


# École Peace Arch Elementary PAC | February 26, 2019 | Meeting MINUTES

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

President	Laura Creech	<b>16 Attendees</b>
Vice-President	Erin Harvie (absent)	Laura Creech, Jennifer Wilson, Katie Everson, Sara Raouf, Kristen Fryer, Carol Davison, Chris Bobrownik, Sean Halliburton, Chantal Sears, Natasha Langlois,
Treasurer	Jennifer Wilson	Alynn Penner, Elizabeth McCrank, Tana Jennings, Gurpreet Bhatti, Reid Christiansen, Lizzie Cheng.
Secretary	Kristen Fryer	

Ideas for fundraising, playground design, money allocation, PAC events, etc.? We want to hear from you!

**Upcoming PAC meetings are at 6:30pm in the library (no meeting in March): Apr 16, May 21 (AGM).**

**ALL parents/guardians of Peace Arch students are welcome, and are voting members of the PAC.**

**PAC Website: [peacearch.hotlunches.net](http://peacearch.hotlunches.net). *This is not just for hot lunch! It's our general PAC website!***

**If you have a child at Peace Arch, please register for the website to stay up-to-date with our school community.**

## 1. Introductions - Laura C.

- **Welcome** and introductions; thank you all for attending! Reminder of how we approve our monthly meeting minutes: PAC Secretary will complete and email the minutes to all attendees for approval/edits; will make any necessary changes, then distribute minutes via email to parent community, and will post on PAC website
- Many thanks to **Fiona K. and Grandview Corners Starbucks** for donating tonight's coffee & tea; to **Katie E.** for providing mugs; and to volunteer Brooklyn for childminding tonight!

## 2. Admin Report - Carol D. & Chris B.

### 2.1. Recent Events:

- **Pod renaming** - getting used to the new names!; everyone at school is making a great effort to use the new names instead of the old pod numbers; Pod Renaming Celebration assembly went very well and was featured in the Peace Arch News and through the Surrey School District.
  - Received a "Special Projects" grant from District level Aboriginal Education to commission artwork and workshops to complete the renaming.
- **Ski and Snowboard Club** – last day is Feb 28th; many thanks for parents' understanding re. large buses in the drop-off zone on Ski Club days.
- Sand the Clown workshops – two snow days will be made up in May; instruction in English and French.
- **Science Fair** was held today (Feb 26); 98 students from 4 classes participated, plus 8 judges; 4 students will attend the District Science Fair at Central City on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Wrapping up Basketball this week.
- **Pink Shirt Day** for kindness and anti-bullying, Wed., Feb 27<sup>th</sup> – class activities as well as assembly.
- Field trips: Skating, Art Gallery, Fort Langley.
- Practicum students working with Mme Grainger and Mrs. Calbick.

### 2.2. Upcoming events:

- **Choir Festival** at the Bell Centre, Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Speech Fest/Concours** – March 13 (concours).
- RCMP presentations – **Bullying Awareness and ODD Squad** from the VPD.
- **Term 2 progress reporting** prior to Spring Break; no specific day for report cards to come home; parents should be up-to-date on their child's learning based on continual feedback throughout the school year, via FreshGrade or other reporting methods; report cards are no longer a surprise recap of students' progress.
- Ultimate Frisbee and Badminton starting soon.
- **Student Learning Survey** – online survey for students in grades 4 and 7 (and 10), parents and staff. Takes place from February – April 2019; previously called "School Satisfaction Survey"; parents will be sent a link to an anonymous online survey about their child's learning, our school in general, etc.

### 2.3. Items to Discuss:

- Liter-less lunches: students are being encouraged to bring lunches containing no litter, and to take home leftovers rather than throwing them out. On hot lunch days, there is an announcement in the morning telling kids which items are recyclable. Reminder to send a sealable container (Tupperware, Ziplock, etc.) for leftovers.

### 3. Treasury Report & Final Tally for 2018/2019 Donations Drive - Jennifer W.

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#### 3.1. Donations Drive tally: 107 families donated \$13,580! Our best campaign yet! Approx. 33% participation!

