



Chimney Hill Elementary - PAC

(Parent Advisory Council)

14755 74 Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3S 8Y8 E-mail: chimneyhillpac@gmail.com

PAC Meeting Minutes (Draft – Pending approval)

Thursday Nov.17, 2022 5:07pm- 6:45pm

Executive in Attendance:

Amardeep Gill- Chair
Jodi Neidert – Vice Chair
Preet Bhullar – Community Development
Ruby Manhas - Social Events

Parent Attendance:

Sonia Pathak
Kulwinder Dhaliwal
Harjit Khaira
& other parents not signed in

Regrets:

Kiran Bains – Hot Lunch Coordinator
Jayvi Puharich – Treasurer
Suzy Fong – DPAC
Anju Siekham- Fundraising

Staff Attendance:

Ms. Reiter- Principal
Ms. Watson- Vice Principal

Chair: Amardeep Gill

Minutes recorded by Jodi Neidert

- Motion to begin meeting at 5:07pm by Amardeep. Seconded by Jodi.
- Previous minutes were adopted and are available on [PAC Documents \(surreyschools.ca\)](https://www.surreyschools.ca/PAC/Documents).
- **Hot Lunch:** PAC organized pizza hot lunch is tomorrow. Cheese pizza sale is by cash \$3.00 per slice. Next hot lunch is in two weeks in December.
- **Community Development:**
 - Preet attended the City of Surrey's [Empower Surrey Parent Workshop](#) for parents of Grade 6-7 students. Information shared by RCMP, Surrey Anti-Gang Family Empowerment, and a Counsellor. More presentations will be held, and PAC will share dates of these sessions. Resources can also be found at [EmpowerSurrey.ca](https://www.empowersurrey.ca).
 - RCMP Gang Task Force runs [Shattering The Image](#) sessions for students/parents as well. Discussion took place whether it is appropriate to have the RCMP provide a session at Chimney Hills for both parents and students. A couple of sessions have taken place in the past with mixed reviews. [Project Lavender](#) Presentation by RCMP to female students was well received in the past.



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- **Social Events/Fundraising:** Discussion took place regarding the dance program starting in February, including different avenues for fundraising such as a “family friendship dance”, a carnival in the spring with games and prizes, possible family day pictures, and a Krispy Kreme fundraiser, which was a hit in the past.
- **DPAC-** Suzy is away. Information was provided by Amardeep.
 - DPAC organized the foster parent presentations, and information is available online. PAC 101 presentations are also available at [Surrey District Parents Advisory Council \(surreydpac.ca\)](http://surreydpac.ca).
 - [Family & Student Affordability Fund](#) information was distributed in the DPAC newsletter.
- **Treasurer’s Report and Budget Requests –**
 - Operating October 31st 2022 balance: \$9,290.19
 - Deposits:
 - \$70.14 left-over Classroom Funds from school (from last year)
 - Withdrawals:
 - \$565.00 Principal's Fund (\$1 x 565 students)
 - \$2,600.00 Classroom Fund (\$100 x 26 divisions)
 - \$600.00 Non-Enrolling Staff Fund (\$50 x 12 staff)
 - Gaming October 31st 2022 balance: \$11,736.43
 - Withdrawals:
 - \$69.50 Divas for Student Diwali Craft
 - Budget Approvals:**
 - **Gaming: \$2,600 for Fieldtrip Fund**
- **Parents Forum:** Message to the parent community, by Amardeep, on behalf of PAC, to support and help PAC (fundraise, contacts, time, feedback) and volunteer actively for hot lunches and events. Discussion took place as to what are some of the best avenues to communicate with the parent community i.e. email, newsletter, whats app, fliers, websites, Instagram – whether messages are getting across to all the parent community.

Discussion took place regarding what type of events we can host successfully for fundraising and bringing the parent community together – Xmas sales, yearly BBQ in September, Staff appreciation, and book donations. Some of these events have been tried before. More discussion can take place on BBQ in September.

