**Ecole Peace Arch Elementary**

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the PAC**

**September 21, 2021**

**7:00 PM**

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**Location of Meeting:** School Gym

**Present at meeting:** President – Kirsten Yanicki

Vice President – Amy Chen

Treasurer – Tana Jennings

Secretary – Luana Recchia

19 Attendees – Kirsten Yanicki, Tana Jennings, Amy Chen, Luana Recchia, Laureen Boulet,

Amy Alto, Sean Haliburton, Jerry Wang, Manraj Heir, Amanda Arione,

Kristen Fryer, Shannon Versluis, Jennifer Smith, Fiona Kehler, Alita Roberts +4

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**Principals Message - Laureen Boulet**

* Welcome Back. Classes have now been settled and regular routines are under way
* We have 502 students this year
* We have resumed activities to a somewhat normal level. Soccer has begun as well as we are anticipating Volleyball to begin mid-October. Unfortunately Track and Field has not received the go ahead.
* Terry Fox run will take place Friday September 23. K-3 will be running the grass field whereas 4-7 will be running route with parent volunteers stationed throughout the route.
* Monday September 26 will be non-instructional day. This will give the staff an opportunity to come together and taking a look at our curriculum. We also have a guest speaker, Perry Smith, who will be working with the staff on deeper perspective of Indigenous Studies in education.
* Orange Shirt Day on September 29 in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day.
* Visit to the Pumpkin patch and pumpkin patch at the school will be announced at a later date

**Financial Report - Tana Jennings**

* Opened the year in a strong financial position this year once again. There is $42 648.00 in account right now.
* We had budgeted last year for a loss of $62 000.00 due to the playground, but we actually came in under budget by $12 255.00.

Projects from last year

* Purchased and installed playground - $ 115 000.00 (years of fundraising and cooperation from White Rock Rotary).
* Purchased 27-28 IPads with cases - $11 000.00
* Purchased a Wonder Wagon (stocked with items for outdoor learning used by the Teachers)
* Helped to fund the Gr.7 Grad
* Staff appreciation day also provided by PAC

This year are working on a budget for the needs and wants of the staff and will have a budget prepared for next PAC meeting. Some items include a sound system for the gym, a technology replacement fund. We are also working together with the school to fund the stream of dreams coming up in October and the body science presentations in the spring which will be funded by PAC. As well as our contributions to each individual classrooms for school supplies and field trips.

Fundraising will be begin again this year as well as hot lunch. Previous years we have been able to count on approximately $5000 - $6000 per round of hot lunch for income for the PAC which is a significant amount. We have also applied for the annual BC gaming grant which provides between $10 000 - $11 000.00 to PAC’s depending on the amount of kids you have in the school. Application will be submitted at the end of the week. Parents are also encouraged to make a one time donation.

**Tana Jennings speaking on behalf of Elizabeth McCrank – Hot Lunch**

* Two weeks’ notice was given to Elizabeth that Hot Lunch was a go ahead this year and she was able to pull everything together in this short period of time. Many thanks to Elizabeth for all her hard work
* She has also taken on an apprentice this year. Gurpreet Bhatti will be helping out and learning the program when Elizabeth leaves the school in a couple of years.
* Round one is almost complete. So far, we have 223 orders and counting. Typically we have 300 but we have until Thursday to get orders in.
* We have a volunteer sign up sheet that we have for parents to sign up to help with hot lunch. Masks, gloves and hand sanitizer will be provided for parent volunteers. Lunch leaders from gr 6 & 7 will be helping out with the primary grades. The parent volunteers will be assisting in the Orca Pods (portables) as well as in the Bear and Salmon Pods.
* Nando’s has been added as a new vendor this year.
* We are also looking for an Indian food supplier.
* Hot Dogs are on hold at the moment due to Covid restrictions.
* K students can not order for round 1 but will be eligible for round 2.
* Still waiting for a few families to register on line to complete any refunds from last years hot lunch.
* Elizabeth is planning to get into the kitchen next week to prepare for hot lunch and has asked that all supplies be moved out of the kitchen. Laureen will be working on that before Elizabeth’s arrival
* There will also not be any concession available this year

**Note:** There is assistance for families who are unable to afford hot lunch. Laureen will discreetly provide family’s name to PAC and proceeds’ will be taken from PAC account.

**Please see attached for report from Elizabeth regarding hot lunch.**

**Fundraising – Shannon & Kristen**

A very big thank you to Shannon and Kristen for being co-chairs for our Fundraising Committee. Although they have agreed to be co-chairs, there is still a need for parent volunteers as there is a lot of work to do.

* Since 2015, as part of our fundraising campaign, we have had parents simply write a cheque for a donation in lieu of them having to sell merchandise to friends and family. It is a very successful campaign which brings in approximately $11 000.00 a year. Last year it did taper to about $3600.00. Most of which was donations from parents who opted to donate their hot lunch money instead of receiving a refund
* Passive fundraising is now available through Cob’s Bread, Indigo and Mable’s Label’s. Peace Arch Elementary must be mentioned at time of purchase and they will donate a portion of the proceeds spent.
* Since April we have made $93.00 from Mable’s Labels, $128.00 from Indigo and unfortunately, we did not meet the minimum for Cob’s Bread.
* Shannon did voice her opinion that the passive fundraising may not be a valid form of fundraising.
* Others also spoke of Cob’s Bread not correctly inputting info resulting in Peace Arch losing that contribution.
* Neufeld Farms will also be available for fundraising this year. A form will be sent home with students. Form must be completed and returned to the school with orders in which then orders will be delivered to the school and parents may pick up from the school. This will be up and running before Christmas
* Global Coffee is also another idea for fundraising. The coffee will be branded with the Peace Arch name.
* Art Cards by Kids is also another option. Students’ artwork is turned into greeting cards for the family to have and distribute. This is depending on the cooperation form teachers and can be a little labour intensive. Laureen and Jen will ask at the next staff meeting if that is something the other teachers will support.
* Stay-At-Home course and First Aid course are also being offered from Red Cross. The course would charge a $65.00 fee in which Peace Arch will receive $10.00 from each student we have signed up.

**Stream of Dreams – Kristen**

* Stream of Dreams is a program teaching environmental studies and protecting our local streams, rivers, and lakes. We have participated in this program in earlier years and now will bring it back in October. Student’s will receive a wooden salmon to paint and decorate which will then be placed on our outside fence next to the already existing salmon which will complete both sides of the fence.

**PAC Website – Kirsten Yanicki**

* PAC is looking for a volunteer to create an amazing PAC website separate from the Hot Lunch website. It will be linked to the Hot Lunch website but would be it’s own personal identity.

**Executive Team & Committees**

President – Kirsten Yanicki

VP – Amy Chen

Treasurer - Tana Jennings

Secretary – Luana Recchia

Hot Lunch – Elizabeth McCrank

Fundraising – Kristen F. & Shannon V

Volunteer Coordinator – Fiona K

Fruit & Veg – Fiona K

DPAC – Amy Chen

Emergency Prep – Amy C. & Jennifer S.

CPF – TBA

Snowball Dance – TBA

Spring Fling – TBA

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 pm. Next PAC meeting to be held October 19, 2021. Location & Time TBA**