

## January PAC Meeting

January 9th, 2024, 6:00pm

Peter Greer Elementary School/École Peter Greer Elementary

In attendance: Taylor Conlin (president), Josh Goode (vice-president), Danielle Lamb (treasurer), Stefanie Schumer (secretary), Justine D'Amico

By zoom: James Minkus (principal), Russel Bischoff (vice-principal), Laura Murphy, Penny Liao-Lussier, Jenn Millar

1. Land acknowledgement – Danielle  
Taylor expressed condolences on behalf of the PAC to the family of ex-treasurer, Heather Medynski on her recent passing
2. Adoption of Agenda – Stefanie motions; Josh seconds
3. Adoption of December minutes – Josh motions; Justine seconds
4. Vacancies for 2023/24
  - a. Hot lunch coordinator – This position is still vacant. We are down to 3-4 volunteers who hand out lunch *every Tuesday. More volunteers are needed!* Danielle volunteered to send an email to any parents who have ordered to give them a nudge.
  - b. Executive PAC positions – there are going to be a number of vacancies next year. We need to reach out to new parents, especially kindergarten parents to try and recruit new members to the PAC next year.
5. Principal/Vice-principal Reports (James)
  - a. Kindergarten registration - starts Monday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> and runs until March 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a predictor of what enrollment will look like and will determine budgets and staffing for next year. There will be a second chance for enrolment in March. Fliers have been sent out to all daycares. There is an info session Tuesday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> on zoom for any parents interested. It has also posted on the school website and in the newsletter, and on facebook and the community calendar. We would like two full classes of French next year..
  - b. Early Learning Session, May 2nd - This is aimed at families with 3-5 year olds. There will be games and prizes. More info coming soon.
  - c. Ministry of Education Students Learning Surveys are coming up soon for grades 4 and 5. Peter Greer is asking parents and students to complete them. These measure student social and emotional health and well-being, which is a big area of focus right now. PGE looks at these very closely and implements strategies to address needs where needed.

- d. Peter Greer still needs photos for the yearbook. We are also looking for students to provide cover art. This year's theme is "Wonder". It is needed by the first week of April. Another reminder was sent to teachers to remind them to pass this info on.
  - e. Parent Teacher Conferences, Feb. 9/10<sup>th</sup> - These were originally scheduled Feb. 15/16<sup>th</sup>, but the schedule has been updated. There will be a variety of formats, including open house, student-led conferences, etc.
6. Written reports
- a. COPAC (Caitlin) – tabled
  - b. Treasurer (Danielle) – Josh picked up a cheque for \$634.50 from Save-On.
  - c. Fundraising
    - I. Winter raffle (50/50) – The winner was Tasha Jorie(?). We raised \$3332.00. This was a bit lower than last year, but still good. It was posted on the back of the Christmas Concert program, and we did raise about \$400, just at the concert. Next year, the MCs could talk it up during the concert and keep the audience updated on how much has been raised during the concert. Considering the challenging economic environment at the moment, we have done really well on all 3 major fundraisers this year!
    - II. Save-On Foods – We are really going to push this! Steph Lawton had created an info sheet on this a few years ago. Erin has updated it and will be sending it out tomorrow. It includes all local schools. We need to make this as seamless as possible so it's easy for people. We need to make sure that all the staff at Save-On know how this works. At 5%, we can make really good money on this if lots of people participate!
  - e. Events
    - I. Family Movie Night – Jenn Millar is still interested in helping plan a movie night. Laura too. Parents would definitely need to stay with their kids! Snacks need to be *silent* and *not-staining*. We might need extra custodial help? It was decided to have a March Madness Movie Night on March 1<sup>st</sup>. *We need a planning committee!*
    - II. Valentine's Dance with other schools – it's looking like it will probably become an end-of-year thing and won't be a fundraiser.
    - III. Yes Day! – Davidson does this and it's a great money-maker. It will depend on teacher buy-in, as it will cause some chaos. It could also cause inequality for students who can't afford to buy items. There are different things students can purchase through Munchalunch. (ex. \$1 per item: wear a hat/pjs, bring a stuffie, tattoos, crazy hair, 5 more minutes of

recess, tape the principal to the wall. Max of \$20.) Concerns were expressed that using Munchalunch would target only families who actually order hot lunch (90% of parents that use Munchalunch are the FI parents, and only 5% of English families!) Overall, this event doesn't seem like a good fit for PGE.

IV. Other possible fundraisers

Candygrams? Laura did this last year, with the leadership team, and it was a lot of work. It did make about \$400.

Bring change and fill a school-wide jar up to a line in order to earn a "tape the principal to the wall" event. This idea was very well received!

V. Family Fun Night (May) – we need to start booking things now, and we need a committee! Possible date is Thursday, May 30th.

f. Fun lunch – was extended in to today to allow for more orders for February

g. Fruit and veggie – tabled

h. Yearbook – tabled

i. Vice-president (Josh) – Josh will ask for more regular updates from Save-On

j. President (Taylor)

I. School photos - Lifetouch vs. Artona

Lifetouch – photos looked better, and has more backgrounds but costs more

The Oyama person is the same as the one who does the sock fundraiser, so we do NOT want to use them.

Artona is a better price. Most people agreed that given our population, this seems like the better option. It's also the one Grenda uses, so that way we aren't more expensive than Grenda. We definitely need a few parent volunteers to make sure kids are 'photo-ready'. This makes a big difference!

7. Action items from reports

a. There will be a meeting for planning Movie Night and Family Fun Night on Friday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. Location TBD.

b. Stefanie asked again about the possibility of adding a gluten-free pizza option for Thursday lunches, but apparently this is too complicated.

c. Noon-hour supervisors – This is a daily struggle right now. A few more paid supervisors would certainly help.

8. Motion to adjourn – Stefanie moves, Josh seconds

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next meeting: February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024