

École Phoenix Middle School Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

Meeting Minutes

Nov 1, 2023
7pm
Library Learning Commons

Current PAC Executive:

President: *Beth Pechter*

Vice President: *Sarah Quenneville*

Secretary: *Sarah Neil*

Treasurer: *Myriah Foort*

DPAC Representatives: *Dino Pagliardi and Crystal Smith*

In attendance:

Beth Pechter

Rachel Nelson

Alyssa Bollans

Crystal Smith

Eric Smith

Sarah Jordan

Sarah Quenneville

Sarah Derks

Jennifer Calestagne

Dino Pagliardi

Sarah Neil

The Ecole Phoenix Middle School PAC recognizes that we are meeting on the traditional territories of the Laichwiltach, Klahoose, and K'omoks First Nations.

1. Welcome & introductions

Meeting Start Time: 7:02pm

Rachel Nelson asked to do the territorial acknowledgement and to speak about the actions at Ecole Phoenix Middle School. We aim to pay attention to our Indigenous department and to build relationships with our Indigenous community. This broadens our understanding and honours the diversity in our school. We welcome feedback that is critical and thoughtful. We are open and we want to hear about ways to grow. As parents and caregivers if we hear

anything that should be addressed, please bring that to Rachel. We respect the relationships with our Indigenous communities.

2. Meeting agenda & minutes:

- a. Review and approve the meeting agenda.
- b. Review and approve the minutes from Oct 11th meeting.

Last meeting minutes sent as a Google Drive link. Sarah Neil to send out in pdf format next time.

Beth made motion to approve Oct 11th meeting minutes. Seconded by Sarah Derks

3. Reports

- a. Principal's Report

Rachel's report:

-Little Buddy classes Grade 8 with Cedar School students.

-Volleyball season is underway. Lots of kids involved. Very grateful for the staff who take on these volunteer roles.

-Basketball starts soon.

-Other clubs up and running. Garden club is in full swing, requires community and PAC support. Garden needs to be winterized and planted for spring. Goal to make garden local community garden for local residents to have their own plots, and families to have plots etc.

-Hot lunch/food program – staff looking at meeting the program with the Healthy food guidelines. Staff are speaking with local restaurants to meet these needs and to bring in a variety of food options for the kids. 4 restaurants are currently lined up. Foods teacher will also provide soup for the lunch program.

-PODs assembly to discuss -graffiti and other low-level activities happening in the school. Focus on inclusion and human rights and collective rights and responsibilities to everyone in the school. Check in with kids.

Upcoming events:

-November 8th Indigenous Veterans Day moment of silence, over PA system

Discussion between Crystal Smith and Rachel Nelson re: moving the ceremony to Nov 8th instead of Nov 9th. Assembly to recognize Indigenous Veterans Day in more depth. Rachel will speak to community members to look at moving ceremony to Nov 8th. Rachel said as it is next week the date might not be able to be moved.

Rachel confirmed an elder from our local indigenous community will be opening the assembly.

-November 9th Remembrance Day ceremony at the school

- b. President's Report

Beth's Report:

Nancy sent information re: "vision zero" grant. Applications are open until Jan 15, 2024, and projects must be around improving road/traffic safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Beth will share information with our DPAC representatives. PAC page on the school website has been updated with our current PAC information and PAC bylaws. Quorum for our meetings are 3 people. Shared our Google Drive folders with our secretary Sarah Neil. Worked with our treasurer Myriah Foort to ensure our PAC bank accounts are up and running. Gaming funds have been received for this year and properly deposited in our bank account.

c. Treasurer's Report

3.c.i. Gaming bank balance Oct 31, 2023

Current Balance \$13,849.63 \$500 approx. carryover from last year

3.c.ii. Fundraising bank balance Oct 31, 2023

Current Balance \$3,256.17

Goal is to spend majority of gaming funds for this year. Approx 15% can be carried over to future years.

d. DPAC Report

Dino – DPAC met over Zoom. Alternating Zoom and in person meetings at the school board office. Working on a strategic plan. 100 new students in our school district. BCTF money looking to spend re: subsidy for childcare to help with turn out for DPAC meetings. Some brainstorming around more parent involvement. Parent presentations re: social media education, student privacy, educational material – all available on the DPAC and BCTF websites. \$4,800 left to spend – guest speakers, must meet certain criteria to spend the funds, brainstorming around ways to spend these funds. Promotional video from Mr. Lewis for PACs to attract parents, can be a resource for PACs to spend out to generate more parent involvement. DPAC conference next month, DPAC President to attend plus another parent. Will have more information to share after the conference.

Crystal – relationship building funds from BCTF available. Workshops upcoming – Indigenous background in curriculum. To build upon Indigenous education for parents. Accessibility team at the school board update. November 9th strategic planning meeting. Spoke with everyone about the importance for Indigenous education within the PACs, she felt it wasn't as well received as in our meeting, she felt like it was dismissed. Joyce McMann, a SD72 trustee spoke about what the district is doing for Indigenous education, but Crystal felt like more should be done.

Dino – suggested providing a clear outline or plan about what should be done, and the budget needed. To see action from the school district sometimes having a clear plan forward is more productive than just raising issues.

Crystal – feels tired from having to educate and bring this information to people. Ownness should be on the school district to do more. Used to be part of the DPAC in Vancouver, Indigenous focused school and said assemblies and curriculum in the Indigenous focused school is much more up to date, but at the district level still lacking.

Rachel – thanked Crystal for sharing her experiences and thoughts with our group.

4. Old business – Review gaming grant applications received to date (if any) and allocate funds

Gaming grant allocations

See attached spreadsheet re: gaming and fundraising fund allocations

5. New business –

a. Fundraising

Tabled to next meeting. Please bring fundraising ideas to next meeting for further discussion. If anyone would like to discuss fundraising for the salad bar please let Sarah Q know. Also, in the meantime Rachel will touch base with Georgina Knox as she is working for the district on healthy Food for Families to link her in.

Jennifer Caestagne to forward Alyssa and Rachel the link to a Federal grant re healthy food in schools. Deadline is Nov 6th, but might be a perfect fit for our gardening club as well as Skills for Life.

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6. Other business

7. Format of meetings

8. Motions

Meeting adjourned 9:32pm

FUTURE PAC MEETINGS:

- Wednesday November 29, 2023 7pm