

PAC General Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 14th, 2023

Meeting called to begin at 6:02pm

In attendance: (In Person) Danielle Lamb, Taylor Conlin, Stephanie Lawton, Caitlin Harper, James Minkus. (Zoom) Shannon Bender-Bell, Louise Caillaud, Stefanie Schumer, Emily Buss

1. Land acknowledgement (Danielle)
2. Adoption of Minutes from January (attached) – Shannon motions, Taylor seconds
3. Principal/Vice-Principal Reports (James)  
Good turn-out for PT conferences. Lots of student-led conferences this time. Students and teachers generally like these, although some parents expressed that they appreciate having a moment to talk with the teacher privately as well.

District is seeking parent feedback regarding next year's budget. What are the most important matters the district needs to focus on from a parent perspective? The budget for the whole district is going to be really tight this next year.

Looking forward to Harmony Day tomorrow. Thank you for the moccasin table in the front foyer, which was organized by Ms. Alexis. We also had Black History month, so lots happening for harmony and diversity.

Registration has opened for next year. Currently 34 registrations for French immersion. 40 would be ideal. (We had projected 28, so we are exceeding our prediction!) Jamees is also considering possibly nudging English registrations to consider FI. PGE has advertised with all local daycares and preschools. Could we encourage parents of FI students to invite other families to join? Get some FI parent testimonials and put them on social media?

Overall enrollment is not projected to grow for next year (although enrollment in other schools is strong in other schools - many FI schools are wait-listed).

Gr5 basketball is happening right now. Mr. Bischoff and Ms. Savage are coaching. PGE and Davidson are thinking to have boys/girls teams next year.

James would like to extend an **invitation to a PAC exec member** to be a rep at a meeting with the local school board trustee. We will share what is working well, goals, successes, growth areas. Meeting was scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>, but will be moved. James will update when he knows.

4. Gagaball update (Stefanie) – We have received the gaga pit and are expecting site preparation this Spring. Installation should only take a few days.
5. Talent Show and PAC involvement (Stefanie) – PAC involvement is welcome, but it was decided that this might not be the best venue to offer hot chocolate or snacks. It was suggested we could promote Growing Smiles or True Earth in the program however. Stef will look into putting something in.
6. Movie Night (Stephanie) - tabled
7. Fundraisers
  - a. True Earth (Taylor) – We have been signed up for years and have a link! Taylor contacted the rep and merged the two accounts we have. We get 20% on all funds raised. She is checking into how payment would work. They have lots of promotions and great promotional material, and this could be a fundraiser that runs continuously throughout the year. Taylor wants to see about getting some samples for a possible table at the talent show.
  - b. Growing Smiles Spring (Danielle) - we are signed up but don't have a date. We're going to go with a "Spring" theme, rather than Mother's Day.
8. Gaming Funds update 2022/2023 – we should hear by end of March
9. Gaming Funds 2023/2024 applications open April 1
10. Budget – Gaming funds has just over \$2000, but there will be more from Munchalunch and composting, so it is closer to \$5000-6000.
11. All Elementary School Dance (form a committee) – we reached out to other schools and they are definitely interested in having a dance. Laura will reach out to other PAC presidents to see what the interest/commitment is. Specific details TBD. There is an option to use Oyama Hall, bce Oyama school has a good deal with them. More info soon.
12. Spring Carnival tentative date May 25 (form a committee) – are there people interested? Taylor, Stephanie and Stefanie can help with preliminary planning. We need to get going on this! Stephanie has notes on past events and what worked well. Tentative meeting was set for **Tuesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30.**
13. Increasing Parent/PAC participation: staff meeting/parent reps and signs (Danielle ) - checked into having a sandwich sign made that could be put out the day before/day of a PAC meeting. Cost would be about \$200. Caitlin will check on the pricing for one that can have the lettering changed. Danielle will email Dorothea Walker to see where they

got theirs. This could be put on the lawn between the road and Kiss and Go, and might be useful for communicating important info to parents (for ex. “PAC meeting tonight”). Would this need a permit?

Danielle attended a staff meeting to ask about having parent reps for each grade. Reaction was mixed but not super encouraging. We need to rethink this and consider how we want to represent this to teachers. Louise expressed that it can be difficult to find a parent who wants to take on that role. Doing a raffle at meetings was suggested as a way to encourage attendance. Perhaps we could offer priority parking? Wine? Would it be more fair to have a frequent attender reward? We will need more discussion on this.

Pre-covid we had a lot more parents. There seems to be a misconception that PAC members are stay at home moms and only do fundraising. How can we encourage more participation? Stephanie said one thing that worked at Grenda was proposing educational topics like “How do report cards work?” at meetings. Maybe discussing what fundraising is *for*?

What about sending out messages to say emphasize *WHAT* PAC does, and that we are a small team who all work full time jobs and we need your help! Could we make an announcement at the talent show (Stephanie L.? Stefanie is willing to join)? On Class dojo (which seems to be the best way to communicate with parents?) Can PAC have access to Class Dojo?

14. Written Reports to be shared if applicable:

- a. Co-PAC (Penny)
- b. Treasurer (Heather)
- c. Fun Lunch (Emily) – Parent volunteers are up. We have a few new vendors. Made in India Lake Country is now open on Tuesdays and could possibly deliver. Emily will be stepping back from Hot Lunch next year, but will help to transition the new person. **We will need to start advertising for a new Hot Lunch person asap.**
- d. Fruit and veggie program (Sasha) - tabled
- e. Yearbook (Caitlin) – Photos have been a lot better this year. Caitlin is still having issues with Caleb, the photographer, and would like to look at using someone else next year. There are other companies that do great work, but the yearbooks are a lot more expensive, which might be problematic for our demographic.
- f. Vice-President (Taylor)
- g. President (Danielle)

14. Action items from reports

15. Motion to adjourn – Stephanie L. motioned/Taylor seconded

Meeting adjourned at 7:41pm