

## Queensbury Elementary School PAC Meeting

### Meeting Notes:

**Location:** Virtual Meeting (Google Meet)

**Date:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Attendees: Janice Phillips, Flora Yuen, Randy Holman, Sarah McKinney Jana Hrubá, Alexia M, Anna Vlasova, Ashley, Charlotte Hinkson, Hannah Chalkley, Helen Chambers, Jacquelyn Morrow, Lee-Ann Denham, Lindsay Calder, Sarah Hughes, Vicky Sra

7:17 pm started the meeting.

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (Jan Phillips)
2. Adopted the meeting minutes from last meeting (November)
  - a. Motion to adopt (Jan Phillips)
  - b. Seconded (Jana Hrubá)
3. Admin Report (Randy Holman and Helen Chambers)
  - Introduced Helen Chambers, new Vice Principle and Grade 6/7 Teacher; originally from the United Kingdom, but most previously taught at Westview Elementary.
  - FSAs have gone home with children, parents are welcome to ask questions. Teachers do not have access to the results, but parents can bring them in if they have questions.
  - Registration for the band and strings program is open for next year.
  - Salmonoid program is open! Students are loving have a peek at them. Will be studying the life cycle, and there will be a release day which will be communicated.
  - Grade 7/8 transition info emails have gone to parents:
    - February 8<sup>th</sup>: date for Parent evening (the date you need to pay attention to).
    - There is a workshop at Sutherland Highschool that offers a transition opportunity (Feb 8th)
    - That evening (also Feb 8th), there is a programing evening, which is at 7pm.
  - Grade 6 Outdoor School:
    - Decision to send the children home due to the windstorm and snow; risk of power outage (no way to keep them warm in cabins).
    - There will be a \$50 rebate from what parents paid and will finish off the event later this year (Predator Prey game), more information to come on that, which will also include Braemar school which presents a nice opportunity to re-connect.
4. PAC Executive Update:
  - Staff appreciation tomorrow morning (January 24<sup>th</sup>).
  - Love Ball (February 1<sup>st</sup>) : tickets are available on Munch-a-Lunch
    - Have hit 90+ tickets sold so far.
    - Tickets are 10\$ each (chaperone tickets are also 10\$ each)
    - A couple of children can come with a parent; it needs to be understood that there is no official supervision provided.
    - PJ day to follow on February 2nd.
  - Feb 13th (Parent Night with Saleema Noon)

- Will answer any questions with any parents, to understand the program, what information is being shared, for example, the difference between what is shared with kindergarten vs the older grades.
- Edible Garden Education Program:
  - Will have 10 classes participating in it this year; will be running a condensed program this year.
    - Will start in February through till June with grade appropriate activities.
    - 40-60 minute lessons each month; held outside in the school garden with assistance from volunteers and the classroom teacher.
  - If anyone is wanting more info about the program, they can visit [www.ediblegardenproject.com](http://www.ediblegardenproject.com)
  - Jana asked about donations for the bins, soil.
  - Will be waiting for better weather.
- Fundraising Update (**SEE ATTACHED TREASURER REPORT FOR ACTUALS**)
  - Adults Night: \$979
  - Growing Smiles: \$415
  - Purdy's: approx. \$500
  - Moja Coffee: approx. \$350
- Spring Fair:
  - Are already beginning planning, it's just around the corner.
  - Raffle ideas: are approaching the firehall, lunch with the mayor, things like that.
  - Randy Holman: noted that they dressed up the principle and vice principle (winning class chose the theme).
  - Jan noted that many volunteers will be needed: running games, set-up and take down etc.

### Discussion:

- Question about a recent email re: Cyber Safe Workshop email from school admin: said that there was additional information in West Van tonight, felt this was short notice.
  - Helen Chambers: acknowledged that it was a tight turn-around. Part of the problem was the timing of her coming into the Vice Principal role and a resulting hold-up of information. It was suggested that the organization hosting the event (in the email) would be the best contact, if additional information was needed due to not being able to attend at short notice.
- Question about Intermediate Grades being provided a presentation on anti-racism. Wondering if an email had been sent and if the presentation was open to parents?
  - Randy Holman: noted the timing wasn't great on communicating out about the presentation. Feel that more resources (not just the BC Lions, who are part of this upcoming presentation) needs to be put towards the subject of anti-racism and anti-bullying; it's a difficult one to address. It's a more powerful message if it comes from someone who is a spokesperson (like a sports team), or a person of colour.
  - Agree that we should have put it in earlier.
  - In the presentation, understand it's a gently worded topic.
  - Confirmed that parents are welcome to attend.

- For Randy how we all speak to each other is something that is a priority to him.
- Question about Saleema Noon: are parents going to get an “opt-in”.
  - Randy Holman confirmed he would look back at what had been done in the past and could confirm.
- Love Ball: noted by a parent that there was a call out for volunteers for the love ball for volunteers. Is that all covered off?
  - Janice Phillips: confirmed that Cherine is leading the decorations and then there is a call for volunteers for the love ball itself for helpers.

Meeting ended at 8:05pm