

École Peace Arch Elementary PAC | November 15, 2017 | Meeting MINUTES

6:30pm | Peace Arch Elementary Library | peacearchpacnews@gmail.com | peacearch.hotlunches.net |  [Peace Arch PAC](#)

President Erin Harvie
Vice-President Elizabeth McCrank
Treasurer Laura Creech
Secretary Kristen Fryer

20 Attendees

Erin Harvie, Elizabeth McCrank, Reid Christiansen, Arin Bird, Julie Ross, Gurpreet Bhatti, Const. Chantal Sears, Const. Travis Anderson, Ken Wuschke, Sean Halliburton, Manraj Heir, Sukhpreet Heir, Laura Creech, Maria Ramsey, Alynne Penner, Jenn Vanlderstine, Jennifer Wilson, Carol Davidson, Chris Bobrownik, Kristen Fryer.

PAC meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm in the school library. Upcoming 2018 Meetings (no meetings in Dec/March/June): Jan 17, Feb 21, Apr 18, May 16 (AGM). ALL parents and guardians of Peace Arch students are welcome, and are voting members of the PAC. **PAC Website:** peacearch.hotlunches.net. **Not just for hot lunch! It's our general PAC website!**

Annual PAC Fundraising Campaign Reminder:



To date, **only 13% of Peace Arch families have contributed.** Please donate today! Drop off your cheque at the office, or click the button to donate online. Fundraising made easy! No coupon books, cookie dough, chocolate almonds, or poinsettias to sell... Just a single annual donation to improve your child's school experience. Tax receipts for contributions of \$25+. Don't delay – donate today!



Traffic Safety at Peace Arch Elementary ~ White Rock R.C.M.P. Constables Sears & Anderson

- City of WR replaced the drop-off zone signs in Oct; now very clear language; 8am-5pm school zone
- speed enforcement in our school zone (30 km/h); City Bylaw will enforce the drop-off zones
- **City of WR to install lighted crosswalk at Roper & Prospect East** (towards Stayte); request from a parent for flashing crosswalk lights at Thrift & Kent
- school activities: our School Liaison Officers have been here teaching the WITS program (walk away, ignore, talk it out, seek help) to the primary grades
- **Grades 6-7 VPD Odd Squad**, age appropriate drug addiction prevention presentation on Dec 11; info will go out to parents ahead of time; link for parents to watch the video that will be shown; part of the Vancouver School Curriculum
- LEADS (UVIC program) for Grades 4-5, taught in Surrey School District (<http://web.uvic.ca/wits/schools/leads-program/>)
- great appreciation from the PAC for this year's RCMP involvement in traffic safety; thank you to RCMP from admin for being great advocates with the City for our student safety

Admin Report ~ Ms. Davison & Mr. Bobrownik

- new portable: hoping to have class move from Library to new portable next week
- Recent Events:
 - 3 non-instructional days Oct/Nov:
 1. PSA day (Provincial Specialist Association) day
 2. curriculum implementation for deepening teachers' understanding of new curriculum
 3. in lieu day for professional development day taken in the summer
 - field trips (PAC funds a portion of these): pumpkin patch, skating, fire hall, local seniors' residence, Gr.4 symphony trip on Friday, grocery store, rock climbing, Burnaby waste-to-energy plant
 - great Halloween festivities, fantastic costumes this year!; John Wilson local author, World War topics
 - Remembrance Day assembly: some concern from parents re. content of student readings and slide show; discussion about providing parents more info ahead of sensitive topics (especially Kindergarten families)
 - FSAs are wrapping up this week for Grades 4 and 7; admin is seeing a real increase in parents excusing their kids from the FSAs; last PAC meeting we discussed how French Immersion parents are leery about their kids taking the English-language test when they've only had English instruction for one year

- Upcoming Events:
 - Next week Body Science presentations for parents and students by Saleema Noon; parent night Monday, Nov. 20th, 6:30-8pm; student workshops daytime Thursday, Nov. 23rd by grade groupings (K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7)
 - assemblies: new waste program, and goal to have zero garbage cans in classrooms; just use sorting bins in hallways; still some education required about what goes where
 - Peace Arch is an election site for federal byelection Monday, Dec. 11
 - **Young Entrepreneurs Fair Tuesday, Dec. 12;** 4 classes participating; students must come up with a product to sell to their peers, such as xmas ornaments, bracelets, slime, etc. Looks like a science fair or craft fair; learning about budgeting, market research, etc.; some will get a loan from their parents for their business; will be open after school for parents and students to attend (no food, no services)
 - **Christmas Concert Tues, Dec 19 and Wed, Dec 20 (two afternoons and one evening); 19th and 20th afternoons, everyone including band; evening concert will be just primary grades (19th/20th date TBA)**
 - Middle Years Development Instrument (<http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi/>): Grade 4s: like the old 'school satisfaction survey'; to get a sense of what are the assets and resources that our students have; will eventually be grades 4 and 7; like EDI (administered by Kindergarten teachers); it's an online survey, consent forms were sent home; kids can opt out at any time; data is collected at a neighbourhood level; to determine what supports and resources are needed in different neighbourhoods; has been done at K level for at least a decade.
- Items to Discuss:
 - discussion about amount of waste produced by Hot Lunch; the school is encouraging litter-less lunches, but Hot Lunch often produces a lot of garbage; little milk cartons need to be rinsed; discussion about having kids pack home their garbage/recycling for parents to clean & recycle; options for more environmentally packaging?
 - question about Al Pitchler musical possibility for next year; great interest from parents to have another musical production at Peace Arch; staff to discuss at next staff meeting
- Technology needs:
 - Priority is 3 more laptops for the 100 pod (Cost approx.. \$3400)
 - Second priority is replacing the iPads and possibly charging carts.
 - iPads for both primary and intermediate would cost \$21,150
 - Two carts if needed cost \$4200
 - School's technology budget for the year is approx.. \$3000, but can be increased with permission from the district – would take away from other learning resources (i.e. textbooks, novels)

Treasurer's Report ~ Laura C.

