

Sir James Douglas PAC Meeting minutes October 19th, 2016

Meeting came to order at 6:33pm

30 parents and teachers in attendance.

Fairfield Community Association

- AGM –Monday October 23rd
- Committee of the City –operates in neutrality
- Looking for support to create some balance in the Association
- A group is looking to gain power through board appointments to use the association to advocate for changes in the community related to land use, i.e., Clover Point, Mt. Saint Edwards, Bike lanes in Cook Street Village
- Compromises the charitable status of the association & puts into question the long term viability for current programs without support.

Rob Paynter, Victoria School trustee

- New Superintendent in Victoria, headhunted from Red Deer, AB
- Working on a long term facilities plan
- Looking into demographics of the catchment areas to determine demand on schools
- Enrollment in Victoria district has been up for the last three consecutive years.
- Strategic plan for learner success
 - Tech & tech teaching
 - International student program
 - Currently helps contain class sizes
 - Allows more program offerings
- Outdoor time for learning
- Outdoor areas of schools
- Communication
 - Looking for input from parents about what they need to know from the district.

Halloween Party

- Need volunteers!!
- Haunted room
 - Need black light to be ordered
 - Learning support room
 - Quiet room
 - Sign up for haunted room volunteers
 - Items needed list to go up on the PAC website

School Update

- Google Apps for Education (GAFE)
 - Read & write for Google Chrome
 - Predictive writing, reads out loud, phonetically predicts misspelled words
 - English & French
 - Text helps
 - Allows for simplification of text in websites to 4 different levels for different comprehension levels.
 - Picture or text dictionary
 - Translator
 - Accessible from any computer with internet access

Movie Night

- Friday, November 25th
- Looking for suggestions for movies
- Will develop a list to have the students vote for their favourite.

Annual budget review

- Many lines from last year's budget were not used in the budget
- Follow up with the school will continue to make sure all spending is recorded in correct budget
- There may be more receipts to come
- Murray Harris will take the information back to the teachers to make sure the teachers are aware of the programs and monies available to them from the PAC.
- Fixed Expenses
 - Childcare will increase for PAC meetings, the sitters have been given an increase in pay
 - PAC website
 - Hot Lunch website
 - Membership expense
 - Benevolent fund
 - Staff appreciation, spending will likely increase
 - Parent Education
 - Crossing Guard –will be resuming with Beacon starting Nov 1st
- Ideas for 2016/17 school year
- Alice moved to increase the classroom supplement available to teachers from \$12.00 to \$15.00 per student, seconded by Nicole. Unanimously passed
- Budget discussion tabled until the next meeting

Cruise Victoria has announced an Electric Bus in town available for school use

- Michelle to investigate

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm