

Sherwood Park PAC Minutes

January 31, 2017

In Attendance: Anne Lawson, Karmyn Turner, Carolyn McEachern, Samantha Ball, Meredith Briden, Fiona Rouillard, Katrina Podmore, Danae McKay, Julie Mayor, Christy Mahoney, Michelle Soltys. (More parents in attendance but did not sign the sign in sheet)

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

Motion to approve the November 2016 minutes made by Fiona Rouillard and seconded by Julie Mayor.

Counselling Support at School - Lisa Jaakola (speaker)

Lisa Jaakola, District Elementary Counsellor came to speak at the PAC meeting. Lisa has been providing services at Sherwood Park for the past 6-7 years. As of this school year she is at Sherwood 3 days per week (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday).

Lisa supports the social, emotional, behavioral and mental health needs of the students. She works with students, teachers and parents in an individual or small group basis as well as collaborative work with teachers, parents and integrated support services (outside agencies) to support student needs. It is a wraparound approach that involves teachers, administrative team, family and Lisa.

Lisa also offers programs for the school such as Zones of Regulation program for classrooms, Friends program, Anxiety program, Social Skills program and a Bullying program.

There is a school based administration team in place and when an application for services is filled out it is sent to the team chair (Anne Lawson) and the team reviews the students' case to assess what skills /services are needed, tracks services received and the resulting progress. If needed the case is referred to outside agencies.

Lisa also writes and manages Ministry case IEP's, is available for grief & life change counselling with students and families if desired.

More information can be found on the North Vancouver School District website

<https://www.sd44.ca/ProgramsServices/InclusiveEducation/Documents/CounsellingServices.pdf#search=counselling>

Principal/Vice Principle report:

Anne Lawson spoke and introduced Peony, the newest PADS (Pacific Assistance Dog Society) puppy that she is fostering. PADS dogs are used for court grief support, helping seniors and the disabled with mobility tasks, sniffer dogs and as service dogs for a child in a wheelchair.

Peony is currently 14 weeks old and will be at the school until the end of the year. She follows Amber who was in the school from September to December 2016. Amber worked with student to listen to hesitant readers as well as to calm & console students with anxiety issues.

Peony has been very well received by the staff and students and some of the students have formed a Nature Club to help keep the playground safe for Peony to enjoy.

Anne noted that the Sexual Health workshops have been done for the students and went very well.

'Out in Schools' also came in to speak with the 6-7 students about sexual orientation at school and answered questions. This was the first time that they had spoken at the school and may come back every second year.

Volleyball has started

Principal/Vice Principle report cont.:

Anne Lawson has set up a new room in the school across from Room 5. It was created as a self-regulating space for children to visit if they are anxious etc. The room is decorated with a forest mural, stars suspended from the ceiling and is meant to be a very calming environment.

Budget review:

2017 income to date – Rasmussen Group has donated \$2,000 of their proceeds to the PAC this fall and Jonathon Adams, a local mortgage broker will be contributing 10% of his proceeds for any Sherwood Park family that uses his services.

The annual card program was put on hold as fall is such a busy time in the school. The plan is to proceed in the spring if it gets staff acceptance. This will allow us to also choose another theme for the students' artwork which can be ordered as cards, journals and prints. It has been a popular fundraiser in the past and teachers have been to participate.

Carnival is a an event held as a community building event rather than a fundraiser. However, if Carnival proceeds we can expect some additional income from the event.

There are more Gaming funds to come at year end as our student enrollment numbers increased by about 50 students this year.

There are still Beautification Project funds available as no projects have been undertaken so far this year. The thought is perhaps to see if an edible garden project can be undertaken but this will requires support from teachers and parents. Karmyn will speak at the teachers meeting on February 2, 2017 meeting to see if teachers are interested in incorporating this into their teaching plans for the spring.

Also in lieu of the beautification initiatives done in the past it was proposed that a school yard clean-up be done this spring by parents and students on a weekend afternoon. With a volunteer to take this on the PAC would explore the possibility of providing hotdogs and popcorn.

Karmyn confirmed that the computer equipment budget is on track to be spent by year end.

The school is no longer using E-Pact, which the PAC had budgeted for this year. These funds will be redistributed to be used to replenish the Emergency Go Packs for classrooms.

First Aid training has been scheduled.

Karmyn noted that no funds have been used so far this year from the Performing Arts funds and is not aware that anything has been booked for the students. Anne Lawson will follow up on this.

Health workshops are normally held every second year however Joe Campbell has asked that funds be made available as this year's grade 7 boys need some additional safe teen training. This is a \$400 unbudgeted expense that will require approval. The training will provide information on self-confidence, bullying, how to solve issues without physical interaction and self-regulation techniques. It is proposed that Safe Teen be offered every year rather than every second year. This will be addressed at the May budget meeting. The PAC annually sets aside \$500 for the Grade 7 class to use for graduation activities but this will not be used as fundraising has been successful. It was proposed that these funds be used to pay for the additional Safe Teen training. This proposal was motioned by Danae McKay and seconded by Katrina Podmore.

It was also discussed that IGirl/IGuy be made available to select grades every other year to ensure all students have access to the programs. This will require additional investigation and included in the discussion at the May budget meeting.

Playground Upgrades and Replacement Planning:

Discussion deferred to February meeting as Joe Campbell was not able to attend meeting however Anne Lawson did note that a work order has been placed to fill up the wood chips in the playgrounds and that dirt and gravel had been spread during the stretch of inclement weather we had as the primary year was very icy during the cold weather.

Other Business:

Jesse Miller will be at the school talking to the students about social media literacy & safety and will conduct a parent talk the same evening for parents. Baby sitters will be available and the PAC will be there selling popcorn, coffee and juice boxes (\$1 each)

Gina Madeo spoke about traffic safety plans, which have been slow to start this fall. She is looking at holding some walking patrol / walking school bus events in early March. Events to hopefully include prizes and banners made by students to increase interest in participation. A Walk and Roll event with a donated bike as a prize was discussed, students could enter to win if they participated in the event.

Anne Lawson noted that all staff on the playground have new yellow jackets that are very visible. It was suggested that jackets be purchased by the PAC for parent volunteers assisting with the traffic safety events. Order could be tied in with the next school order to lower costs.

Carnival date still needs to be set and parent support is required to organize.

Seycove Auction is March 4, 2017 and more volunteers are needed to make this a successful event. One e-mail has been sent out but another blast e-mail needs to be sent to secure additional volunteers. Tickets go on sale February 1, 2017.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM

The PAC does not have a volunteer to maintain the website. In the mean time, please refer to our Facebook page for events and information. <https://www.facebook.com/sherwoodparkpac>