- Annual Fundraising Campaign History:
  - 2017/18 Campaign: \$11,697 from 87 families (approx. 25% participation)
  - 2016/17 Campaign: \$10,726 from 74 families (approx. 20% participation)
  - 2015/16 Campaign: \$11,575 from 93 families (approx. 30% participation)
- Many thanks to all the generous families who donated – your contributions make a huge difference to our kids' school experience at Peace Arch!
- Several families were able to donate through their work or their union; parents, it's not too late to check with your employer or union – ask if they have a charitable giving/matching program
- While our Donations Drive has officially wrapped up for the purpose of 2018 tax receipts, donations to the PAC or Playground Project are gratefully accepted year-round

3.2. Line items removed from our budget: Plywood Pod signs (being covered by the District); Grade 5 Carnival not happening.

3.3. **QSP magazine subscription fundraiser** still running; enter Peace Arch Elementary and student's name for PAC to receive a percentage.

### 4. Playground – Fundraising/Sponsorship Update – Sean H.

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4.1. We submitted a large grant application (\$5k) to the Peace Arch Hospital Foundation's Healthy Community Grant, and hope to hear back within a couple of months

4.2. Fundraising is progressing slowly but surely: from community groups and businesses so far we have raised \$18,200; this is in addition to \$50k in savings from the 2016 and 2017 school years, and the expected \$25k we'll be able to set aside towards the end of this school year.

4.3. **Overall playground fundraising to date (including forecast set-aside of \$25k this school year) for Phase 1 and Phase 2: \$93,200 of our goal of \$150,000.**

4.4. Mathnasium has been in touch with us regarding possible sponsorship

4.5. Half Moon Dentistry is donating \$1,000 as a bronze sponsor

4.6. Our proposed changes to the design have been submitted to Habitat

4.7. **Always looking for more help!** Several more parent volunteers needed. [PeaceArchPACplayground@gmail.com](mailto:PeaceArchPACplayground@gmail.com); need more committee members to continue fundraising, collaborate on design, etc.

### 5. DPAC (District PAC) – Jennifer W.

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5.1. Jennifer attended this month's DPAC meeting; it was well-run, and a positive experience!

5.2. Surrey DPAC is looking at amending many of their bylaws, making some positive changes.

5.3. Meeting topic was financial handling of individual PACs; using the District online system for tax receipt issuance.

5.4. DPAC discussion about making individual PACs registered charities; the only school in Surrey District that is a registered charity is Laronde; too many hoops to jump through re. reporting and audits.

5.5. City Councillor Gary Thind was present at the DPAC meeting; he encouraged questions to the School Board.

5.6. Territorial acknowledgements on District website if needed.

5.7. Surrey School District has already purchased licenses for movie night fundraisers; one free movie per school per year.

5.8. PACs and social media: discussion about how PACs are communicating and how effective each method is.

- each PAC email must have an email opt-out at the bottom of each email.
- North Van has excellent resources for social media policy for PACs; we should refer to this and refresh our PAC's social media policies for next school year.

## 6. Hot Lunch Update – Elizabeth M.

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- 6.1. **Kindergartens** were added this round; suggestion to send Tupperware for large portion leftovers on HL days; even a large ziplock bag or resealable container of some kind.
- 6.2. Div. 3 now gets their lunches delivered to Orca pod to eat with friends; lunches are delivered to Divs. 2, 4, 6 instead.
- 6.3. Subway week was a success, will add an extra Subway week to next round.
- 6.4. **We can always use more helpers on Hot Lunch days**; this week we need one parent to be HL Leader for Hot Dog Day.
  - Round 2 sign-up (Jan-Mar): [volunteersignup.org/JKBBK](http://volunteersignup.org/JKBBK) & Round 3 sign-up (April-June): [volunteersignup.org/MP88E](http://volunteersignup.org/MP88E)
- 6.5. **Grade 4 fundraiser coming up for the Science World field trip; Grade 4 parents are allocated 2 HL days and must provide all the volunteers** (leaders [2 hrs] and pod/classroom supervisors [35 mins])
  - Friday, May 17 (Pizza Day), and Friday, June 14 (Hot Dog & Sports Day)
  - Grade 4 Parents volunteer sheet: [www.volunteersignup.org/8RMRT](http://www.volunteersignup.org/8RMRT)
- 6.6. Round 3 Ordering runs March 1 – 15; all payments MUST be made at the time of ordering: [www.peacearch.hotlunches.net](http://www.peacearch.hotlunches.net)

