

Willows PAC Meeting Minutes: February 17, 2016

Meeting Opened at 7:00 pm.

No minutes from last meeting to approve at this time.

Welcome to Constable Mark Leader our new Oak Bay Police School Liaison.

Happy to be our school liaison. Approachable.

Has functioned as a liaison before and understands the role.

Discussed the traffic issues at the school.

Parents misuse of drop off area on Musgrave. This is not for parking.

Congestion and speeding through the area.

Specific discussion around the intersection of Musgrave and Dalhousie.

Presentation by Wendy, principal, on the wish list from the Teachers at the school.

Much discussion around the wish list items, what should be covered by the school and what is appropriate for the PAC.

Wish list items (not comprehensive): Risers for music room (not a school bought item, use ours more than most schools).

Front entry beautification. Planning a mural in the stair well. What do we want?

Playground equipment for the grade 4/5 area, Cadboro Bay Field. PAC has ideas for this project and has been saving for this project.

Class sets of clipboards.

Matching rain ponchos for Kindergarteners.

White shirts for choir.

Sheltered area outdoors for education purposes. This was much discussed. There are many possible issues with this idea and it needs more discussion.

The school board will purchase any technology for the students. This is due to cheaper prices due to bulk buy and it is then provisioned to be safe for student use.

How much money does PAC have to spend?

Our gaming account has \$11 000 deposited each year, and needs to be spent within 3 years.

Our general account we can do as we like. We have a line in our budget for a long term project, this is intended to finance the playground for the grade 4/5 area.

Launie Frankson, teacher and acting Vice Principal, presentation on the 5 C's.

Caring, Cooperative, Capable, Curious, Creative

Discussed how "Caring" was shared in the school. Projects completed by students.

Caring completed, Cooperative is now ongoing.

Some videos created by students on Caring were shown, this showcased some new technology as well as the 5 C's. Technology in the classroom was also discussed. Two teachers are trialling iPads in the classroom.

A discussion occurred where parents shared experiences of various class room website designs and applications. We discussed shutterfly, Scola and Class messenger. We learned about the need for security to protect children's privacy as some websites are open to the public. Wendy explains that this is a teacher decision to use whatever application they prefer. Many teachers are not operating classroom websites.

PAC President presents PAC projects.

PAC website is getting updated, thank you to our communications volunteer. Stay tuned for new content such as volunteer opportunities, meeting minutes and PAC newsletter.

PAC is adopting a more active presence on social media to build community.

Suggestion Box coming to the office to be trialled until the end of the year.

Plan to use Survey Monkey to poll parents on key questions to get feedback when parents can't attend PAC meetings.

Presented a possible contest to see what class can get the most parents subscribed to the PAC website.

We have new committees: Playground committee, Welcome committee, Green team.

We discussed acquiring new garbage cans for the playground that are more child friendly (hoping more garbage will find its way into garbage cans).

PAC chair and pizza coordinator hosted a PAC coffee morning after the first bell in the staff room the morning of the PAC meeting. This was well attended and will happen again next PAC meeting.

The group in attendance was welcome to contribute ideas for projects for the school. Ideas and wish list generated and discussed.

Questions:

Why was pizza day off in March? Due to the scheduling of Winter break and Spring break. This is not planned to continue.

PAC is putting together a Spring Cherry Blossom Festival for May 19, the last day of school before the long weekend. It will be after school, outdoors, with a band, food, games and activities. Committee forming now to plan this event.

Meeting closed at 9:10 pm.