

**Ecole South Sahali Elementary  
PAC Meeting September 23, 2021**

**In attendance:** Allison TREMBLAY, Susie MABEE, Karlee WRIGHT, Hollie FARKAS, Michelle JONES, Gillian REDMOND, Michele GOYVAERTS-VISSERS, Jacqueline ELLIS, Jamie MACBURNEY, Katie MCARTHUR

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Adoption moved by K. Wright., seconded by H. Farkas. Motion carried.

**2. Adoption of Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes from June 2021 meeting presented. Moved by Jones, seconded by H. Farkas. Motion carried.

**3. Principal Report (S. Mabee)**

September Start-Up

- Went fairly smoothly
- Students were in classes on Thursday morning
- We are currently sitting at 374 students
- This time allowed for me to reconfigure some classes to remove some multi-grade classes
- Additional 11 minutes added to the end of the day to make up for 2-week Spring Break

Health and Safety Protocols - Prevention of Communicable Diseases

- A little closer to what we have experienced in the past, but there are still guidelines that we need to follow
- Adults and students in grade 4-7 wearing masks
- Frequent handwashing
- One-way hallways
- No cohorts
- Using the terms - respecting the personal space of others, rather than keeping physical distance
- Can share items at school - centres, manipulatives
  - Students just need to wash their hands afterwards
- Technically, parents can send treats to school for birthdays and such; however, they should be individually packaged, and not prepared at your home - need to be prepared at a Food Safe facility, and then parents can decide if they want their child to eat it once they get home
- Please connect with your child's teacher prior to sending treats, as there may be allergies that you need to be aware of and they will want to give the other parents a heads up that there may be snacks coming home

## Volunteers

- Athletics - we will be looking for parent coaches to help us with our teams this year
  - Volleyball
  - Basketball
  - Flag Football
- Classroom
- Anyone coming for a one-off visit needs to do a visitor orientation prior to coming to the school
- Anyone coming on a regular basis will need to a more comprehensive safety orientation with me. I am planning on the first one to be next Tuesday, Sept. 28th in the evening via Zoom in order to give the opportunity to the most parents.
  - We will keep a roster of trained adults on hand
- We will do a second orientation in October for anyone who misses this initial session

## Picture Day

- Had to be moved from Sept. 30 to Oct. 4th because of the National Day of Reconciliation
- Re-takes will then take place on Nov. 4th

## Professional Development Day - Monday, September 27

- We will be learning about Anxiety and Resilience
  - After a very stressful couple of years, we are finding that anxiety levels in both students and adults has increased (COVID, isolation, devastating fire season this summer)
- How to we prepare our students for the path instead of preparing the path for our students
  - We want to learn about and implement strategies that students can use when they encounter challenges (either academic or social) instead of quitting or asking the adults to solve the problem for them.
  - We need to let students (and for that matter, parents) know that feeling a little bit uncomfortable is when the greatest amount of growth occurs
- Katherine Gulley (previously with Child and Youth and Mental Health CYMH) will be presenting to us in the morning and we are meeting with Lloyd George staff in grade groups to collaborate and brainstorm ways to integrate what we learned in the morning in their lessons.
- <https://youtu.be/dqsWvHMpexg> - a great video for anyone working with children

## Parent-Teacher Interviews

- Will take place Thursday, October 14th
- Early dismissal is always 2 hours prior to dismissal so 12:51
  - You will need to send an extra big snack for your kiddos
- Teachers will be communicating with you as to how they want to meet - could be virtually could be in person

## Fire Drills

- We've already had 2 and they have gone relatively smoothly
- New staff members have said that they were impressed with how quickly we got everyone down to the field and accounted for. (about 4 and a half minutes)
- We are working on being quieter on the field while we wait for everyone to arrive

## Come Read with Me - for Grade One Parents

- Will be held virtually once again this year
- The date changed on us - was originally planned for October 19th, now taking place October 6th
- Mme Clare is organizing it

## Assessments in September and October

- NFRA - Non-Fiction Reading Assessment (Gr.3-7)
  - The District collects the data on the results to track our progress in reading
- DEWRS - District Well-being and Resiliency Survey (Gr. 4-7)
- FSAs - Foundation Skills Assessment (Gr. 4 and Gr. 7)
- PRA - Primary Reading Assessment (Gr. K-3) - ongoing throughout the year
- DNA - District Numeracy Assessment (Gr. 3 and Gr. 6) - November

## Spirit Wear –

- Susie is working on getting things in order for parents mid-October.

## Important Dates to Remember

- Monday, Sept. 27 - Professional Development Day for school staff - no school for students
- Wednesday, Sept. 29 - Orange Shirt Day
- Thursday, Oct. 30 - National day for Truth and Reconciliation (School is Closed)
- Wednesday, October 6 - Come Read with Me
- Monday, October 11 - Thanksgiving (School is Closed)
- Thursday, October 14 - Early Dismissal for parent-teacher conferences
- Friday, October 22 - Provincial Professional Development Day - no school for students

## **4. Funding Requests (A.TREMBLAY)**

There were no new requests for financial assistance. Susie shared that she hopes more families will come forward.

