

Sherwood Park PAC Minutes

Meeting date: April 26, 2018

In Attendance: Sanjeet Johal, Kelly Curry, Anna Morrison, Natalie Lai, Andrew Briden, Christy Mahoney, Sarah Rees, Kate Walker, Kelly Nobles, Gina Madeo, Chris Ricard, Sharon Boglari, Karmyn Turner

Meeting called to order at 7:11 pm

Motion to approve the January 24, 2018 minutes made by Sarah Rees and seconded by Anna Morrison.

Presentation: Solaro (North Vancouver City Library)

Chris Koth from the North Vancouver City Library provided an interesting demonstration of Solaro. This online study program was launched in January 2018 and is produced by a Canadian company, Castlerock publishers, who publish the Key Study guides. The online licence is usually \$40 per person, but the NVCL is providing free access to any resident who has registered their card with the NVCL, including NV District residents.

Solaro provides online study help and exam preparation for the BC curriculum, grades 3-12. It has tutorials, flash cards, and interactive practice tests for Math, Science, and English Language Arts. Parents can also sign up for an account to view their child's progress and manage their account. Visit www.nvcl.ca for more information and to register.

Principal's Report – Sanjeet Johal

- Garden beautification: This project was started by two parents (Anna Morrison and Fiona Rouillard) in October 2017. Many classes have adopted gardens and are growing flowers and vegetables!
- IT Pilot: Sherwood Park teachers recently approached the Board with their concerns regarding the lack of adequate computer equipment to meet curriculum needs. As a result, Sherwood Park has been selected as a pilot school for a district program that is creating a vision for IT in schools. The program aims to create a research-based baseline of equipment that all schools should have, as well as guidance for PACs around what “extras” they could fund. More details will be shared as they become available. PAC discussed the significant investment in IT equipment that they have made in Sherwood Park over the last few years and expressed the hope that this district pilot will provide better guidance around IT investments in the future.
- Bucket challenge: The whole school has been involved in this activity, with the focus on goal setting and a review of the school's code of conduct (SPARK).
- Student placement for the next school year: Information about the process to provide feedback for student placement was provided in the April school newsletter. Parent feedback is due May 31. As well, the school will be asking students for a list of 5 people who they work well with. Staff will also provide input.
- Track and field: Thanks to the new teachers who are running this program this year (Kelly Curry and Stephanie Helm). It is a big job to organize. Practices are underway and a mini-meet was held on Monday. All event dates are on the school website.
- First Aid: PAC has sponsored first aid training for all Grade 6 students and this will happen on May 28. Students receive a certificate at the end.
- April 23 Pro D Day: Teachers explored the new curriculum, which focused on concepts or “big ideas” across multiple subject areas.
- Fun Day: Will be on May 18 this year. Information will come home with students on May 11. There will be a performance in the morning, followed by the traditional tug of way, hula hoop and races. In the afternoon primary and intermediate students will each have their own activities.

Traffic:

Thank you to the parent volunteers who have been helping keep traffic moving in the drop-off zone. The situation has been improving. We are also working the bylaw officers to make some changes to the signage in the area.

Bike to school week is May 28-June 1. We have one parent who is interested in organizing some activities around this program if another parent would like to participate as well. Please contact the PAC if you are interested.

Canadian Parents for French:

Emina Dervisevic is a Sherwood Park who is also the Vice-Chair for the CPF (British Columbia/Yukon branch). CPF activities this year included:

- CPF provided Sherwood Park with a grant for literacy resources this year.
- CPF organized the Film Festival, which Sherwood Park attended
- Sherwood Park applied for a socio-cultural grant this year, but unfortunately didn't receive it.
- CPF organized Concours d'art oratoire this year again.
- Windsor French Immersion Grad Breakfast is coming up and Sherwood Park Grade 7s will be invited.

Volunteers:

A couple of long-term volunteers are "aging out" of Sherwood Park and would like to create a succession plan to help train new volunteers in the following roles: Hot lunch co-ordinator, Treasurer, Carnival project manager. If anyone is interested in helping out, please contact the PAC.

Budget review:

Swings: Chris Ricard has been working with the School District and contractors to install two new banks of two swings (total 4 swings). Due to the need to install security fencing during the construction and to move the containers, the cost to complete installation has increased. The 2016/17 grad class will contribute approx. \$800. A motion was raised to increase the total budget allocated for new swings from \$12,500 to a maximum of \$15,000 in order to install two new regular banks of 2 swings each.

Proposed by: Natalie Lai / Seconded by: Sarah Rees

Motion was unanimously approved.

2018/19 budget:

Income next year is expected to come mostly from the following sources:

- Hot lunch (***) this income source will reduce by \$10,000 if no volunteers can be found to run the Pizza and Magic Lunch Box lunches)
- Gaming funds
- PAC student funding & Local business donations
- Seycove Auction
- Spark Store
- Community events such as Carnival and Trivia night provide minimal income

Input was solicited from parents in attendance on potential **expenses** for next year, including Arts programs, Sports program, Sexual Health programs, Technology, and Teachers appreciation and WishLists. Currently, expenses exceed income by \$20,000. A suggestion was made to contact provincial sport organizations to tap into their development funds for school sports programs.

PAC noted that their annual funding of school programs has more than doubled since 2013/14. PAC also has approx. \$60,000 in retained earnings. These funds are usually earmarked for larger investments such as swings and technology.

The PAC executive will review parent input and present a proposed budget for approval at the May 30 meeting. A reminder that at the May 30 meeting, the following business will occur:

- Election of PAC officials for 2018/19 (Current vacancies include Treasurer and a co-chair position)
- Vote on 2018/19 Budget

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm. Next meeting: May 30 @ 7pm

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