## 7. Fundraising – LifeTouchStudios – Gurpreet B.

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- 7.1. **Suggested fundraiser**, we can charge as little or as much as we like for the sitting fee; PAC keeps 100% of sitting fee
  - minimum of 13 families needed; could do as a separate playground fundraiser?
  - perhaps right before Christmas?, or at Spring Fling when many of our families are already at the school?
  - free 8x10", you pay for sitting fee approx. \$25, which goes to PAC; approx. 10-15min session.
  - LifeTouch does everything, they do the bookings and take the money; all we have to do is advertise
  - Gurpreet to research if April 26 at Spring Fling is available, and what the time window would be, and if they have ready-made advertising material

## 8. Spring Fling – Friday, April 26th, 2019 – Laura C.

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- 8.1. **Spring Fling is only 2 short months away** – preparations are underway! We have a binder with every task laid out, instructions, photos, etc., and encourage new parents to jump in and get involved with this important fundraiser for our school; **please email [PeaceArchPACNews@gmail.com](mailto:PeaceArchPACNews@gmail.com) if you'd like to get involved!**
  - general feeling is that we have a sufficient number of acceptable games, and the only new feature this year is the photo booth (which we premiered at the Snowball)
  - discussion about needing more volunteers to run some of the stations faster, like face painting
- 8.2. **Volunteers:**
  - Pennants and decor: Reid & Laura
  - Prizes: Kristen, Mary, Sara
  - Raffle baskets: Arin & Courtney
  - Signage: Kristen (NEW SIGNS NEEDED: "Scavenger Hunt", "Free Play", "Photo Booth", others? )
  - Silent auction: Vanessa, Sharon Toor, Kristen
    - **we need parents to start pounding the pavement seeking donations of gift cards/baskets for Silent Auction**
  - Wine Pull: Maria (wrapping and running); Fiona & Laura to solicit donations from Everything Wine and Save On Foods
- 8.3. **Twoonie jars:** families donate clear containers filled w/ small toys; plastic containers instead of glass? Kristen to research.

## 9. Drop-Off / Pick-Up Zone Parking Issues

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- 9.1. **Parents seem to be parking in the drop-off zone again; even though they're in their car, they are just sitting in the drop-off zone before and after school, often with the car running.**
  - What to do?! How do we encourage a school culture of selflessness, and being good role models for our kids by adhering to the posted rules? The drop-off zone is to "drop and go", immediately in and out -- not to sit in a parked car and wait for the bell to ring (either before or after school).
  - Walk-On Wednesdays - house points awarded for kids who walk to school on Wednesdays (at least 2 blocks for out-of-catchment kids who are driven to school)
- 9.2. **Discussion about smoking in the pick-up line in curb parking; Carol to inquire if there is a minimum distance from the school grounds/playground in which smoking is allowed**

## 10. Other Business – Laura C.

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- 10.1. Save-On Foods is donating watermelons for Sports Day in June! Laura to arrange.
- 10.2. Photo booth proposal: would some parent volunteers from our PAC be willing to run a photo booth station, using Jennifer W.'s green screen and props, for the RCMP's Annual Red Serge Gala and put together a proposal (\$500??) offering our services in return for a donation to our PAC; their next planning meeting is March 13; event is at Hazelmere Oct 18/19.

**PAC Meeting adjourned 8:05pm. There will be a Spring Fling Planning Meeting in March. Date/time TBA. Next PAC Meeting is Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 6:30-8:00pm in the school library.**

**Tonight's PAC Meeting will be immediately followed by the Playground Committee Meeting.**

### **PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE MEETING – Tuesday, FEB 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 8:05pm**

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- changes to design have been sent to Habitat
- we'd like to have our next playground meeting during the day; possibly Friday March 8 or 15 after a Hot Lunch day
- discussion about online voting on the ipads or via PDFs through the teachers
- discussion about the recognition plaque: Sara to inquire about a boulder(s); Sean to inquire about a wall/panel of the playground done by Habitat
- discussion about how to recognize student donors
- we need more help with the project! Several more parent volunteers needed. [PeaceArchPACplayground@gmail.com](mailto:PeaceArchPACplayground@gmail.com)
  - need more committee members to continue fundraising, collaborate on design, etc.