**February PAC Meeting**

École Peter Greer Elementary

February 13, 2024, 6:00pm

In attendance: Taylor Conlin (president), Josh Goode (vice-president), Danielle Lamb (treasurer), Stefanie Schumer (secretary), Laura Murphy, James Minkus (principal)

By zoom: Ivy Maranga, Jenn Millar, Caitlin Harper

1. Land acknowledgement (Danielle)
2. Adoption of Agenda – Stefanie moves; Caitlin seconds
3. Adoption of January Minutes – Laura moves; Josh seconds
4. Vacancies for 2023/2024 (Taylor)

a. Hot Lunch Coordinator – still vacant

b. Executive PAC positions – the positions of president and vice president will be up for
 election at the end of this year.

1. Eagle Project (Danielle)

This project started about a year ago. James and Russ were looking to rethink our PGE logo and include some Sylix art to better reflect our school community. Parents and families are invited to “Change is in the Air” assembly, at 10:30am on March 6th to see the artwork that David Wilson Sookinakin has done and how kids have been interacting with “eagles” in the past few months. Elders from the local band will be in attendance. Admin is working to have this piece of art developed into a logo that can be used by the school. There is an idea to have the kindergarten shirts done with the new logo and on an orange shirt, so that we can reuse them for Orange Shirt Day. There was lots of positive response to this project by people in attendance.

1. Music Program for Next Year

James says we won’t know whether we can keep Ms. Carr until the staffing process is complete (in April). Numbers for French Immersion enrolment are low so far, which will affect funding for the Arts teacher. We are also losing the newer portable that she is using as the Music classroom. The plan is to empty all the materials stored in the older portable and move the music room to that one. Parents at the meeting expressed that they felt it was very important for Peter Greer to have an Arts/Music specialist in order to offer our students a well-rounded education, and that they hoped the program would be able to continue next year. They would also love to see the grade 4s and 5s have the benefit of doing some music lessons with Ms. Carr.

\*\*IMPORTANT: If parents want to support PGE having an Arts (and French Immersion) program, they should fill in the “2024/2025 Budget Planning Survey”. This informs the district about what topics matter most to parents. The link is on the front page of the PGE website, and is due by **March 4th.**  The program’s algorithm computes which words are used the most to rank which ideas are the most important, so parents need to use the words “Music program”, “French immersion”, and “Ecole Peter Greer” as much as possible, so that the AI correlates them and they move up the priority list. We will include this in the next PAC newsletter.

1. Principal/Vice-Principal Reports (James and Russ)
2. Parent Teacher Conferences – Turnout was good, especially for French Immersion classes. This time, the school used more of a student-led format. Admin and staff are wondering what sort of format parents prefer – interviews or a private conference.
3. Supervisors – another one has been hired, so we are good for now.
4. Enrolment for 2024/25 – Numbers are low overall. There is room in all classes. We may lose an English division and gain a French division for next year (this would be covered by the fact that one position opened up last year due to retirement, but was never posted). PAC can try to help boost enrolment by continuing to post an ad for French enrolment on the FB One Community and Moms pages.

d. Mechanical room storage – We are going to have to take out all the stuff in storage in the basement and the portable before the end of the school year (June). School district might provide a C-Can to help store materials. CUPE /would bring it and the district would cover the cost. There are zoning laws that need to be checked. It was also suggested to do a “Peter Greer Garage/Trunk Sale”, and also perhaps include a “Toy and Clothes Swap”. Proposed date is Saturday, April 27th.

8. Written Reports to be shared if applicable:

a. COPAC (Caitlin)

i. Cell phones in schools (see attachment) – Premier David Ebie released new rules to restrict cell phone use in between bell times starting in September 2024. This is not much of an issue at Peter Greer so may not be very impactful for us. The government hasn’t given schools much info about how this will happen yet. Caitlin will reach out to James and Russ to ask what sort of policies PGE is planning to implement.

b. Treasurer (Danielle) – see attached Treasurer Report

i. Danielle shared the February Financials report

ii. PAC will ask teachers to submit any field trip requests by May 1st, so that we can see whether we have used up the Gaming Funds

c. Fundraising

i. Save-On Foods (Josh) – We made $178.78 for 2023. So far in 2024, we have made $50 in January.

d. Events

i. Movie Night (Laura) – Will take place on March 1st. Open doors at 5:30pm, movie starts at 6:00pm. We are showing “Trolls Band Together”. Families can bring blankets, pillows, camping chairs.

The movie is free, but any money made on concessions will go to the PAC.

We will need a few volunteers at the beginning to be at the door, and to sell popcorn, candy bags and water. Mme Catton volunteered the leadership team to prepare the candy bags. Laura will make a list for volunteers and Danielle will post on Dojo.

We also need to check about extra custodial services (ask custodians to leave a brooms and extra garbage bags to clean afterward). What is the plan for dirty boots? Can families leave them outside and only wear socks in gym?

Gym capacity is 498.

ii. Tape Russ to the Wall – Scratched. Teachers not in support and PAC couldn’t /

figure out a good way to raise funds.

iii. PGE Garage Sale & Toy Shop n’ Swap – see notes under “Mechanical Room Storage” above

iv. Family Fun Night – Scheduled for May 30th. We will discuss more next meeting.

e. Fun Lunch (Jane) – nothing to report

f. Fruit and veggie program (Sasha) – nothing to report

g. Yearbook (Sue) – Sue needs more cover art. The theme is “Wonder”. Could Sue give info for this to James and Russ to put in the WAAG? Could it be mentioned at assembly or by teachers, to make student aware of it?

h. Vice-President (Josh) – nothing to report

i. President (Taylor) – nothing to report

9. Action items from reports - tabled

10. Motion to adjourn - Stefanie moves, Laura seconds

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024