



CHEAM PAC Meeting
Monday September 23rd, 2024
Time: 7:04pm
Location: Cheam Elementary

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Welcome & Acknowledgements

Acknowledgment we live, work and play on the traditional and unceded territory of the Sto:lo First Nations.

1.2. Attendance

Nadine McKay, Kaitrin Vit, Barb Wallace, Alyssa Blondin, Ashley Klaassen, Emmy Kerr, Shawn Gieselman, Laurel Thornton, Rachelle Pinch, Melissa Graham, David Williams, Darcy Gouthir, Tanya Cannon, Iain Gardner

1.3. Ensure Quorum

All PAC execs are present

1.4. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Rachelle Pinch

Second: Melissa Graham

1.5. Approval of Minutes from June AGM meeting

June 11th, 2024. PAC exec turnover.

Motion: Rachelle Pinch

Second: Laurel Thornton

2. REPORTS

2.1. Principals Report

A good start to the new school year, it always is chaotic with many unknowns, but it's the smoothest transition I've had in many years.

Eat & Greet was well attended. Some families stayed for a long time. Food trucks were happy with their revenue and exceeded their minimums.

Terry Fox Run: Good turnout. Good spirit. The nice weather helped.

New Staff this year: One EA is off on maternity leave, Kate Weiker is here for the year as an EA and is also taking on a role as the Program Coordinator of the Feeding Futures program. Helping Miss. H as she has done so much work for this program.

New Resource Teacher: Deena Portier.

Metis Music & Dance: to return in December. A very well received event last year.

Canadian Parents for French - met with them last week. Working on establishing a Chilliwack Chapter in order to receive extra funding and resources. Very minimal expectations to form a chapter - a group of three people meeting twice a year. Would include all French Immersion schools in Chilliwack. CPF can provide resources for French Immersion students as well as authentic Francophone cultural experiences.

150th Anniversary of Cheam Elementary School this year! Planning a celebration for May. Cheam Elementary officially opened in 1875. It will be a community event, including past teachers and former principals. Rachelle Pinch and Melissa Graham offered to help with planning. It's also the 10th Anniversary of Early French Immersion at Cheam this year.

Rumour of a Time Capsule ?? - it was created but we do not know the location of it. Buried on school property?

Question from a parent: will a Christmas Concert ever happen?

Answer from Iain: It's not a no - but there are lots of obstacles to overcome. An alternate venue (Cheam is almost at capacity and not a lot of parking). Some attendees suggested doing smaller scale productions within individual classrooms, children simply singing a couple of songs. Parents able to attend during the day. A committee would have to be formed to sort out the details. It is maybe a possibility for Christmas 2025. Topic has been tabled for further discussion.

2.2. Treasurers Report

Nothing to report July/August.

Not many changes to the budget from last year.

Laurel spoke about the Gaming Grant - we have two years to use the grant from when the money is received, and the way in which the funds can be used is quite specific. We need to be mindful that we are using the grant appropriately so that we are able to spend all the money that is allotted to us. As of today, the Gaming Grant for this year has not come in yet.

Attendee asking about what is included in some of the budget headings. Ex: What are special events? (Pancake Breakfast, Trunk or Treat). Why do we pay for Munch A Lunch? There is a fee associated with using their website, but we are always net positive. Miscellaneous - printing costs, office supplies.

2.3. DPAC Report

Tanya - No DPAC report. Meeting on Thursday, September 26th.

What is DPAC? - District Parent Advisory Committee. Every school has a representative. A way to communicate with the district school board. Everyone is welcome to attend - in person or zoom.

2.4. Committees Report(s)

Sign up for committees was very good online and at the Meet & Greet. Lots of interest. An email will be sent out to potential volunteers soon to form committees.

Special Events: Pancake Breakfast will go ahead this year. Dec 12 or 13? Added to agent for next meeting.

Trunk or Treat: The previously proposed date of Oct 25th is not ideal as it is a pro-D Day. Voted to have trunk or treat on Thursday, Oct 24th instead. Kaitrin suggested we do a hot dog fundraiser here (PAC to cook) instead of a food truck.

Hot Lunches: From Carla Soutar - 6 hot lunches have been organized for the year. Looking for new hot lunch suppliers. What do kids want?

Hot Dog Day is back! Kaitrin has taken this on with her husband Josh. There are other parents who have offered to help as well. Received \$150 gift card from Superstore to support hot dog day.

Fundraising: (from Carla) Coupon books selling well. Over \$400 profit so far. Christmas fundraiser will come out this week. Replacing Neufeld & DeVry not doing very well - looking for new ideas.

