

**Shortreed Community Elementary School
Parent Advisory Council - Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 23rd, 2025, at 6:30 pm – School Library**

1. Call to order at 6:32 pm by Jodi Stiglic

In attendance: Ben Lanteigne, Ashley Buzzard, Krista Shurn, Jodi Stiglic, Kyla Des Mazes, Susan Ngo, Tasha Mash, Chris Wejr, Michelle Gill

2. Welcome & Introductions

We acknowledge that Shortreed Community School is located on the traditional, unceded territory of the Matsqui First Nation

Everyone introduced themselves, and their roles and relationship to the school

3. Establish Quorum

4. Approval of September 2025 Agenda

Motion to approve: Kyla; Seconded by: Susan; All in Favour

5. Approval of June 2025 Minutes

Motion to approve: Krista; Seconded by: Kyla; All in Favour

6. Principal / Administration report

Mr. Wejr / Mrs. Gill

a) School Start Up

i. Mr. Wejr listed new positions at our school this year:

- New Vice Principal: Michelle Gill
- New Admin Assistant: Chantale Hubbs
- New Youth Care Worker role at our school: Sara Palitti
- 2 new divisions (we now have 22 divisions)

ii. Having 6 portables has created some challenges, but all staff are working together to come up with creative solutions

b) Welcome Back BBQ

- i. The event was a success, and we had beautiful weather
- ii. The line-up moved fast, and we served 700 hot dogs

c) Cops for Cancer

- i. Noted in this week's newsletter: the Police Captain had a close connection with a former student at our school, and wears a badge that reminds him of that student
- ii. There was a tree that the student's family planted, but has since been damaged and its plaque removed; we are planning to work with the family to reinstate a memorial, with the help of Mrs. Datema, who has a connection to the family

d) Outdoor Speaker

- i. Acknowledgement of PAC's purchase of outdoor speaker and previously purchased sound system used in the gym
- ii. Speaker is clear, nice and loud
- iii. Mr. Wejr noted the Cops for Cancer "riders were pumped to hear the music"

e) Orange Shirt Day at School

- i. We will have an assembly on Friday, and have Melissa Epp speak

- ii. We will do a Round Dance, as a way to honour and reflect as a community
 - iii. We talk to the students about residential school, but go to a depth that is age appropriate; for example, talk about kids being away from their families
 - iv. In September, we focus on Historical Truths, and then in June (re: National Indigenous History Month/Peoples Day), it is more about celebrating resiliency
 - v. We have 60 kids with Indigenous heritage at our school
- f) Criminal Record Checks
 - i. Any adult working one-on-one with a student (for example: reading in a classroom) will need to obtain a criminal record check. A teacher or admin will reach out to advise that you will need to have a criminal record check done when applicable
 - ii. You can bring in a letter from the school to the local RCMP detachment, or apply online. The online option will take longer to process
- g) Lunch Lady
 - i. This program served a purpose; it was inclusive (cost was \$3/lunch)
 - ii. We are not going forward with Lunch Lady; instead, there is a program through Aldergrove Community Secondary School that creates lunches for local schools. This program serves 40 families in need. The hope is that the program will expand, and more students can get lunches from it
- h) Cross Country
 - i. First meet is next week, for 30-40 kids
 - ii. It is a 2.2km run with other Langley schools
- i) Grade 5 Soccer League
 - i. In partnership with Douglas Park Elementary. It is happening Oct through Nov
- j) Terry Fox Run
 - i. Our school does this run through the community in October, so that we can be sure to focus on Truth and Reconciliation in September; we do not want these two important learnings to get mixed up
- k) Outdoor Classroom Shelter
 - i. This project is going into its 4th year
 - ii. There have been changes at Atlas (the company installing the shelter), the school district, and the surveyors assigned to the project
 - iii. Our former Vice Principal, Mrs. Tarasoff, is still very much connected to this project
 - iv. Two district employees are working with Mrs. Tarasoff on this
 - v. Next task: Geothermal Surveys
 - vi. Confirmation that we received \$25,000 donation from Alliance Pumps
- l) Classroom Emergency Kits
 - i. Mrs. Gill confirmed that every class has an updated emergency kit
- m) Mrs. Gill doing ELL 2 days a week
 - i. Mrs. Gill supported ELL when she was in the Abbotsford School District
 - ii. She is currently working on ELL instruction and curriculum

7. Executive and Committee reports

President - Jodi Stiglic

No report

Vice-President - Kyla Des Mazes
No report

Treasurer – Krista Shuryn

End of August Chequing account: \$47,010.96

End of August Gaming account: \$5,666.37

About \$2000 in cheques to be taken out of the Chequing account
Money from the BBQ to be deposited

Budget for school speaker is not in current budget

Motion to add \$1800 to the budget: Kyla; Seconded by Tasha; All in favour

A cheque will be written to the school to reimburse. Purchase receipt received in August

We used to give new teachers a budget for self-regulation tools (ie: wiggle stools, fidgets); we now have lots, and teachers can borrow them when needed.

