

Ecole Elementaire Sir James Douglas Elementary School

PAC Meeting

September 20, 2017 6:30pm

SJD Teacher Updates—Melissa Lackey and Colleen Pommelet

- Pro-D
 - 2 umbrella ideas explored with staff on Monday, Sept. 18.
 - Math
 - New math curriculum, sessions to choose new resources for the school, arrived Monday morning so all staff got to explore and add them to their classes; more to come.
 - What is the new Math curriculum? Manipulatives, group work, focusing on multiples strategies and being able to explain them (pictorial, concrete, symbolic); moving away from rote memorization and step, into knowing the reasons why things are done the way they are, to be able to apply strategies as they move through math concepts.
 - Literacy
 - K-1 teachers and librarian, putting lots of emphasis on reading, literacy, and moving back to phonics; 3 teachers in classrooms while doing some intensive work on literacy.

Pancake Breakfast--Jenn

- Need volunteers to help on Friday morning
 - Cooking pancakes, set up
 - Notice in backpacks, newsletter out yesterday

Volunteering—Michelle/Jenn

- Volunteers are very important to the success of all the events PAC run
- Jenn to coordinate Grade 5 Camp Pringle fundraising with volunteers

Safe Travel to School--Tom

- Megan, CRD, Education & Engagement: resource to school, support for funding, liaison with Tom (and school parent)
- Lise: HASTe, across BC, data collection, engagement, identifying problem areas and working with community as a whole (City, SD, etc.) to address issues.
- Coordinating Walk and Wheel Week October 10-13; using alternate modes of transportation to school; reduce congestion at the school
 - Drive to 5 Tuesday, with walking school buses from Drive to 5 locations
 - Walk-In Wednesday, emphasis on walking in
 - Wheeling Thursday (bikes, scooters, transit)
 - 100 in 1 Day on the last day (Oct. 13);
 - Empty parking lot and drop off lane
 - Games, other uses for the
- Celebration Stations, tickets for prizes, stickers for kids (honour system within classes); treats, etc.

- Volunteers for Walking School Bus (Tuesday/Friday); celebration stations set-up, during, and clean up (8 – 9am)
- SJD OSC will participate as well
- Tasks for next 2 weeks
 - Volunteers for neighbourhood best route sheets, particularly from outside of immediate SJD neighbourhoods; what are good biking/walking routes, transit numbers (filled)
 - Meet up stations to bike together: people who are new can have the comfort of taking those routes already
 - Volunteers to solicit donations/purchase prizes for each day—budget available for this
 - Work with VicPD Community Liaison/CRD to get reflective wraps, etc.
 - Volunteers for what is needed at Celebration Stations
- Some information already available
- Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition to come help on biking days?
- Pizza days for classes that are at 100%
- Draws for prizes randomly for smaller prizes

Halloween Party-Nicole

- Need volunteers to help coordinate
 - Music – new sound system has not happened at this point, old one exists
 - Tickets – sell ahead of time, online. EventBrite – Adrienne will look into; charge a little more at the door than online
 - Food – Pizza and chili...chili cook-offs? Other options for dinner? Food limited to only the Garry Oak Room.
 - Decorations – haunted hallway? Balloons, streamers, etc. Adrienne will talk to her father-in-law to see if there's any interest/availability in helping
 - Photo Booth – Nicole to talk to Jody; Michelle knows someone else as well
 - Advertising - Adrienne
 - Games – Jenn, look at what is left from last year

Crossing Guard

- No crossing guard at this point
- Duttons has offered to provide funding for the guards
- Not responsibility of schools or School District; it's the parent groups that organize
- Beacon Community Services is responsible; can take care of liability, insurance, criminal record checks, etc.; they look after several schools.
- Unclear where funding for the crossing guard program comes from
- Previous crossing guard is not returning due to safety concerns and other factors
- Needs to have two guards, one on each corner
- No replacements are hired
- CRD is having conversations with Beacon regarding hiring barriers (split shifts, low wages); not their responsibility either, but can take the questions back.
- Perhaps PAC should take over the hiring? Liability, insurance, WCB, etc?
- Need to find the source of funding and what is happening with it.

Fernwood Coffee – Nicole

- Days for orders are set; will be sent out
- Encouraging online orders this year

Fundraising – Alice, Michelle

- 2016/17 fundraising total is approximately \$25,000
- Are there opportunities to support other schools with fundraising?
 - Macaulay has limited budget for purchasing library books; could we support?
 - Students in Grades 4/5 asking about how to support other schools
- Inequities due to SES situations
- Community LINK: tracked on postal codes, certain schools will have three tiers for Community LINK funding
 - Breakfast/lunch provided
 - More learning supports available
 - Youth and Family Counsellors
- Continue working on partnerships with other schools for fundraisers
- Might be a role within the school system to find out where an initiative might be worthwhile to support

GoodLife Marathon Contest

- Flyers went home yesterday
- Current registration is at 15, so we'll have team names on the shirts.
- Race packages will be delivered to the school.

School Update from Mr. Harris

- Teacher updates—all staff have been hired
 - Amber Hallman, 0.2, English Language Learning teacher (3 afternoons); Sarah Paulson will now focus on just Learning Supports (was doing the ELL program last year)
 - Joanne Jesse, Grade 2/3 English
 - Miss van Katwijk, set up whole classroom, has done assessments and reading levels, has great notes to pass on to the
 - Jennifer, new custodian, former parent, has worked in the District before; (Tickles the Clown on her off time).
 - Doug took a District position; a card will be left at the front office for families to sign.
- French immersion teachers challenging to hire; lack of applicants with appropriate qualifications
- Not all schools are fully staffed at this time.
- School population is currently 493; 500 students would lift librarian time, admin time, vice-principal time, learning support time, etc.
- Kindergarten
 - 3 full French classes
 - 2 small English classes (14 and 15 students)
- All English classes are split, but are all well-balanced
- Restrictions around configurations
 - Balance of factors other than gender (trying to remove stereotypes)

- Lots of compliments regarding the way that the first day of school ran smoothly; classrooms assigned in the first week was amazing. Good work!

Meeting adjourned 8:05pm