



Auguston Traditional Elementary School

PAC General Meeting Minutes

Date: October 24, 2023

Location: LLC

In attendance: Ashley Ennis, Kris Sward, Raelynn Markerth, Adaora Ijeoma, Tina Poudrier-Beck, Navdeep Kaur, Lindsay, Sarah, Kim, Krista, Amanda, Yolanda + 2

Regrets: Jen Graham, Lacey Evans, Alicia Campbell, Natalia Subrt, Jordan Plenert

Next PAC General Meeting: November 21, 7PM in the LLC

Call to order: 7:01PM Navdeep - 1st, Sarah – 2nd

1. Any amendments to the agenda?

No

2. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve: Raelynn – 1st , Yolanda – 2nd

3. Approval of September 2023 General Meeting Minutes as circulated

Motion to approve: Krista – 1st, Sarah – 2nd

4. Principal's Report (Kris)

- Land acknowledgement
- Staffing: Only waiting on LSS position. Have a teacher in place who's willing to do LA part, but Kris is handling the remainder (IEPs, parent meetings, etc.) District is aware and doing what they can to help
- Expansion: Waiting on permit. Unitech is no longer on site.
- Wishlist: Only 3 have come in so far. (Mrs. Kent: A reading program: RAZKids / Mrs. Preiss: Home reading books)

- Looking at a pancake breakfast by a Lions Club on Dec. 15? Ashley mentioned Lacey is working on it. Will circle back.
- Looking into a skating field trip in December / trip to see Aladdin Jr. at Abby Arts Centre (April)
- TAC Committee (Traditional schools in Abbotsford.) Looking for parent/student representation to serve on behalf of Auguston. Will be reviewing code of conduct, bringing together schools for events (e.g., soccer tournament, tech challenge, spelling bee)
 - First meeting is on November 16, 2023. Would love to have a DTAC rep.
- Check event snacks to confirm they're nut-free.
- Parking issues: Last year, Jessica would put cones out. Kris is handling it now. Need to have line of sight so people slow down for crosswalk. Parents are starting to report to bylaw.
- Have a question about school pictures: Happy with them? Have heard some complaints about poor quality
 - Photographer said kids didn't have to smile / Sounds like the lights may be too bright. Nothing major though
- After-school activities in participation with Abby School Society: Kindergarteners started it today. Mondays: Drama (Gr. 4/5), Tuesday: Book art (K/1), Wednesday: Arts & crafts (2/3). New ones will begin soon. Groups will switch up
- Important dates:
 - Oct 25: Hot lunch + pumpkin patch (K/1)
 - Oct 26: Mobile petting zoo (k/1)
 - Oct 27: Friday friends
 - Oct 30: Lockdown drill
 - Oct 31: Costume Day
 - Nov 7: Photo retakes
 - Nov 8: Popcorn Day
 - Nov 9: Remembrance Day assembly
 - Nov 10: Pro-D
 - Nov 13: Day off in lieu of Remembrance Day
 - Nov 14: Rock Your Mocs / TAC soccer
 - Nov 17: Friday Friends
 - Questions re: permits - Can we as parents help in any way? Feel free to do what you can. City Hall seems to have a longer than average permit time (currently 9 months and counting vs. 4-5 mos.)
 - Could writing a letter to Abby News (outlining challenges to playground/safety concerns) help move the needle?

5. Financial Report (Tina)

- Fiscal year is Sept - Sept

- Have an annual budget that's approved at AGM (May) that allows us to review YTD numbers and benchmark numbers. Approved budget for remainder of year. Keep an eye on cash balance for larger events
- Annual gaming grant came through. Can go toward extracurriculars and have three years to use it. Can't spend on a new project during the year. A year-after-year program can be paid via the grant. (Want to help sustain existing programs.) Need to pay out of general fund for brand-new programs, gaming grant can cover following years.
- Previous uses for the grant: Artist in residence, lacrosse, soccer (may have lapsed), playground updates
- Have a healthy cash balance. Need about \$10,000 for fun fair to pay in advance before getting admission/fees
- Lots of fundraising: Hot lunch runs smoothly + brings in \$\$.
- Vote: Assistant Treasurer (Amanda)
- Motion to approve: Ada – 1st, Raelynn – 2nd

6. Fundraising (Jen)

- Via Ashley:
 - Parking spot auction is open online now until Saturday.
 - Number of book fair/craft fair volunteer sign ups. Going to start reaching out via email to start getting things together.
 - Movie Night: Pizza + candy orders in advance. Approx. 30 orders came in. Could use help with concession. Any volunteers? Krista offered to help organize.

7. DPAC (Adaora Jane)

- District moved DPAC meeting online due to protests. Skimmed through lots of topics. Mostly focused on the protests.
- Two parent events: Attended one of them.
- Looking forward to Thursday's meeting. It has been moved to Zoom.

8. Committee Updates/Needs

- Hot Lunch/Popcorn Days (Lacey)
 - Nothing sent in.
- Yearbook (Alicia)
 - Nothing sent in.
- Staff Appreciation: Upcoming plans
 - Tina wanted to see if there's any feedback for December. Considering holding a lunch and a raffle. Any suggestions?

- What has been done in the past? Have teachers given feedback? Last year, there was a pancake breakfast and not everyone's dietary needs were met.
 - Connected with Brenda: Consider try lunch or treats. (e.g., Afterthoughts, Windmill Deli)
 - Did we ever explore having parents sign on to a hot lunch program? Not possible without a cafeteria/canteen in the building.
- Consignment
 - Room has been cleaned out and sorted. People are welcome to take a look.
 - Can you bring it out for movie night? Yes. Kim will be overseeing it.

9. New Business

- Vote: Raelynn Markerth as Co-Chair
 - Navdeep is unable to continue in her role. Thank you for everything you've done!
 - Raelynn has offered to step in.
 - Motion to approve: Krista – 1st, Sarah – 2nd
- Vote: High Tech/High Touch
 - Has been done in the past. Can qualify for gaming grant
 - Science-based program that brings experiences into the classroom
 - Approx. \$3500.
 - Bring everything in with them, rotate through all the classrooms, cater content to K-5.
 - Great way to use the gaming grant
 - Motion to approve: Krista – 1st, Yolanda – 2nd
- Vote: Planetarium
 - This is new. Wouldn't qualify for gaming grant now, but would in future years
 - Approx. \$3000.
 - Bring a planetarium experience into the gym. Classrooms attend one at a time, teaching about what they're looking at. Would take minimum of two days. (Depends on how many kids can go in at once.)
 - Kris: Would likely have each grade attend at a time.
 - Will impact gym classes: Will take them outside or do activities within the classroom.
 - Vote as though it's within the \$3000 range. Ashley will confirm cost isn't per day. Tina mentioned there's a budget line item for extracurriculars (\$5500) in general fund.

- Vote to approve: Ada – 1st, Sarah – 2nd
- Will need to work with school to approve timing, etc.

- Pink Shirt Day
 - Previously collaborated with a parent on pink t-shirts. Any interest in doing it again? (Portion of proceeds go toward PAC fundraising.)
 - Some questions + considerations raised about whether/how to move forward. Will talk to Alicia about what happened last year. Can be a challenge to source pink t-shirts after November.
 - Contest can be pulled together and sent to print quickly if the contact has supply. Can approve anything else at the November meeting.

- Teacher Wish Lists
 - Kris: Has a wishlist for the sensory room
 - Have a rolling budget for teachers' wish lists (RAZKids, home reading books).
 - Don't need to vote to approve, can fulfil as they come in.

11. Question & Answer

- Grade 5 Committee: Krista knows someone who's willing to help. Are there any plans for it yet? Will be setting it up ASAP. Going to get class reps to contact Gr. 5 parents to get things moving.

Adjournment at 8:00.

Move to end: Raelynn – 1st, Navdeep – 2nd