kids come from 9:10 to 9:30am (although Kindergarteners need a bit longer). Ms. Neilsen said she can send a couple of students down to help; Grade 6 and 7s can get service minutes for it. Jo Anne will keep a running tally of how many backpacks Livingstone fills this year.

Teacher Fund Request – Divisions 4, 5 & 6 would like to purchase non-fiction reading material to supplement the curriculum, and have selected "Science Readers," by Pearson Publishing. They are high-interest books with dynamic illustrations to support comprehension of science content, with corresponding curriculum content. The cost for each title is \$8.94, so the total amount requested from the PAC is \$1,693.00. Mr. Peeters confirmed that there is not currently school funds available and is comfortable with PAC buying the books so that the teachers can get them right away. The school is managing their funds better this year and have other plans for the funds provided to the school by the District. Judy expressed discomfort that PAC is paying for resources that the government should be providing.

Motion to approve \$1,693.00 for non-fiction reading material for Divisions 4, 5, and 6: Julia. Seconded: Melissa. Motion carried.

Fall Fund Drive. Parents have expressed a desire to run the Fall Fund Drive again this year to cover PAC fundraising goals. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$20. Funds will go to the school board using a new online process.

Recycling Program. In the past, 50% of the proceeds from the recycling program have gone to the end of year trip for grade 6/7s. Caroline proposed that all the money go to the trip, since students are now doing all the work except for pick ups from Fish Counter.

Motion to approve giving 100% of the 2018/2019 bottle collection proceeds to the Grade 6/7 trip: Karin. Seconded: Jo Anne. Motion carried.

Principal's Report – Mr. Peeters

Recycling. Rats have been getting inside the school, possibly because of the recycling room. Staff are concerned it's a health and safety issue. The recycling area smell is also concerning in close proximity to the sensory room, where students are meant to find respite from sensory overload. The organizers have already arranged for more frequent pickups; students are cleaning the inside room at recess every Friday.

KEV System. Livingstone is moving to a new electronic money management system called KEV, which will be rolled out in November. Parents may sign up for an account. Student fees will be payable electronically.

Water at Livingstone. Parents had questions about the letter from the VSB Secretary Treasurer about water fountains in schools. Health Canada currently mandates that the maximum level of lead content in water should be no more than 10 PPB (parts per billion). Any fountains that tested at or above this level have been closed. Livingstone did not have any fountains that tested at 10 or above.

However, Vancouver Coastal Health has learned that Health Canada is considering reducing the maximum allowable level to 5 PPB. Therefore the District decided that fountains between 5 and 10 PPB will be replaced with water filtration systems sometime this school year. Livingstone has one fountain that tested at 8.3 PPB, so it should be replaced this year.

Mr. Peeters will confirm with the school engineer that the fountains and taps are run until cold every day including after weekends.

Seismic. Mr. Peeters has no new information on a seismic upgrade. A parent wondered why Livingstone was not included in the current group of schools undergoing upgrading; the District has prioritized the projects based on severity.

Halloween Parade. Mr. Peeters will talk to staff about whether they want to do a Halloween parade.

Thank you to Ms. Kwon (teacher for Division 5) for attending.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.