



Auguston Traditional Elementary School

PAC Meeting Minutes

January 29th, 2019 at 6pm

PAC Executive in Attendance: Bal Claire, Yolanda Davidowich, Tina Poudrier-Beck, Laura Brown, Dee Sekhon, Selena Medema, Jessica Dowdall, Jenny Donegan

1. Approval of November's Minutes

Approved and seconded.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Approved and seconded.

3. Principal's Report

Mr. Colbert presented a PowerPoint (please see Mr. Colbert if you would like to view the slides). He stressed the importance of family and that family comes first. His goal is to make the school environment with staff have that family feel.

He presented his Theory of Action, where the number one goal is to ensure that all kids are learning. He is meeting with every teacher to discuss every student 3 times each year to determine where each student is at with his/her learning, to flag any issues, and dedicate any needed resources to them. All that information is logged on a spreadsheet. Teachers, EAs, and when students graduate grade 5, middle schools have access to that information to ensure no kid falls through the cracks. The spreadsheets will also help staff when making class lists at the beginning of the school year and ensure balanced classes.

Question: How do special requests from parents impact class lists?

Answer: If there is an educational reason for a request Mr. Colbert is happy to listen, though he can't guarantee anything. He doesn't mind requests because it's all helpful information.

In past years the School Plan for Student Success has been focused on self-regulation and data was collected on whether students were showing feeling in appropriate ways. After

meeting with staff, the new focus is on math skills. They will look at math plans from other schools and dig into the math curriculum.

The school is transitioning from teacher evaluations to teacher growth plans where the teachers outline what they want to work on and Mr. Colbert goes over it with them. These are both speedier than evaluations and foster a growth mindset.

Thank you Shawna, Colleen and Sandra for your work with the ski trip happening this Thursday.

There is much going on at the school including a choir festival and Leadership Conference for selected students.

Thank you to everyone who helped and attended the Christmas concert. The staff were surveyed and they enjoyed having the concert at the school. One of the benefits was that the kids got to rehearse multiple times if needed, so it boosted their confidence. It was a bit long for the younger kids though, so will look at shortening it next year.

Mr. Colbert is being bombarded by photo companies wanting to replace our existing provider. It was decided that we don't want to switch photo companies at this point in time.

Mr. Colbert's door is always open if you need to stop by and chat.

4. Financial Report

Gaming Grant: We received \$7500 this year and we can spend this money on very specific things. So far the money has been spent on High Tech High Touch (paid in full), grade 5 ski trip bus, and the golf program coming in the spring. We have about \$1500 left and can likely fund one more activity.

The Nov. & Dec. financial report was presented. The full report is attached. The report reflects the recent changes motioned at the last meeting to fund all of High Tech High Touch (in previous years half was paid by the school), and a new PAC laptop.

Our year-to-date balance stands at \$34,659. We like to keep a cash flow of \$10,000 before Fun Fair to make the necessary purchases for that event.

Corinne is leading Fun Fair this year, and while she couldn't attend the meeting, asked to bring forward an updated budget that reflects the inclusion of more games, and outside games. Last year this event raised \$6,000 and this year we plan to bring in \$7,000. It was motioned to increase the spending budget for Fun Fair to \$2500. This is a maximum budget and this amount might not be spent. For example, the The silent auction is budgeted at \$2000 but this is usually 100% donated so that money likely won't be spent.

There was a vote to motion for this budget amendment at the next meeting. The motion was carried forward. This will be voted on at the next meeting.

Q: Where do silent auction donations come from?

A: The parents donate either cash or physical items. Each class puts together a themed basket. Donations have been declining over the past few years.

5. Executive and Committee updates

Spring Fun Fair

Friday, May 3. The purpose of the Fun Fair is to bring the school community together, and raise funds for the school. We are looking for people to join the planning committee. More information on upcoming Fun Fair committee meetings will be coming shortly. If you would like to help please email augustonpac@gmail.com.

If there are any handy men or women, we would love to have a plinko board built for the fair.

Yearbook

The yearbook is under construction. If you have pictures of your child or their class at the school or on field trips that you would love to see in the yearbook, please send them to augustonpac@gmail.com, and Jenny will try to include them.

Grade 5 Farewell Committee

Selena and Marisa are starting to form the committee. Selena will send an email to all grade 5 parents. There will be 2 bake sales, the first taking place on Wednesday, Feb. 13th after school. There will also be Freezie Fridays later in the year. The money raised will cover the cost of a yearbook for all grade 5s and go towards their farewell.

6. Old Business

New Laptop

Sue received the authorization form to go ahead and purchase the laptop. She will do that this week. This will be used for PAC purposes and for the photos that Sue takes for the school.

Benches

The Buddy Bench has arrived, and 2 additional benches will be installed the first week of February.

7. New business

Popcorn orders via munch-a-lunch

Thank you to Dee for adding popcorn to Munch-a-Lunch. 241 orders placed, though usually around 350 bags are purchased. Some parents still send cash, and the school district won't allow a no-cash policy.

Spring Craft Fair

There is no date set as we are looking for a committee to lead this event. Hoping to include tables for grade 5 entrepreneurs who would like to sell their creations.

Road Safety

City, school and school district have been working together to make improvements on road safety around our school. Nothing has been formalized yet but will be announced at a later date. Thank you to Corinne for organizing this.

Math Mania

Math Mania volunteers will be coming to our school on Wednesday, May 15 from 6-8pm. They will have math games for K-5. There is no cost to us other than feeding the 20-25 volunteers a pizza dinner. Tina will look into whether gaming grant money can be used for this. This event is organized through UFV.

8. Upcoming Events

Hot Lunch: February 22 -Taco Del Mar

Staff Appreciation Luncheon - Feb. 7 in the staff room. Looking for families willing to bring soups, salads, vegetables, etc. If you can contribute, please email ryan.gurgit@gmail.com.

Popcorn Day: February 28

9. Questions/Answers

Q: Mr. Colbert asked if anything has been approved in terms of staff ideas for how to spend fundraising money.

A: Bal has sent Mr. Colbert a list of possibilities to review.

Q: Last year's ski bus wasn't billed. The school called the bus company and district. Could we use that money for lift passes this year?

A: If you don't spend it, it goes back to the general fund and the same amount is budgeted year after year for the bus. Mr. Colbert will check back with Shawna.

Q: Has the field been booked for the Fun Fair on May 3rd?

A: Mr. Colbert can do this but Bal will check with Corinne to make sure she hasn't booked it already.

Q: Why is the stipulation about natural hair colour in the dress code and how can we remove it?

A: Because it is in the dress code, enough parents would have to want to see this change for it to be brought to a referendum at the AGM. Then all parents would have the opportunity to vote on this issue. We could conduct a 'Yes/No' survey asking parents if they would like to see this taken out of the dress code to see if it is worth bringing to a referendum at the AGM. Mr. Colbert wouldn't send a child home due to unnatural hair colour.

Note: Mr. Colbert mentioned that teacher job action isn't out of question for this year. There has been no talk so far but it is a possibility.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30pm