

SJD PAC Meeting

DATE: 18 January 23

TIME: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

LOCATION: School Library

Attendees:

In-person: Casey Austin - Chair, Jenny Stoldt - Communications, Roxanna Mohtadi - Co-Vice Chair, Brad Hallam - Treasurer, Josee Paris - Principal, Cheryl Rolston - Vice Principal, Sarah Causton, Emilie Austin, Erin Rutten, Stephanie Picard, Emily Hull, Maria Jose, Mario Zamodano, Kate Malloy, Justeu Lalonde, Natalie Tokgoz

Missing: Liz Steffanick - Co-Vice Chair, Corey Kowal - Secretary

Meeting Minutes

1. Introduction & Welcome

- Territorial acknowledgment
- Introductions & Sign in

2. Updates from 22/23 Committees

Fun Lunch Committee

- Roxanna away for both hot lunches in Feb. Will need extra volunteers in Feb.
- Discussion: Are volunteers coming in too early?
 - Cheryl: Food coming too early is a big distraction for kids. They can't do any work when hot lunch arrives. Lunch starts at 11:50

DECISION: Volunteers to arrive at 11:30-12:00 (update volunteer signup sheet)

ACTION: Update volunteer signup sheet to reflect new time

Holiday Emporium

- Emilie: So many volunteers helped to make it a success!
- Received \$2840 in PAC donations
- Leftover stuff went to Once Upon a Child. They purchased items and became PAC donations. Books went to the library and teachers.
- Feedback:
 - great that it moved to "pick 2 items" rather than item costing specific amounts;
 - teachers felt in general, it was easier than before; easy form;
 - volunteers were less stressed—no change required;
 - some donations were incomplete puzzles, or broken toys
 - gym was dark; hard to find kids
 - outside got too dark
 - cables were tripping hazards
- Suggestions for next time:
 - condense shopping time
 - have a quiet shopping time
 - have a big shopping buddy the little ones
 - specify max size of donations
 - at the event, pre-pack the cotton candy (long and slow lines)

- Looking for someone to take it over, for Emilie to train when she's gone (child has only 1 more year left!)

Active Transportation Committee

- Casey: 89 responses to walk and wheel survey; lots of constructive feedback;
- Looking for anyone to join to go through responses to analyse and determine action next steps as necessary.

Safety Committee

- Casey: Have been quiet this year so far
- Will have another walk about before end of year; send out a survey beforehand;
- To join the Safety Committee, go to #safety-committee on slack
- Parent asked: Can we get a protected left light on Moss and Fairfield?
 - Casey: Submit this question in the survey coming up. Feedback will be given to city rep during walk about.
- Parent concern about drivers blocking drive-thru.
 - Josee: doesn't help to send a message out about it. Parents remember for 2 weeks then forget.

Parent-Ed Committee

- Call out for a volunteer for parent ed. We have a \$250 budget for workshops.
- Cheryl suggested a parent's mom for a workshop (EmbraceRace). Jenny has contact info.

VCPAC Update - DISTRICT WIDE PACS

- Police liaison program - talked about what is a police liaison; SJD had one a long time ago; ask in #general if anyone is interested in looking into one
- [Click here for full notes from VCPAC meeting](#)

3. Budget/Financials

- Contribution Drive update: \$9,885 (50% of \$20k goal)
 - We also have Fun Lunch and Holiday Emporium that provides donations.
 - Based on projections for the remaining hot lunches, our total donations for the year is estimated to be almost the same (~\$18,000)
 - [Click here for details](#)
- PAC member comment: Maybe not all parents know about the contribution drive?
- Roxanna: Not making as much as pre-pandemic when we had products and events. That used to be over \$24,000

ACTION: Put all fundraiser amounts into website for transparency

PAC Supported Event - Bottle drive

- Dance team bottle drive happening? Casey: still waiting on Mandy Yardley
- Roxanna set up a Bottle Depot Virtual bottle drive. People can take bottles there anytime and **ask for their deposits to be donated to SJD PAC.**