- many thanks to Arin B. for restocking the emergency rations in our Emergency Preparedness container
- **Fundraising Campaign Update: almost \$5,700 from 44 families; only 13% of Peace Arch families participating so far; campaign to run to the end of Nov.**
- need more reminders to families; discussion about using paper newsletters, we get a much better response; need flyers in every classroom window, and kids to write in agenda

DPAC Report (Surrey District Parent Advisory Council) ~ Ken W.

- Keeping up-to-date with DPAC news and events:
 - Subscribe to emails at <http://surreydpac.ca>; Follow on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/surreydpac/>
- Playground funding: On October 23rd Minister for Education Fleming announced that he would champion more funding for school playgrounds in the February 2018 budget. Link to the Vancouver Sun article [here](#).
- BCCPAC Resolutions: upcoming 2017 DPAC FALL SUMMIT Nov. 24- 25 the BCCPAC is asking for resolutions to be brought forward from PACs. Pacific Gateway Hotel, Richmond, BC. Cost is \$75 for two people. Full details [here](#).
- Donating to PACs: it's possible to donate funds through Surrey School District's donation page to PACs, a receive a tax receipt. <https://www.surreyschools.ca/departments/BDEV/Donations/WaystoGive/Pages/default.aspx>
- Gaming Grants: Tanya Scaiano, Charitable Gaming Auditor, from Gaming Policy & Enforcement gave an overview on PACs receiving funds through the Gaming Grants program.
 - The funds must be used to benefit the community. This is defined as 30% to 40% and greater of a given school's student population.

- It is possible to fund out-of-province travel for sports teams with prior permission from the Gaming Policy & Enforcement branch.
- Have a proper paper trail as to how the funds are being spent. Due to the recent thefts from different PACs the Gaming Policy & Enforcement branch is planning to have a workshop on how to handle gaming funds.
- Keep the past five years on file in case of an audit.
- If there are any questions forward them to the Gaming Policy & Enforcement office in Victoria -- Gaming.branch@gov.bc.ca or 250-387-1301.
- PACs working with school administrations: Kelly Thomson of Internal Audit & Risk Management at Surrey Schools gave a quick presentation on working with school administrations on funding programs.
 - PAC funds are PAC money. Only the PAC decides how these funds are to be spent.
 - Work closely with the school admin by having each party supply a list of suggested projects to fund. This is a negotiation, so work it out through a couple of meetings. And remember to consult the PAC at a meeting.
 - At the end of the project ask the school administration for a copy of all the receipts. If there is money that wasn't spent it is to be returned to the PAC via cheque to ensure a paper trail.
- Next DPAC Meeting: Wed., Nov. 22, 2017 – 6:45-9:00PM @ Surrey School District offices, 14033 92 Avenue, Surrey.

Snowball Dance ~ Friday, Dec 8, 5-8pm ~ Arin B. & Maria R.

- **seeking donations of wine for Wine Wall, and gift cards for Plinko Gift Card Challenge; gift cards in any amount, as long as they're labelled. Please drop off donations at the school office.**
- **donations are still quite low; please get in your donations in ASAP!**
- Arin and Maria are working to get as much as possible donated for supplies, snacks, etc.
- Pizza, pop, water, candy bags, etc.
- need a big thermometer for snowball dance, for annual fundraising campaign display
- tickets will be \$3.00, to be sold through the hot lunch website, PayPal.

Hot Lunch ~ Elizabeth M.

- Round 2 coming up; ordering will be open Dec 3-17, for lunches delivered Jan-March
- Sports Day June 15, Gr.4 parents cook the hotdogs for Grade 4 fundraising! Sports Day rain-out day is Monday, June 18
- **Lively discussion about eliminating Hot Lunch concession window;** some kids are sent to school on HL days with cash, and they order their lunch at the window; most HL days we're losing around \$50 at the concession window.
- proposal to eliminate the concession window for Rounds 2 and 3; will have to give parents enough notice; need to encourage parents to order and pay during ordering period.

Playground Replacement ~ Sean H.

- Sean, Kristen, & Carol met with Dave from *Habitat Systems* at the end of Oct, to look at the space and discuss concepts
- Habitat is working on conceptual drawings for our playground footprints and school needs
- we're being cautious not to over-commit ourselves until we know more about the potential govt. funding
- suggestion to bolster fundraising by showing how much playground we've raised funds for (i.e. picture of the empty space with one small section of slide, a few foundation posts, etc.)
- suggestion to photograph any visible wear on the playground
- suggestion for "I played on the playground" stickers; send kids home wearing the stickers

CPF (Canadian Parents for French) ~ Erin H. per Jo Ann S.

- CPF looking for *Carnaval* host school; French cultural experience for French Immersion students; open to the public
- lottery for schools to apply for \$500 CPF grant

Meeting adjourned 8:09pm. Next PAC meeting is Wednesday, January 17th, 2018 at 6:30pm in the School Library.