

PAC Meeting – May 2, 2023

Meeting Called to Order: 7:01pm – Tamara and Allison

Present:

Amanda Paul	Amy Swirsky	Tamara Weltman	Nira Diamant
Cindy Chodirker	Joann MacMullan	Cindee Gorowski	Mal Morgal
Colin Bruce-Smith	Lars Sigurdson	Allison Cribbs	Tammie Adolfson

1. **Review of March 2023 minutes** – Approved by Tamara Weltman and Cindee Gorowski

2. Principal/Vice Principal Report:

- Nicer weather means kids are getting out more for learning times
- Staffing and classes for 2023-24 – happy to report that we are able to maintain status quo for next year. Administration was able to advocate for full staffing complement for next year. Vacancies are posted for Grade 3 English/Hebrew, N/K vacancy for Morah Rachael's mat leave, and Hebrew 3 Vacancy

Question asked about having a regular Hebrew substitute assigned to support the classes when there are frequent absences by a teacher in the Hebrew program. Administration is aware of this challenge and has been proactively working to address the issue. In recent months the Hebrew support teacher has been assigned to support the classroom where frequent absences were occurring. The Division has started employing "Supply Teachers" who are full time employees who work as floats available to attend as needed. A request was made to have a Hebrew speaking teacher hired as one of those subs, so that they may be available to be called in as needed.

- Mobile Vision Clinic – forms are due by tomorrow at the latest
- School and divisional data – graduation, literacy and math data was shared. Our school continues to do very well. This data has been shared with teachers and this is something the staff is really proud of. Grade 3 data exceeds provincial data in numeracy. Administration is collaborating with other community schools to share data and compare with other language programs, etc. Divisional graduation rates exceed the provincial average as

well. Supports for reading recovery, EAL, etc. are still to be determined for next year based on where needs are identified at the end of this year.

- Indoor Climbing Wall – The school has received grants and is committing funds to install a small (4 panel) modular climbing wall installed. Currently awaiting engineering to assess our gymnasium, with a plan is to have the system received and installed by June 30th.
- Nature Based Learning Grant update– Architectural drawings are back and projects are set to commence in the spring! Drawings shared with the committee. We are one of 4 schools receiving funding for this initiative. We are benefitting from approx. 100K in outdoor learning improvements through this project. Becoming a centre for nature based learning is a priority for this administration.
- Reimagining the library – books, furniture, plants, planters, and carpet are on their way! There is no money through the division for this, but we have written a 10K one time grant application for furniture. School funds committed for new books and signage with a focus on high interest sections of books with seating for the kids to enjoy reading. Mr. Fieldstead's prints that are currently in the library are going to be enlarged and displayed throughout the school.
- Musical: "The Lion King Jr" is underway and performances are scheduled for May 31 and June 1st – tickets are going on sale this week. \$10/ticket for the evening and \$7.00/ticket for the matinee. The school will essentially break even in the end with these prices, but keeping tickets affordable is a priority.
- Grad Committee – Plans and meetings underway; Alex Polletta and Natalie Sundamark are co-chairs. Communication will take place with families of grads.
- Fun Fair: volunteers and advertising discussed – QR code to pre-buy tickets will still be explored, so that this can be shared with the community for advanced ticket purchases. Volunteer lead is Kim, she is not present tonight to confirm details. Mr. B confirmed that Fun Fair volunteers do not have to have all their checks to help out given the public nature of the event. Amy will buy Square for PAC's usage at the event.

3. Teacher Report: No teacher present for report on this date.

4. PAC Exec / Fundraiser Updates:

- Shoshana Munroe is stepping down as Chair of PAC effective June 30, 2023. Cindee Gorowski has been nominated and voted in unanimously as incoming Chair of the committee. Cindy Chodirker was nominated as Co-Treasurer in

Cindee Gorowski's place, and was voted in unanimously effective June 1, 2023. Amy Swirsky will continue on as Co-Treasurer for 2023/24 school year. Tamara Weltman will remain as Co-Chair and Amanda Paul will remain as Secretary.

Amy Swirky, Cindee Gorowski, Cindy Chodirker, and Tamara Weltman will be granted signing authority on **TD Branch Number 6460, account number 0737-5206469**. Any other names on this account should be removed.

- Fun Lunch will continue to be done in three month blocks moving forward in the new school year. It is significantly less work for the PAC volunteers and there have been no significant complaints about the change from parents.
- Allison Cribbs has volunteered to take the lead on fundraising events for next year. There are several fundraisers that are proven to be big impact/small effort initiatives that should be prioritized for next year. This will be discussed further at the executive planning meeting.
- Flower Sales were down this year – we made \$714.51 (were \$125 short of making the maximum amount back on the incentive plan). Plant pick up is Friday, May 19th.

5. **Lunch Program Report:** Tammie presented monthly financials. End of year projections = \$200-500 savings depending on variables still for the remainder of the year. PAC support paid for last year's unrecoverable debt which should allow us to end at ~\$1000 at end of the year (enough to cover first payroll of next year).

There will be another minimum wage increase in October. Tammie shared projections for next year which include that increase. 90K budget for the year. In order to balance the budget for next year we would need to increase the fees \$100/child for the year.

Rotating room closure was tried this year, but did not work to support student needs. Not having a microwave in each classroom lessens costs, but that means only one monitor shared between two classes. Other option is tables in gym for all kids to sit and eat, but you lose use of the space for the lunch hour.

All noted we have a quality program here and which brings many benefits. Tammie explained that the school used to run a PASCAL program to help offset lunch program fees. (PASCAL = Parents Assist School Aged Children At Lunch) There were 40 positions available, parents can apply to fill the positions - one day a month they would work to offset a portion of their fees. This does not support continuity of care for the students as there is always someone new in the classroom. Scheduling and management of missed shifts is also a significant

challenge. The savings is \$150/student/year (one shift per month per student you have in the school).

Question: is there an opportunity for parents to fundraise to offset that cost? When administration attended the South District PAC, it was explained that the lunch program cannot fundraise for that as a business. Parents would have to fundraise on their own.

Question: Re the \$10/day care program for families – how would this work if our day care offered lunch care. Tammie shared that details were explored and it appears to be unfeasible to run within our current structure.

6. Treasurers Report: \$27,398 balance- April 27, 2023

7. New Business: No new business presented.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:25pm

Next Meeting Date: This is the last meeting of the year. June 6, 2023 is exec planning meeting.

Tamara Weltman

Cindee Gorowski

Amy Swirsky

Amanda Paul

Cindy Chodirker

Shoshana Munroe