

PAC Meeting Sept. 17, 2020 (via Zoom)

Attendees: Tracey (Chair), Lisa (Secretary), Amy (Treasurer), Sandra, Zeilita, Wiljo, Sherri, Maricel, Ethan, Alan, Nikhil, Herman, Mahboob, Swasthi, David, Zohreh, Wing, Maya, Kristen, JJ, Sukhy, Melody, Nicole, Christiane, Dino (Principal), Mike (Head Teacher)

1. Welcome Back & Call to order

6:35 PM meeting commenced.

Tracey motioned to approve the May 2020 minutes, Wiljo seconded. All in favour. Approved.

Due to the size of the group, we kept the format more presentation-like rather than roundtable. PAC Execs introduced themselves. Welcome to Dino and Mike (new Head Teacher) from Douglas Road, also taught at Kitchener (with Dino) years ago. Welcome to Kitchener, Mike! Mike introduced himself and invited parents to reach out anytime.

Dino and Tracey will be sticking around after on the Zoom for any questions. Tonight's meeting will cover the items on the PAC agenda; this is not a COVID forum.

PAC defined by Tracey. Every parent/guardian is a member of PAC. Due to COVID, we are going to meet every 2nd month for this school year. PAC works with school staff and raises funds via fundraisers. PACs get money from govt (Gaming Grant) which is approx. \$20/student, rest is raised through fundraisers.

Approval of last month's minutes, motioned by Tracey, Seconded by Wiljo. All approved, passed.

2. Principal's Report - Dino Klarich

Dino gave brief intro on his background teaching history and that he believes strongly in the community. Dino is available to parents via email or phone anytime. He highlighted some staff changes:

- Mr. Baldin, Head Teacher, Gr. 6/7
- Mr. Hayes, shifted to Gr. 6/7 teacher
- Ms. Forbes, comes from University Highlands, Gr. 2/3
- Ms Justine Lum Gr. 2/3
- Mr. Yung, returning from last year
- Mr. R. Tesan, helping Mr. Baldin (Tuesdays)
- non-staff updates to be updated at a later time

The year started off with COVID challenges but staff doing their best to re-introduce kids into the building. Parents are not able to enter school buildings and he acknowledges its challenge. With the added issue of wildfire smoke, school had to make some adjustments for outside time. School days are divided into segments, recesses (3), lunches (3), 85-90 students during these breaks.

Some projects being done around the school – roof replacement (!) and bell tower. 100 year celebration coming up in 2025. Tennis is starting in October with COVID protocols (instructed by Marcus Anderson this year). Photo day is tomorrow (Sept. 18). More information coming out on Parents As Partners (meeting teachers). Dino will continue to do weekly emails highlighting things going on around the school.

Terry Fox run will go ahead (Sept. 30). A schedule will be created i.e. one cohort at a time. Parent participation/volunteering is not an option this year. Trying to make it an event to build spirit and community. Info coming out next week. No assemblies or large groupings permitted but school will work around that. A new division was added so brings total to just over 370; 354 students attending school.

3. DPAC Report - Tracey

DPAC is a district PAC meeting of reps. To attend, need to be a voted exec of your local school before opportunity to attend the meetings. BCCPAC announced that they will provide zoom licenses soon to the districts.

4. Treasurers' Report & Budget Discussion - Amy

A quick review of financial activities for Jul and Aug. School was closed but we received a donation from Bosa Development (\$5,000 to go towards an outdoor learning space).

Some PAC activities are postponed (e.g., Fall BBQ). Budget may need to be adjusted depending on the pandemic but we hope to fundraise a minimum of \$2,915 with the present allotted fundraisers (gift card sales, Purdy's, etc.) to meet the budget. Teaching staff (enrolling and non-enrolling) will receive up to \$200 based on their Full Time Equivalent (FTE) status to spend on classroom supplies. Gaming account - these are funds received through lotteries and gambling so though we expect to receive funds this year, we are not sure how the year after will look.

5. New Business

- 2020-2021 Meetings - Meetings will be every second month. Next meeting Nov. 12.
- Treasurer's Role - needing someone to take over as Amy and Phoebe will move on with kids graduating. ***If anyone is interested in the position, please email sd41kitchenerpac@gmail.com.***
- Fundraising Initiatives - asking for some ideas/thoughts. We are waiting to get details but at this time, we are not able to do any hot lunch/food fundraisers anymore so looking for options. The PAC used to raise funds via popcorn sales, hot lunch using local restaurants, and concession stands at events.
- Lisa will run the gift card fundraiser again in mid-late October. Forms will provide information but the school makes a small percentage of sales. The list of vendors include companies like Amazon, Tim Horton's, Walmart, Superstore, etc. Each vendor offers a small (i.e. 1-10% rebate back to the school). Was successful last year.
- Purdy's (Kristen) and Poinsettias (Tracey) are also scheduled for the first quarter of the year. To limit the handling of money, parents will be encouraged to go through School Cash Online. Both fundraisers went well in years past so we will continue again this year.
- A general call for financial donations will go out in a letter as well. Min \$20 for a tax receipt. This was successful as well last year.

D. Review of PAC organized events

PAC usually hosts at least 1-2 BBQ's a year but as stated earlier, this can't happen this year. Traditionally, PAC also hosts a pancake breakfast for the entire school and Santa makes an appearance and this has been a highlight on the last day before the holidays. We are exploring creative ways to hopefully be able to do something celebratory while keeping in line with any regulations around food and gathering. ***If anyone has connections with restaurants or caterers, please reach out to the PAC as we try to come up with something special for the kids. PAC Exec can be contacted at sd41kitchenerpac@gmail.com***

E. Traffic Concerns

Every year, this subject comes up. The hill on Gilmore is a danger as cars speed coming down and up the street. Over a period of many years, PAC has gone to the city and we are fortunate that the parents group voiced concerns and the school got the blinking lights at the crosswalk. Students are no longer doing crossing guard duties out of safety concerns.

Speed bumps option was turned down as well by the city. One thing mentioned to us by the police was for us to call non-emergency phone line to report any traffic concerns or violations. Challenges are jaywalking or parking on Gilmore. We need to remind the kids and parents to push the button for the crosswalk. We are working on getting more police presence which always helps drivers slow down.

Dino says Burnaby is getting busier. He also reiterated that as parents, we need to be proactive by teaching the kids road safety. ***Some parents voiced that they'd be willing to volunteer. We do need guidelines and structure on what this would look like. PAC will put together a volunteer roster and see how many sign up; please email sd41kitchenerpac@gmail.com to be added to the volunteer list.*** Dino is looking at 'no parking' signs but warns us to not do too many signs as they can be a visual distraction for drivers.

Sherri regularly talks to the traffic dept (City of Bby) and according to them, they are done with work in the school area. They are waiting for the transportation survey results. Kitchener is not part of the Brentwood Town Centre improvement plan. It's concerning as Gilmore is considered a trucking route so large trucks come through as well. Kids coming from Brentwood need crosswalks so they are likely to jaywalk. ***Sherri encouraged all of us to review and stay up to date with the City of Burnaby's Transportation Plan (<https://www.burnaby.ca/City-Services/Planning/Transportation-Planning/Transportation-Plan-Update.html>).***

The survey is still active <https://burnaby.simplesurvey.com/f/s.aspx?s=f96da0ec-7065-47df-a6b3-abc20d2b7650>

Thank you to all for coming to the meeting. Tracey and Dino are available to stay on the call for Q&A.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 12 via Zoom (details closer to the date)