Yearbook: Jenna doesn't want to do it alone again, but there are more who want to help out.

Grade 5 Grad: Hoodies are getting started. Pricing is happening. Forms will go out soon for ordering.

Question from an attendee: will there be Grade 5 entrepreneurship program? Depends on the teachers that are here and what they want. Nadine wants to help if needed.

Bulletin Board: Nadine and Melissa are taking this on. Many great ideas including reusable signs.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/CARRIED OVER FROM LAST MEETING

3.1. Calendar of Events

~~—Movie Night October 18th; Trunk or Treat October 25th; Pancake Breakfast~~

- Movie Night - Oct 18th date has been approved. Carla is on it.
- Trunk or Treat - Oct 24th
- Pancake Breakfast - moving ahead. December 12 or 13th?
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3.2. Constitution Committee

Don't have one yet. Tabled of next meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Gaming Grant accruing funds

Please see comments under Treasurers Report

4.2 Bottle Depot Account

We have an account for Cheam Elementary at the bottle depot that can be accessed using the schools phone number. While accessing the account through two step verification, the phone number for the account was inadvertently changed to a personal cellphone number. Another return-it account was then opened under the school phone number to support Grade 5 graduation. We now have two accounts and it was agreed upon that the two accounts should be merged together. Laurel has offered to take this on.

4.3 Before & After School Care

Iain - survey went out. Strong response 60+ responded. Communication with Nicole Driscoll, she is the District Principal of Early Learning and Child Care. Current challenges.

1. Location (Cheam Elementary is limited on physical space).
2. Staffing (who would run the program would we need to hire outside staff?)

Ashley Klaassen (Parent) initiated contact with Nicole Driscoll as well as SD33 to address her concerns around the lack of childcare and bussing services in the Summer. Before/After school care is available at 19/21 schools in the district. Cheam Elementary is a “choice school” and many families commute. The economy has changed dramatically in the last few years and many parents no longer have the option to rely on a single income. The lack of childcare and bussing creates a huge barrier for parents having to return to work. Ashley has offered to help come up with creative solutions around the lack of space. Will be further discussed.

4.4 Fluxx Cycle House Fundraiser

Ashley and Emmy will be hosting a fundraiser for Cheam Elementary at Fluxx Cycle House. 45min spin class by Ashley and 45min yoga by Emmy. - Anyone from the community can purchase a ticket. Tickets ~~will be a minimum donation of~~ \$20. Maximum 24 people. ALL funds will be graciously donated to the school. Narrowing down a specific area to allocate the funds. Date is TBA, but will be a Friday night in November. Details to follow.

4.5 150 Celebration/Committee

Please see communication underneath the Principal’s Report. Tabled for next meeting.

4.6 PAC Exec Signer process

In Process. Two new signers this year: Melissa and Emmy.

5. OPEN DISCUSSION

Custodian (Katie) wondering when we will be doing more Cheam merchandise.

- Carla Soutar and Megan Melynk are on it! Details to come out soon.

Rachelle Pinch: distributed packages to each classroom for Truth and Reconciliation Day.

- each classroom came up a word for Truth and Reconciliation Day that will be written on cutout hearts.
- Orange Shirt Day is this Thursday, September 26th.
- Facebook post will be distributed by Rachelle outlining the community events that will be taking place on September 30th for Truth and Reconciliation Day. All are welcome to attend.

When will the weekly emails return? They are a great reminder for what is happening at Cheam for the coming week. Target is to come back to weekly (Sunday evening) emails as soon as we can. 61 people have signed up for PAC emails so far.

Facebook: How will reminders of events be posted? The head of each committee will post reminders about their events.

Further discussion is needed about who is able to access the Cheam Elementary Facebook page. A parent of a child who will be attending next year has requested access. Can we post a reminder for parents of kids who are no longer at Cheam to remove themselves from the page. Further Discussion at next meeting.

Dave, a parent who is a graphic designer by trade has offered his services as needed to support PAC events.

Reminder to sign up for committees!

PAC meetings are usually not this long.

6. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING Monday Oct 21, 2024 - 7pm
Monday Nov 18th, 2024 - 7pm

7. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

7.1. Possible Christmas Committee

Pancake Breakfast - Dec 12 or 13

Constitution Committee

Fluxx Cycle House - Day time class or evening? Evening. Friday

Facebook Page ~~post~~ - remove yourself if children are no longer at the school. Can parents of incoming children be part of the page.

8. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:56pm.