

Willows Parent Advisory Committee BCSD61

Executive Meeting Minutes April 24, 2019

Commencement 7:35 pm

Adjournment 8:22 pm

Executive in Attendance: Cindy Rodier (chair), Jean Pakvis (Vice chair/communications), Krissy Johns (secretary), Kelli van Leeuwen (class rep coordinator), Wendy Holob (Principal), 15 parents. Special guests: Mark Walsh (SD 61 Secretary Treasurer), Rob Paynter (SD 61 School Trustee)

Welcome Words by PAC chair, Cindy Rodier.

Approval of the Feb 20 agenda approved by Krissy Johns , seconded by Cindy Rodier.

Approval of the April 24 meeting minutes approved by Krissy Johns, seconded by Jean Pakvis.

Update from Wendy Holob:

<Wendy showed those in attendance a chart outlining a preliminary class organisation for the next school year. Since this chart is an early draft of the initial sorting process, we have not included it in the minutes>

The school based team begins the initial sorting of students into classes for next year, based on maximum numbers and designations of students. Once the initial sort happens, teachers take the lead placing the remainder of students. Most grades will have combined classes for next year.

A grade 5 classroom can have a max of 29 students. If there are 2 students with designations, the maximum number of students is 28. If there are more than 2 students with designations, the class can have a maximum of 23 students.

A parent asked why we can't find out class placement for the following September in June:

Wendy responded that a designated child moving or arriving over summer can change the entire grid of placement. As it stands, the School District practice is to hold class composition decisions until the middle of the second week in September, so a determination can be made if additional classes need to be added to a school. Since Willows is full with no available space for additional classrooms, we are often given the go ahead to begin our school year on the second day of classes.

Friday April 26th, the new principal will be announced. This information will be in the April newsletter.

Wendy and Dianne will work on introducing the incoming principal to the school as soon as schedules permit.

PAC Business:

Chair report, Cindy Rodier

Discussion:

PLAYGROUND ISSUES

<SD 61 Secretary Treasurer Mark Walsh answered questions surrounding ongoing issues regarding the siting of the 4 / 5 playground>

-Complaints with the playground continue - Willows pac fundraised for 6 years to have the funds to purchase the equipment and pay the school district for the installation. The school community is frustrated that a complaint from a neighbour has led to the school district spending a large amount of money to 'be a good neighbour'.

SD 61 Secretary Treasurer stated that PAC and Willows followed all proper procedures, the deficiency comes from the school district.

Cedars are being installed in the immediate future, so the playground will be behind construction fencing until this work is complete. If any further remediations are to occur, there will be consultation according to proper policy procedures. The school district is not anticipating installing any further remediations to the site.

As far as the school district is concerned, the issue is over, barring any unforeseen actions being brought forth by the aggrieved party against the school district.

Willows school community members have tried to shelter the complainant's child, who currently attends Willows, from any backlash as a result from their parent's actions.

Any future emails received by the PAC should be forwarded directly to the principal and the school district.

<Rob Paynter and Mark Walsh left the meeting>

PLANNING FOR NEXT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

< PAC will develop a survey for parents about ideas for the next major project >

Long Term Spending -

(see list in Jan PAC minutes)

So far, risers have been purchased. PAC paid half. These were delivered and ready to go before the musical.

PAC will make an announcement about purchases made through PAC soon.

PAC could support and encourage moneys for families in need, but we would not be able to use PAC funds for monetary contributions. A parent suggested that monetary donations, possibly through pizza ordering website could be established to fund students and families in need.

It was asked if PAC could have an arm that funds the 'educational fund' for disadvantaged students.

-PAC VACANCIES FOR SEPTEMBER:

-emergency preparations coordinator

-Pizza/sushi co-ordinators (2)

We will discuss this further at the May AGM. If any parents know anyone who may be interested, please come to the May PAC meeting.

Events Committee:

Discussion:

The Blossom Tree festival this year is May 16 5:30p-8p

We Need lots of volunteers to make this happen. Class reps will email parents with further info and a link to the Sign Up Genius site for volunteer time slots.

Some of the things to look forward to at the festival:

- 6 food trucks
- OBF will be there
- photo booth
- carnival games
- obstacle course
- Many of the favourites

Karen Manders- Bowker Creek Mural

A mural is in the planning stages for the public works wall at the Oak Bay Track. Oak Bay is looking for inspiration from the community. Some students take a trip to look at site and get ideas to give to the artist who is doing the mural. Artist to be announced soon.

Adjourn at 8:22pm

The next PAC meeting May 16, 2019. 7-8:30 pm School library