

RC Garnett Demonstration Elementary School
Minutes of the Parents' Advisory Council General Meeting
Monday, October 17, 2022 6:30 p.m. – 8:20 p.m.

Present: Reeta Shandil (President), Christie Salter (Vice President), Jasmine Marcelo (Treasurer), Duncan Stephen (Secretary), Chad Ludbrook (Member At Large), Sarah McLean (Member At Large), Nikki Fehr (Member At Large), Travis McLean, Kathy Moore, Supraja Gandhasiri, Zoltan Bako (Principal)

Regrets: Desiree Cabalfin (Member At Large)

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Agenda

- *Motion to approve the agenda for October 17, 2022. Seconded / Carried.*

3. Approval of Minutes

- *Motion to approve the agenda for September 26, 2022. Seconded / Carried.*

4. Principal's Report – Mr. Bako

- Some challenges with staffing as to be expected. Mr. Mancini is no longer PE Prep Teacher but is filling in in the classroom.
- A number of maternity and personal leaves happening. Found Ms. Refern who is now PE Prep Teacher. She is a dance specialist – lots of music and different activities.
- May get an additional portable due to enrolment pressures.
- Expressed thanks for PAC contribution to Tennis XL which is now booked for three weeks starting in November. They provide the instructors and equipment, and Ms. Redfern will be there to assist throughout the activity.
- May need to move Santa Pancake Breakfast which was slated to December 2, 2022.
- Provincial Professional Day this Friday. Staff are encouraged to go out for professional development, but many will stay in the building if they have a plan for how they will use the time – e.g., working in house. Many teachers are focusing on some aspect of literacy.
- Early dismissals coming up this Wednesday and Thursday. These are established in the district calendar and cannot be changed easily.
- More and more schools are coming online with Communicating Student Learning and Student Inclusive Conferences, which involve strengths-based approaches. There will be no school on November 30, 2022 for Student Inclusive Conferences.
- Newsletter went out last week. Have held a number of activities – Terry Fox Day, Turkey Trot, Remembrance Day assembly coming up.
- Christmas concert will be on this year, and children are auditioning for some of the roles.
- The district gathers data on reading for grades 1-3 to ensure that we are seeing progression. Foundational Skills Assessments start in grade 4, and these look at literacy and numeracy. Should not be used to rank schools, but are a good snapshot of where students are at.
- There are some exemptions for these tests, for example, if there is an IEP in place for a particular subject or if a child has English as a second language and may not be able to complete components of the assessment. Accommodations can also be explored.

Principal's Report – Mr. Bako (Continued)

- One bathroom has been reconfigured, and RCG now has a washer/dryer in one changerooms in the gym. Children do not change at school, so changerooms were not being used.
- The District has a hardship policy. If a family cannot afford a field trip, activity or necessary supplies, there is support so that children have the same opportunity. We rely on teachers and their knowledge of families to identify where there may be needs.

Discussion/Questions

- Discussed dates for pancake breakfast – looking at December 8 or 9, 2022.
- Question about breakfast club – is it open to everyone? It is not restricted but is meant for kids that may otherwise not get proper breakfasts, but there is no screening. Donations are welcomed. Attendance varies, and we may see up to 25 children per day.
- Question about programming for weekends. Schools generally don't have programming to cover weekends, but staff try to connect families with resources if there are unmet needs.
- Noted that fruit and veggie program is still running.
- Discussed various ideas including slides, gaga ball court and covering for outdoor classroom.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Gaming profit/loss statement (attached) for year ending August 31, 2023 – total income was \$11,421.95. This includes \$11,420.00 for the gaming grant, and then bank charges of \$4.95 went in and out. The current total in this account is \$21,092.98.
 - ***Motion to accept the gaming profit/loss statement for year ending August 31, 2023 / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***
- General profit/loss statement (attached) for period ending September 30, 2022. With bank charges of \$4.95 in and out, and income of \$139.37, the current total for this account is \$46,362.92. We also moved \$500 for the Halloween Dance.
 - ***Motion to accept the general profit/loss statement (attached) for period ending September 30, 2022 / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***
- Need to pass additional funds for Hallowe'en Dance, though we expect to recoup some or all of the funds through concessions, etc.
 - ***Motion to pass an additional \$500 – moved from meet the teacher – for the Hallowe'en Dance / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***
- Chad will follow up with the people who are leading crafts at the Hallowe'en Dance. We now have an annual gaming licence and will be able to do 50/50 draws, etc.
- May need to update budget given that we are not doing the PAC Initiative call out this year. The amount of fundraising should more than make up for this. The gift card fundraiser just went out today.
- Reeta will need to renew our BCCPAC membership,
 - ***Motion to pass \$75 out of the gaming grant to cover membership in the BCCPAC / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***

6. DPAC Report

- We still need a DPAC representative (volunteers welcome!). Reeta still receives the minutes.
- DPAC is promoting the ICBC Pedestrian Safety content – see <https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/sharing/pedestrian-safety/Pages/default.aspx>. PAC could post this on our social media.

7. Munch a Lunch Report

- Four Munches coming up. Booster Juice is tomorrow.
- Need approval for Ming and Sing, Boston Pizza, Popeyes and McDonalds. Recommend approving \$4,000 each for the first two events. Will pass funds for the remaining lunches at our next meeting. We anticipate that these costs will be recouped.
 - ***Motion to pass \$4,000 per Munch a Lunch for the first two events (Boston Pizza and McDonalds) for a total of \$8,000 from the general Munch a Lunch account / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***
 - ***Motion to reimburse \$143.70 to Chad Ludbrook for labels and ink for hot lunch program / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***
 - ***Motion to pass up to \$1,000 for Costco to purchase snacks for hot lunches / Moved: Jasmine Marcelo / Seconded: Christie Salter / Carried***
- It would be helpful if classrooms have Munch a Lunch liaisons as we are getting lots of volunteers, but don't have coverage across all divisions. Ms. Bradford sent out an email to request help for parents.
- Gift card fundraiser has now gone out. Purdy's and poinsettias are going out shortly. Neufeld will start on November 14, 2022.

8. Other business

- Chad received quotes on gaga ball kits. One quote is for \$5,700 USD including shipping. We could get wood here easily, which would cut down on total cost. The second quote is just for the frame, which is for \$1,000. It does not include the matt, wood or other items.
- We likely have funds available for the gaga ball kit, and will revisit our annual budget once our signing authorities have access to the accounts at TD.
- Spirit Wear – Chad has talked to two companies regarding options for clothing/gear – see www.bfgh.ca for examples. There is a line in our budget for this to cover for children who may otherwise not be able to afford gear. This is more for school spirit and is not one as a fundraiser. Jasmine will follow up with Ms. Bradford regarding how this was coordinated in previous years.
- Discussed volunteers for the Hallowe'en Dance. Nikki is willing to make sure that volunteers get to the right places. Other PAC members will be on hand. The notice mentions cash sales only.
- Pub Night TBC.
- Clean out of PAC locker will be on Friday, October 21, 2022 in the afternoon.

9. Next Meeting

- November 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the RCG Library

10. Adjournment