## **5. Financial Report (K. McArthur)**

- Mme. Susie will advise when she wants to receive our teacher allotment cheques.
- Financials, invoices and bank statements for 2020/21 are kept in the PAC filing cabinet at the school.
- Account balance: \$14,019.59
- The PAC computer that Katie uses is near end of life. Will look at replacement cost.

## **6. Executive report (A. Tremblay)**

Allison shared that the PAC still looking for more members:

1. Funding coordinator - this person would not take on all responsibility but would contribute, help coordinate and help identify new ways to generate funds
2. DPAC rep (2 spots) - member to attend meetings and report back to PAC
3. CPAF rep - same as DPAC
4. Members at large

Contact Allison Tremblay if you are interested or have any questions.

Allison thanked Katie for organizing the welcome back popcorn treat for students.

Allison shared that she posted the PAC's fundraising goals on the Facebook page. These are based on staff's needs and wants.

#1 goal is to raise funds to cover 30 Chrome books and cart (approx. \$15K)

#2 mobile outdoor learning classroom – permanent structure is approx. \$150K. – Susie suggested purchasing an outdoor Sea Can which can store chairs and other equipment for mobile learning. Susie will look into costs and talk to the SD.

Allison asked the group about the future of PAC's being Zoom or in person. Susie said she is fine to have them in person but would leave it up to parents on their comfort level. Some noted that Zoom increased accessibility and likely brings more people out, but there is interest in in-person contact as well. The plan is to hold via Zoom in October, and try a hybrid in November, then reassess.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **a. DPAC (A. Tremblay)**

- new dress code policy approved
- DPAC discussed a new school but funding would come from province
- Oct. 19 is BCCPAC PAC 101
- DPAC also looking for more parent members
- Sept. 29 schools asked to lower flags in recognition National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, given schools closed Sept., 30
- DPAC has bursary funding that has been difficult to dispense. They are looking and working with district to support adult learners get their high school diploma.

### **b. CPF**

No report given.

## c. Fundraising

### I. Hot lunches (K. Wright)

Tomorrow, Sept. 24 is first term ordering deadline and so far 300 families have ordered (amounts to about \$25,000)

Krista and Victoria will be main volunteers. They are looking at having Gr. 7s help

Discussed sponsoring families in need. For next term, Karlee to look into options to have online orders to allow for families to choose 'sponsor another lunch' as an item and/or make donation. After discussion on how to support families in need this term, **Allison brought forward a motion for PAC to support put to \$900 to cover the cost of lunches and popcorn days.** Jacqueline Ellis seconded. Motion passed.

### II. Art Cards (A. Tremblay)

All teachers have been provided with cards and directions for students to do their artwork that can be put on cards and other items for purchase. Allison will pick up artwork Sept. 29. Parents will likely be ordering in October.

### III. Cookie Dough (K. Wright)

Karlee shared that this fundraiser is quite straightforward. Cost is approximately \$20/tub. Group decided to aim for mid-November for placing orders.

### IV. Silent Auction

To take place mid-November. Although there are other fundraisers happening at same time, given that other events are different enough and nobody has to participate in all

### V. Crosswalk

Allison brought up the idea to pay for the repainting of the much-needed crosswalk in lower parking lot and for it to feature Indigenous art. Our next step is to have someone connect with our Indigenous partners to determine if this would be appropriate and respectful. Anyone with contacts to initiate this discussion with are asked to contact Susie or PAC. If we aren't able to do an Indigenous-themed art-walk, we could look at artwork that reflects school colours, eagles etc.

### VI. Halloween Dance

Due to indoor (50 and outdoor (100) gathering limits), a dance is not possible if restrictions stay as they stand today. As another option to foster school spirit and connections, Katie suggested that we do a pumpkin carving contest/event. To minimize teacher coordination and cleanup aftermath, PAC would provide pumpkins that kids would take home to carve, bring back on Oct. 27/28, then put on display in gym. PAC to decorate gym, arrange music to add to the experience when students brought through gym on the 29th.

For pumpkins, Katie will get quotes on cost for 375 pumpkins including asking the pumpkin patch where our students go for discount. Allison will look into Desert Hills contest where a

school could win free pumpkins if they get the most likes. Susie to look into tables for displaying pumpkins.

#### VII. Winter plant sale

Allison to look into this and bring back options to group. We don't want to do poinsettias since they are too fragile and past experience led to many returns/refunds.

### **8. Other Business**

Upcoming meetings

Oct. 20, Nov. 18, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, Mar. 17, Apr. 21, May 26 and June 16

Bussing costs

We currently have \$2224.91 budgeted to cover bus expenses, which is less than previous years. Decision on using funding is to allow each class to have 1 free trip but they can request for more and will be looked at on individual basis and depend on where budget is at and other bussing requests.

Katie mentioned that the funding request sheet would need to be updated and will look into this.

Meeting concluded at 7:52 p.m.