



Cheam PAC Meeting
Oct 24, 2022
Location: Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Call to Order: 7:30pm

Welcome, Introductions

Attendance: Megan, iain, Lyndsay, Polly, Jennifer, James, Tanya, Laurel, Kara, Colin, Nadine, Sarah

Acknowledgements: Cheam Elementary PAC is acknowledging that we are on the unceded territory of the Sto:Lo people.

Quorum met

Agenda approved by Polly and seconded by Tanya

Last month's meeting minutes approved by Laurel and seconded by Tanya

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/CARRIED OVER FROM LAST MEETING

N/A

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Principal's Report

School's Code of Conduct is reviewed every year, parents provide feedback. Prior to covid there was a section added related to dress code but otherwise it hasn't changed much. It's on the website and was mentioned in the newsletter. Aim is to have it updated by end of October.

Working through new survey done by Kindergarten parents called Check; due Oct 31st. 53% of parents have responded so far. First year we have done it.

Currently working through the FSA skills assessment for grade 4. The FSA is also done at grade 7 and grade 10. So far going smoothly and continues until Nov 10th.

Early dismissal Nov 4th, it will be an open house. Some teachers will set up specific interviews. Parents can contact teachers to arrange a better time if unable to attend on this day. Buses will be running starting at 11:15am, running regular routes just at earlier time.

Ministry providing new funding called Family Affordability Fund. Supporting families in need, priority is food security; very wide parameters to help support families in need. Challenge is finding the people who need the help, sometimes people who need it are uncomfortable to ask. There is a generous amount of funding available. Iain asked if anyone has any ideas of how to get word out there to let those in need know about this funding. Polly said this topic was also brought up at DPAC meeting. She shared that funding could be spent on things like waiving field trip fees for children for example or making supplies available in classroom. Iain shared that there was a meeting with principals last week on how to use it but Iain wants to make sure we are getting it to the people who need it the most first. The funding is a one-time use and needs to be used by the end of this school year. It was suggested that he talk with Ms Shepherd since she may have a pipeline on families in need. The amount of funding is significant, in the ballpark of \$50 per child budgeted but if a big need comes up then more funds can be applied for. Megan said first make sure needs of kids to eat are met but then also consider buying things like a fridge or another item that last a long time. Fresh fruit in classrooms would be good and was used in previous year. The need may be higher this year than last year as the cost of food and gas has increased significantly. Maybe get a gift card to superstore for families. Are people aware of this funding? Iain said information about this program is out there but if not looking for it then maybe wouldn't know. How about a form on the website that was anonymous and discrete? Do teachers know about which kids don't have a lunch or a jacket? Murray Honda donates jackets. Iain said they have some ideas but believes there are others who could use the help that sometimes surprise you. EA's often can find out this information and uncover that there is a need at home more than anyone realized. Sometimes families have a traumatic situation and require extra help. Polly offered to make a post on fb about resources that are available. If we do know someone who needs it who do we put them in contact with? Iain said if the parent is comfortable talking with him then he can help, or he can do it more discreetly, he is open to various ways.

Megan suggested that everyone go away and come up with ideas and bring to next meeting. This topic will be added to unfinished business and carried over to the Nov PAC meeting.

3.2 Executive Reports

Treasurer

As expected (since start of the year), Sept only had a few transactions, such as munch a lunch, cash for coupon books. Not many expenses. We did get the gaming grant through BC Lotto corp. This grant is used to fund things like field trips, special events, world book day event, yearbook and grad related expenses too. See attached table for specifics.

Letter Laurel wrote for teachers re classroom support, athletic dept. has Merilee sent it out yet? Iain wasn't sure. Tanya will ask Merilee. Deadline for receipts just before spring break.

DPAC

Big topic at last meeting was the Family Affordability Fund. Next DPAC meeting this upcoming Thursday. Any parent can attend but only DPAC reps can vote. Blanket exercise was very good. If parents want PAC can get Indigenous Education group to put together a session to do a blanket exercise. BCCPAC sent out if we want them to come in and do PAC 101, treasurer session, lots of opportunities for parents. Should we let our parents community know? Next Thursday DPAC meeting will have more information/details so Polly will share after that.

3.3 Committee Reports

Hot Lunch:

Nov 10 – Sin Amen: order deadline is Nov 3

Dec 2 – Fuel Catering: order deadline is Nov 24

Carla open to other restaurant suggestions. Will be setting up more dates in the new year.

Food safe certification has Carla completed it or someone else on hot lunch committee who delivers the food? Lyndsay will follow up with Carla.

Spirit:

Planned out with Iain the spirit days. Will keep them very similar to last year for example Harvest Day Movember, Rock your mocks, Break the rules, etc. But new this year will be a pancake breakfast in Dec and on that day children can dress in red or green or wacky hair. Last year it was a week long of spirit days in Dec but this year will just have the one dress up day on the pancake breakfast day.

Fundraising:

Mabel's Labels, Megan is wrapping this one up

Coupon Book closed now

Neufeld Farms: orders open until Oct 30th, pickup is Nov 8th at the school

Bottle Depot: runs all year long, use school phone number. No funds deposited in Sept for this.

DeVry: Carla to confirm order and pickup dates

Purdy's: ordering will open Nov 8th – Nov 20th, pickup at school Dec 15th

Fundraising committee has a fb group chat going and is already brainstorming ideas to leverage holidays early next year... for example Valentine's day

Silent auction this year? Big undertaking/effort and don't want to exhaust donors in community, our bank account is in good shape so decided to skip doing it this year and look to do it the following school year.

Special Events:

Friday Oct 28, Trunk or Treat – so far 17 vehicles registered to decorate and 81 kids to participate. Committee to finalize parking logistics, timing

Dec 12- 16 Pancake breakfast – hold it in the gym, split school into three groups Older class with younger buddy class and have three seating times, therefore not too busy. Get date out soon so parents can figure out if they can volunteer. Any volunteers for someone to dress up as Santa? Contact Farmer Gary at Petey's Pumpkin Patch? Committee will look into this.

Green:

No one has signed up

Yearbook:

Jenna and Lyndsay have volunteered to do this together. Jenna has reached out to Tanesha to ask some questions based on Tanesha's experience from doing it last year. Kara Cochrane would be willing to help too. Lyndsay to follow up re login info for software program and email account where pictures are sent to

Grad:

Polly picking up hoodies tomorrow to get kids sized. Two different designs - on a black hoodie and a red and then will make decision on color

Bulletin Board

Megan will follow up to make sure link on there for pac email sign up

3.4 PAC Email Sign Up

119 responses, lower than last year. Merilee forwarded the PAC emails until today Oct 24th. Can teachers put in a PAC email sign up link in their emails too? Yes, great idea, Megan will ask Merilee to send this to teachers to include

3.5 BCCPAC membership renewal

Laurel confirmed that this is completed.

4. OPEN DISCUSSION

N/A

5. Meeting adjourned at: 8:34pm

Business carried over Family Affordability Fund

Next PAC Meeting: Nov 21, 2022 at 7:30pm on Zoom