

Westwind Elementary PAC

Meeting Minutes for October 23rd, 2019

Held in Westwind Elementary Library 6:30 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

Judie Schneider welcomed those present. Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm. Quorum present.

2. Motion to approve minutes from meeting from Sept 25th by Drew. Motion seconded by Sarah.

3. Chair's Report (Judie Schneider):

We need to vote on gardening expenditures, in regards to Richmond Food Security Society Kids in the Garden Program, that is in place this year. The details of the Kids in the Garden program can be found at: <https://www.richmondfoodsecurity.org/kids-in-the-garden/>. The program is a minimum 2-year commitment. It will directly include 6 classes and the cost is \$6000 for this year. It could be covered entirely by the PAC or we could ask the student's parents from the 6 classes to pay or partially pay for it. Ms. Lai explains the program to the PAC. She mentions that in the past PAC has supported gardening. Last year we created the outdoor garden in the back. The program offers many great learning opportunities, Science, Math and its much like an outdoor classroom. Our outdoor spaces can be outdoor classrooms. Its also great to get kids outside rain or shine, teaches its ok to be outside in the rain. Its relaxing working in the garden, with your hands in the dirt. The gardening program we did last year was Sprouting Chef. This year Ian Lai, from Richmond Food Security Society, comes to schools gets kids excited about the garden. Included in the program is an indoor Aeroponic Growing tower from which the entire school benefits. The program is 10 times per class per year. Mason bees, composting, seeds, preparing the garden, harvest time are just a few of the great lessons covered in this year's programs. The classrooms who will get the lessons this year include students from Gr. 2 – 6, Ms. Carswell, Ms. Chau, Ms. Chan, Ms. Hayre, Ms. Hastings and Mr. Victoria. One parent asked if all classes/divisions could get a small, perhaps one hour, class but unfortunately this is not how the program is its structured. The program also hires older students to water over the summer, they need to create a resume. We also get to use the Bike blender, pedal and make smoothies. Can the PAC support this? We could maybe apply for grant for outdoor to help cover the \$6000 cost. Lisa and Judie agreed to apply for the outdoor grant.

Judie asked if we know a cost to lower our current hoops. Ms. Latu is still waiting to hear cost on sinking two hoops. We may need a playground fundraising committee if we decide that we want to go ahead with adding to the playground.

Kids in the Garden may be a multi-year program. It's a minimum two-year commitment. Gardens and the outdoor spaces benefit all classrooms. Jen put a motion forward to approve the program and Lisa seconded. We voted, and majority are for it. The motion for the gardening expenses passed. We heard from a few parents who did not vote in favour. Those who opposed, felt that not all kids and classes would receive the same amount of benefit. We hope it becomes part of our school culture. Ms. Latu mentions the students receiving the classes will pay it forward so all classes will benefit from the classes. One parent suggested those who do get the training have responsibility to teach other students.

Ms. Lai explains some Special Events costs that the PAC typically helps to cover that have been booked by the school. Ms. Latu mentions that they are enjoying the Apple TVs, purchased last year.

Special Event Cost Breakdown – Ms. Lai explains some special events booked by the school

2. Live Performances – School board covers one, about \$800. We are having three
 - a. “Hula Hoop Circus” – live performance Nov 21, 2019
 - b. “Duffelbag Theatre” – Peter Pan on Feb 27, 2020
 - c. “RupLoops: The Human Radio” – on June 1, 2020
3. Hip Hop, Lesson and Winter Performances (\$10 per student, plus GST, plus \$500) approx. \$4250
4. Tennis lessons - \$2824 (\$8 per student)
5. P2F (Playground to Fairway) Golf Lessons for 4 days - \$875 (\$2.50 per student)

Back to Judie. Talks about creating a manual, of clubs and activities. She would like to have a manual created for parents to reference. Ms. Latu said this would be a living document as things are always changing and she points out that the students should be taking on the responsibility of finding what clubs are available to the them. They will try putting more references on the website.