ACTION: Jenny add virtual bottle drive to website

4. Class Reps

Questions from a class rep's class parent:

- Missing basketball backboards
 - Josee: have put in req's

- Who's responsible for cleaning outside areas?
 - Josee: Facilities

5. Agenda Additions

None

6. Principal Josee Paris & Vice Principal Cheryl Rolston

- 2 surveys coming out to kids in next month or two
 - Parent feedback: let parents know about it before so they can speak to kids about it.
- Grade 5's - indigenous education on lands
- Next Pro-D - staff learning about youth and mental health;
- Students get social/emotional learning from Adele (school counselor)
- School needs a new goal post ~\$1000; can it be PAC funded? To be considered later.

7. Open Mic

- Message from a student: Gagaball zone feeling too tight.
 - Child can ask to move to another zone.
- Some children complain about not being allowed to go across the street to the store/bakery (they were "allowed" in the past);
 - Josee: parents need to sign them out. Staff is liable for children.

8. Next PAC Meeting (#5) - Tuesday, Feb 21, 6:30 - 8:00

APPENDIX

PAC Donations This Year

SJD PAC CONTRIBUTION DRIVE	
(as of January 16, 2023)	
DONATIONS	
School Cash Online	9,435
Paypal	450
Total	9,885
% of 20k Contribution Drive Goal	49%
OTHER POSSIBLE REVENUE SOURCES	
Halloween Bash	800
Holiday Emporium	1,200
Hot Lunch	12 lunches x \$500 6,000
Total Other Revenue	8,000
% of 20k Contribution Goal	40%
Grand Total	17,885
% of 20k Contribution Drive Goal	89%

VCPAC Update & Key Points Raised - January 2023

SJD Representative: Corey Kowal

Late French Immersion

- SD61 planning on closing Late French Immersion at Cedar Hill Middle School (undetermined if it will be permanent or temporary)
- Parent community not consulted prior to the decision; did the district have any duty to discuss with the parent community or not?
- No impact at this point to Late French Program at Central

School Police Liaison Officer Program

- Discussions currently happening on whether or not the program will be kept as is, or with revisions or removed all together

- In November, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General have expressed their support to the BC Office of Human Rights stating that they believe the program should be removed
- VCPAC will be going to the SD61 School Board for a vote by the Trustees
- ***VCPAC looking for input from it's parent community - asking for a discussion at PACs - to present to Trustees***

Custodial Cuts

- Motion brought forward on December 12, 2022:
 - **Approved Motion:** That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to identify options and provide recommendations to the Board on using funds coming out of revised budget allocations toward custodial deficits.
 - **Action:** Superintendent to identify options and provide recommendations to the Board on using funds coming out of revised budget allocations toward custodial deficits.
- VCPAC has also spoken to the board about supporting custodial staff in schools
- This will be discussed at the upcoming meeting SD61 Operations and Policy Meeting on January 17, 2023
 - OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING INCLUDE:
 - Elementary Strings Review
 - 2023-2024 Budget
 - Custodial Considerations – Superintendent Whitten
 - Victoria High School Seismic Project Update

Talking Tables - Budget Developing Discussions for 2023/24

- Corey was able to participate as a parent representing VCPAC (was grateful to be at a table with Mme. Rolston!)
- Talking Tables provided an an opportunity for Trustees to meet and hear from our First Nations partners along with a diverse group of stakeholders: parents, teachers, CUPE members and associated professionals through facilitated table conversations.
- Main discussion topics included: First Nations & Inclusion, Technology & Infrastructure, Strategic Planning & Policy
- Was a very open and transparent event that allowed insight into the challenges we face as a district and a community to support the needs of all students in the district.
- The intent of the night is to give Trustees, and others in the meeting, an understanding of strengths, stretches and curiosities from the system and where we might want to direct resources to continually improve learning opportunities for students.