

Willows Parent Advisory Committee BCSD61

Meeting Minutes January 22, 2020

Commencement 7:04 pm

Adjournment 9:08 pm

Executive in attendance: Cindy Rodier (Chair), Krissy Johns (Secretary), Bronwen Sharpe (Past chair), Jenny Dickson (Treasurer), Stephanie Novak (CPF Rep), Brenna O'Connor (Principal), Dianne Chrétien (Vice principal), 3 parents.

Welcome Words by PAC Chair, Cindy Rodier

Approval of the January 22, 2020 agenda approved by Danielle Brochu, seconded by Emma Mister.

Approval of the November 20, 2019 meeting minutes approved by Cindy Rodier, seconded by Bronwen Sharpe.

Update from Brenna O'Connor and Dianne Chrétien:

The school board has a new strategic plan, which has been in the works over the past 5 years.

The plan consists of 4 goals:

- Student learning
- Indigenous learners
- Equity and access
- Access to physical and mental health wellbeing

The board is hoping to share the plan with PACs and staff to see if the district priorities align with those of staff and school families.

Break out groups were formed and discussions were had about the new strategic plan. Notes were taken by each group and handed back to the administration for feedback to SD61.

PAC Business:

Chair Report, Cindy Rodier

'Dough'-nuts will be distributed with the February hot lunch day food.

PAC Executive Vacancies

The following roles will be vacant for the 2020/21 school year:

- Chair
- Vice chair
- Communications officer
- CPF rep
- VC PAC rep (currently vacant)
- Secretary (If there are no nominees, the current secretary will remain under the special circumstances clause as stated in the bylaws.)

< Current executive will write up descriptions and duties for each role and advertise vacancies across PAC online platforms. >

Treasurer Report, Jenny Dickson

2019/2020 budget is available for viewing upon request.

Contribution drive has raised \$17,000 this year so far.

< Treasurer will let teachers know about moneys available for field trips, clubs, etc. >

Parent Survey

The parent survey results have been received. 164 people responded to the SurveyMonkey.

The following have been noted as parent driven priorities for development and spending:

- Long term spending priorities (in order of popularity) – playground, outdoor learning, classroom
- Long term spending priorities (in order of importance) – in class learning equip, then outdoor, then playgrounds, then sustainability
- #1 theme was natural playgrounds, outdoor learning spaces
- Soccer area for K/1 side
- Gardening – indigenous garden

Brenna mentioned that Habitat Acquisition Trust came in to Doncaster Elementary. to help with the installation of garden area. They may be a helpful resource if garden spaces are something that the PAC wishes to pursue.

- Transform the path to the 2/3 playground into a native garden/natural play space.=
- Some other ideas mentioned (in no order)
 - More trees, prizes instead of candy at PAC events, picnic area, increased seating, outdoor learning space, covered area, increased hot lunches, bullying prevention and intervention, partner with more local groups, increased spending for clubs, more communications around clubs, increase focus on First Nations culture, slush fund for families in need

< PAC will ask Michelle to redesign the survey to narrow down the options to a few achievable priorities for PAC funding support. >

Discussion:

Dianne has a video clip of an outdoor learning space at a school in Langley. It was suggested that PAC connect with Lifecycles re: help developing outdoor classrooms.

Brenna suggested that a projector for gym would be a top spending priority from a school standpoint. FM sound fields could be a long-term spending item that would benefit all students in the classroom.

< Brenna will ask teachers for a list of their PAC spending priorities. >

A parent asked for more information on current and future clubs offered at Willows. Due to the number of students at the school, clubs are usually only mentioned over the announcements. The kids can decide if they are interested in participating. It was suggested that the Monterey Centre be contacted for volunteers to assist teachers with school clubs due to oversubscription/size of clubs when offered.

< Brenna will update the weekly events email to list current clubs >

PAC morning catch-up, Thursday morning in the staff room.

The next PAC meeting is on February 19th, 2020 at 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the school library.