Concerns about snow related issues were brought up by parents. Parents are asking School to be more prepared as last year snow was not shoveled in front of most of the classrooms as well as access walkways at the back of the school were icy – resulting in a Health & Safety Hazard. Mrs. Reiter indicated that this year, the snow will be dealt with as it has been clearly communicated to the school custodians. They have shovels and salt ready to go now. Overnight snow, that freezes, becomes hard and was impossible to



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clear last year. Pathway by Gravel field is not school's responsibility (its City's responsibility) and is not going to be salted. Families are encouraged to Report a Problem at City's [MySurrey](#) website to flag "Snow or Ice" related issues.

Parents voiced concerns about the 148th street cross walk, and if there is any way support can be requested from the city by School Admin.

Parents also asked if children are allowed to go to class through the front office in case of severe snow and slippery conditions. Mrs. Reiter indicated that children have been allowed to come in through the office, if it is slippery.

PAC has the Secretary position vacant currently, and an ask is made to the parent community to spread the word to fill in for the volunteer position.

Discussion took place on forming a Yearbook Committee. Mrs. Reiter indicated that for the yearbook, generally grade 7s take up the load for part of the year. Teachers are not specifically interested in a yearbook this year as there are higher priorities. Parents would like to see a yearbook and feedback was that Yearbook does not have to be extensive or long. As it gives a sense of pride to students in later years, the Yearbook can be a short, condensed version as pictures are already on Instagram and each class can work on its own page. We need to be creative about it. The Yearbook in 2020 (\$8k paid by PAC) was nice. Last year, there was only a Grade 7 yearbook. Mrs. Reiter will ask about pricing from Mountain West.

- **Principal's Report – Ms. Reiter** – Coding club iPads (\$6,800 paid by PAC last year) have arrived, and they will be ready as soon as "apps" are downloaded. Garath Poon will volunteer time for this program. Students will start introduction meetings tomorrow. Currently, the coding program can accommodate only 15 students. The program will be rolled out for Grade 5 students at this time, and the school is hoping to grow this. Student names will be drawn out of a hat for student selection. Students will work on the program once a week during lunch hour.

Mrs. Watson provided an update on the Garden club (\$2,000 funded by PAC last year) – 200 Tulips and other flowers were planted today. Last year, all the students were able to participate. 4 large planters with automatic water were ordered including an outdoor learning cart, which the teachers are enjoying very much. These are worth-while investments from the PAC.

The Samosa and popcorn fundraiser did reasonably well – approximately \$650.00 raised – the money has been spent on sound systems in classrooms.

So far, Purdy's sale fundraiser has not gone well. Only 4 People have participated. Reminder will go out in the planners tomorrow.

Budget Requests: Field Trip requests (from Gaming fund). Money from Gaming funds must be paid directly to the vendor or can be reimbursed to school based on invoice. PAC would need to vote on setting aside a fund first, and cheques can then be issued based on invoices. Family & Student



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Affordability fund with Principal is also a good source for those parents who cannot afford to pay for field trips.

Admin has indicated that there have been families who have come forward and have been provided some help. Mrs. Reiter indicated that the teachers watch for those who may need it. Parents have asked Admin to share further information broadly/transparently on how to access the affordability fund (who is eligible, what type of assistance can be sought).

BUDGET Motion to put \$2,600 into a Field trip Fund to be divided between Primary and Intermediate classes (cost of bus varies). Motion put forward by Preet, seconded by Jodi. Passed All in favor no against.

Speaking to affordability and limiting barrier to participation, Scholastic and Mountain West Photos charge shipping fees for sending package to house addresses (process implemented during Covid). PAC is asking Admin to consider having packages come back to school to be distributed to avoid these extra charges for parents..

Upcoming Planned Meetings schedule:

- December No meeting
 - January 19
 - February 16
 - March No meetings
 - April 20
 - May 18
 - June 15 PAC Executive Only Wrap Up
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- **Motion to close the meeting at 6:45 pm by Jodi Seconded by Preet.**

Next Meeting: Thursday January 19 meeting time to be determined