Gr. 7 Year book - We need a volunteer. Can we directly ask the Gr. 7 parents?

Jump Rope for Heart - We need parent volunteer(s). Date can be flexible. Kharmen volunteered. Thank you.

4. **Treasurer's Report** – Sarah runs through and explains the numbers on the Revenue and Expense Statement.

Revenues and expenses are the cash that has been received or paid through the bank account during September. A gaming grant of \$7.5K was received in October and is not on this report. \$1.2K from the book fair is to be used by the library for visiting authors. The food days amount includes cash received for the period to the end of December. Profit from Food Days for September was approx \$0.9K. Other Fundraisers is minimal revenue from the Entertainment Books which will be reported in October.

5. Fundraising Committee – Rachel, Gina, Kristy, Kerri

Entertainment books. Sold 117 books. \$800 profit. A few books have not been returned. Those books not returned come out of our profits.

Pub Night raised \$1070. A bit more funds were raised than last year, partly because the 50/50 winner donated back their winnings of \$260. Thank you to them. It was a fun night with Trivia, Guess the Caramels and Door Prizes. Thank you to all those you came out and of course the fundraising team.

Fundraising Winter Bundle coming up. Four P's: Purdy's, Plants, Pasta, Pizza. Delivery of Winter Bundle items is early December. Ask letters are coming out soon too.

6. Dance Committee

Want to send out letter soon for donations for silent auction items. Trying to determine whether it will be sent out before or after the Four P's Winter Bundle communication and Ask Letter. New date has been set for the Dance, March 7th, 2020. The theme will be The Westwind Cup, 'Derby'. Get out your fascinators, bowties, top hats, suspenders & dresses. Pub Night Monday, November 18th, to attract volunteers to help.

7. Lend a Hand club.

Found two more parent volunteers. Next thing will be a drive for warm clothes for woman and children, women's shelters. Looking for donations for second hand clothing and personal items. Drawstring back packs were donated in a past year and will be used to contain the warm clothing items and then donated to Insight. Emails will come home with list of exactly what to ask for. Judie asked to go to Gr. 6 & 7 classes to recruit older students to join Lend a Hand Club.

8. Kindy Games Day

Shelley created it. Thursdays at lunch in multi, Lego and Games. Came about of need for K's to have stuff to do. The first one had a very good turn out of 43 students, almost all of the K's. A big success and will continue.

9. Other business

Rupi asks, do we know the criteria for selecting students for scholarships that we fund at McMath and Steveston London. The selection is done by a scholarship committee at the

secondary schools. She asks if qualities like resiliency are considered when the schools choose recipient candidates. It is nice to recognize something beyond academics. Ms. Latu said she would email the Principals to ask how they choose.

10. Administrative Report

Ms. Lai - Our emergency earthquake container has been dropped off. The school has received a letter from one neighbour asking why the location was chosen. There were only two possible locations. Needed to be near our 'mustering' area. The other location was on the hockey court. Need to be on a level black top for doors to open properly and have a secure footing. High visibility to limit vandalism. Needed to be in location that truck could deliver it to. It will contain water, blankets and other emergency supplies. Materials are currently in room 10, will be moved out to earthquake container.

Ms. Latu – **Proposed School Boundary Revisions.** An email was sent out by Ms. Latu to all parents on Friday October 18th. **Please refer to this email and read the PDF attachment for full details.** Ms. Latu summarizes that there are three changes that would affect our catchment.

1. Boundary between Westwind and Maple Lane. Some of our catchment would go to Maple Lane instead. It is a small parcel east of No. 2 road and there are currently no Westwind students living there.
2. Lord Bing – backyard of McMath will no longer be Westwind, it will be Lord Bing. Existing families are grandfathered.
3. As of 2020, all students entering WW are to attend SL.

Parents may want to provide feedback on the website on Let's Talk website <https://bit.ly/2MiMwir>. Link is also in Ms. Latu's email sent out Friday Oct 18th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm