

Sherwood Park PAC Minutes

Meeting date: April 10, 2019

In Attendance:

Parents: Jeanette Schisler, Julie Mayor, Sarah Puddicomb, Kelly Nobles, Karmyn Turner, Mary-Jo Dionne, Julia Iriarte, Christy Mahoney, Anna Morrison, Clare Mochrie, Christine Chatelain, Travis Schisler, Tristan Newby, Mairead Foley

PAC Exec: Gina Madeo, Chris Ricard, Anthony Lyons, Sharon Boglari

Administration: Sanjeet Johal, Kelly Curry, Stephanie Helm

School District: Devon Bruce (trustee), Pius Ryan (Assistant Superintendent)

Foods that fit (6:30 – 7pm)

School Health Dietician, Helen Yeung, from Vancouver Coastal Health presented information about the comprehensive school health model and guidelines for minimum nutrition standards for sale of food and beverages at schools. The guidelines include a brand name food list of foods that are sell most, sell sometimes, and do not sell. She emphasized that school administrations and parents need to determine what their goals are regarding fundraising and healthy eating and she provided ideas for healthy fundraisers.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

The PAC would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and the Squamish Nation, on whose traditional territory our School District resides. We value the opportunity to learn, live and share educational experiences on this traditional territory

Motion to approve the January 23, 2019 minutes made by Karmyn Turner and seconded by Tristian Newby.

Devon Bruce, School Trustee for Seycove Family of Schools

Devon outlined the role of school trustee as follows:

- To set policy for the district
- To allocate and balance the budget
- To determine strategic goals and provide direction to administration
- To work with the unions, faculty and parents

Devon's areas of interest/focus are inclusive education (mental health, LGBTQ, indigenous learners)

Principal's Report – Sanjeet Johal

- Sherwood faculty have been working on the school action plan. The focus is IT (an update was provided at the last PAC meeting), Improving literacy, and Social-emotional development.
- Sherwood Park has been selected for a Ministry of Education research project designed to develop best practices to help students self-regulate. Approx 3 supportive spaces will be set up in the school to provide self-regulation tools/space/equipment to students and teachers. Stephanie Helm and Kelly Curry are leading this research project.
- School supplies: Following parent and teacher feedback, the school is piloting a new program for next year. Parents will be asked to pay funds directly to the school (rather than a third party). Teachers will then use these funds to buy classroom supplies in bulk. There will still be an option for parents to purchase their own supplies if they choose. The school will also allocate a supply closet where parents can donate left-over supplies (rather than bring them home at the end of the school year). The goal is to reduce wastage, and, over time, reduce costs.
- A reminder that Mr Johal often tweets Sherwood Park stories. You can follow him at: [@SherwoodPark44](https://twitter.com/SherwoodPark44)

Hot lunch:

A discussion was held regarding the goals of Sherwood Park's hot lunch program. Current vendors are Magic Lunch, Bluhouse, Sushi, Subway, and Pizza. The discussion included the following points:

- Based on the current offerings, our hot lunch program overall meets 50% of the "sell most" items (excluding Juiceboxes and cookies); there is room to include more healthy options in the program in order to meet the Guidelines (described by Helen Yeung)

- A concern was raised that the PAC funds might decline if the vendors were changed to more healthy options (Hot lunch sales contribute more than \$15,000 to the PAC budget) – what is the overall goal of the hot lunch program?
- A perspective was shared that poor nutrition is a significant factor in mortality rates and that it takes time and community commitment to bring about change
- Parents also commented that many parents pack healthy lunches during the week and their kids enjoy getting a treat on hot lunch days; it is a parent’s choice whether to order hot lunch
- Parents also discussed that if the goal is to promote healthy eating, then that goal should carry through to all school activities, including carnival, pancake breakfast, freezie days, etc

Based on the information presented to the PAC, it was agreed that the ultimate decision for a school-wide policy around nutrition rests with the administration, and that any PAC fundraisers (including hot lunch) where food and/or beverages are sold need to adhere to the school policy (Policy 305):

<https://www.sd44.ca/Board/PoliciesProcedures/Series300/Policy305/Pages/default.aspx>. Mr Johal will discuss further with teachers and will provide the school policy to the PAC ahead of the May 29 meeting so that any budget adjustments can be made for the 2019-20 PAC budget.

Budget review:

The 2018-19 budget vs actuals was circulated at the meeting.

A draft 2019-20 budget was also circulated.

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

- Hot lunch
- Gaming funds
- PAC student funding & Local business donations
- Seycove Auction

Expenses include many of the existing PAC programs, including Arts programs, Sports program, Sexual Health programs, and Teachers appreciation & discretionary funds. Teachers have also provided a Wish List of items, including an investment in new laptops for the school. Based on these items, the proposed expenses significantly exceed expected income.

A discussion was held regarding the role of the PAC to fund curriculum-based items on the teacher’s wish list. Mr Johal agreed to prioritize the items on the wish list and provide those to the PAC in order to help balance the budget. As the school district is still reviewing its technology policy, it was agreed to remove the laptops from the proposed budget for now and to consider using retained earnings or holding a special fundraiser when better information is available on the district technology plan.

A suggestion was also made to see if any of our local firefighter or nurse parents could provide first aid training for Grade 6s, rather than paying for an external vendor.

The PAC executive will review parent input as well as input from Mr Johal and will present a balanced budget for approval at the May 29 meeting.

A reminder that at the May 29 meeting, the following business will occur:

- Vote on 2019/20 Budget
- Election of PAC officials for 2019/20
 - Anthony Lyons (treasurer), Chris Ricard, and Penny Swords will stand for re-election
 - There are two vacancies: Co-chair and Secretary

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm. Next meeting: May 29 @ 7pm

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