Motion to remove this line, and in place add \$50 to each classroom/teacher budget, including music and ELL: Kyla; Seconded by: Ben. All in favour

Question: What happened to the book fair? (it was noted that teachers/classrooms typically get funding for resources, discounts on books through a book fair)

Answer: Signers are needed the entire time the book fair is open, and sometimes that means 14-16-hour days. Book fairs show inequities. There is also limited space to have one; it used to be in the library, then moved to a classroom, and then to the gym

Mrs. Parsons has found a free app to use for KM Club (this is a program that tracks the total distance that a student runs; milestones reached earn students recognition)

This frees up \$250 from the Gaming Budget

Motion to remove this line from the budget: Tasha; Seconded by Kyla; All in favour

Question: What is a Gaming Budget?

Answer: It is a grant we receive from the government, but we are restricted on what we can spend that money on (re: only non-curricular things)

Secretary – Susan Ngo
No report

Fundraising – Ashley Buzzard

Discussion/Brainstorm:

Question: Is there a Code of Conduct for how we approach businesses?

Answer: Each member of the exec signed a code of conduct, and there is a code of conduct set out by Langley School (found in the student agendas)

Question: Is there a list of places we regularly use for fundraising?

Answer: There are some fundraisers we do every year around the same time, such as Neufeld Farms, Purdy's, Blueberries, and Plants. But you are not limited to just those.

Maybe create a survey/poll for parents to choose things that they would like to see us do

There was a question on our Facebook page about coupon books, that doesn't do well for Aldergrove, as most of the businesses listed are either in Abbotsford or Langley City

A former PAC Executive parent went around to local businesses a few years ago to see if they would like to participate in a coupon book specific to Aldergrove, but was turned down

Communications Coordinator - Kaelin Nelson (*absent*)

No report

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator - Jodi Stiglic

Granola bars and fruit snacks (in case of natural disasters) are kept in sea can
They get given away at Sports Day, and replenished every September

Question: What else do we use the sea can for?

Answer: Mainly storage, such as things for the BBQ, Fun Fair stuff, Emergency Kit, Bathroom Covers (tents for when toilets may not be accessible; we need more of these)

Jodi and Kyla have started using a “first in, first out” system, where they use the “older” water bottles, before the newly purchased ones

Hot Lunch Coordinator - Kyla Des Mazes

Ben and Krista will be working with Kyla to organize and distribute hot lunches

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Rep - Susan Ngo

At the last DPAC meeting, there was a Special Presentation by Colleen Hannah, Director of Instruction, Indigenous Education; recapped what was discussed

Shared information from School Trustee and Superintendent Report

Reminders: DPAC pays for 4 FoodSafe trainings, and \$50/parent per school year on Parent Education

Noted: New BCCPAC Recruitment Committee and Committee for Racism

Members at Large – Jennifer Cooksley (*absent*), Paula Halvorson (*absent*)

No report

Bylaws Committee – Jodi, Susan, Paula

Brief explanation of the purpose of this committee (to review the PAC Constitution and Bylaws on an annual basis, and bring forward any changes to be voted on at meetings)

Date to be set to review for this school year

Current Constitution and Bylaws, dated Jan 2024, is available online

Shelter Committee – Jen, Jodi, Susan

As discussed during the Principal's report

Fun Fair Coordinator – Aly Gallagher (*absent*)

No report

8. Old Business

- Removal/Adding of Signers

Completed; It was noted that Gulf and Fraser Credit Union has rebranded to Beem Credit Union. There is now a \$2 monthly Service Fee, and \$1.25 charge for each e-transfer sent

9. New Business

- Welcome Back BBQ

We had fewer volunteers this year, but the newer faces were flexible and efficient

We received \$465.20 in donations

- Emergency Supplies
As discussed above
- Shelter Follow-Up: email sent
As discussed above
- Fundraising Ideas:
 - communication board
We have an increase in students with higher needs
EAs have something similar attached to their lanyards, but having a board will help students communicate with their peers better
Jodi will work with the resources department to create a mock-up board and will work with Mr. Wejr to get pricing
 - new storage bin
Idea of “half a sea can” for PAC use, and the existing one for school
Susan to follow up with quotes
 - water fountain by the gym
Pipes are in place; currently, the only bottle filler is far from the gym
Krista to look into the cost for this
 - mural
A parent of a current Shortreed student has approached PAC and Mr. Wejr to paint a mural on the wall close to the kindergarten classes
The parent has been encouraged to create a proposal (tell us his vision and cost)
- Fun Fair Games
Fishing Game and Plinko board are not in good condition
A parent has volunteered to revamp and refurbish these in his shop
- Halloween Haunted Gym
Tabled, as Jen (who will be coordinating the event) was absent
Brief description of how the gym gets transformed, and different “stations” (spooky corridor entrance, pumpkin patch, graveyard, reptiles from Wild Education)
Jodi mentioned that it might not be possible to have Wild Education at our Halloween Haunted Gym this year, as the business is more focused on other initiatives; she will follow up with Mike (business owner) in a couple of weeks
- Dollar Sale
Kyla will be coordinating the November Dollar sale, set for Nov 21st
Donation collection process explained
Suggestion: change the times for “bulk bargains”; “buy a box”, better advertisement
Brainstormed various ways we can do things, and compared other schools’ “sales”
Jodi is working closely with Parkside PAC President, and they have agreed to support each other's community events (re: Parkside does paint night)

10. Next Meeting

Thursday, October 16th at 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm by Jodi Stiglic