

EMJS PAC Meeting Minutes October 25, 2018

EMJS Library

Meeting commenced 7:04 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions (Anne)

Pac Exec: Anne Tomy (chair), Laura Kent (member at large), Carolyn Wick (member at large/hot lunch director), Michaela Anderson (treasurer), Jessica McDiarmid (secretary), Genny Crane (teacher), Ashley Frketich (teacher), Stacey Awalt (music teacher), Janet Langston (vice principal), Brett Johnson (principal) And 11 other parent PAC members

2. VAC (Anne)

Victoria sends her regrets. Via email: VAC - Visual Arts Committee is a PAC sub committee. Past projects include in class programs and permanent installations. Volunteer opportunities available - large or small commitments. Artists in the Classroom is in planning stages, have confirmed that Tim Gosley, Sandy Henrich, Emily Gray, and Renee Sala will be the artists facilitating in class workshops in all divisions in the spring. Art Starts Grant up to \$3200 has been applied for. Make Sale is Dec 7 - craft fair of donated items made by students and parents. Donation boxes for homemade items parents and students produce to be sold in the Make Sale will be accepted in classroom boxes a few weeks ahead of sale. All donations are welcome. May have max sale of \$40, no max value though. Wide range of prices is desirable, so all budgets can be accommodated. This year trying to organize debit as payment option.

3. Grade 5 Committee (Anne and Mercedes)

Kirsten send regrets Via email:

School does a formal in-school leaving ceremony. After school there are often parent organized events. Fundraising events will happen to help pay for the extras. Hoodies will be on sale earlier this year than last so students can wear them. Signup genius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f45acac2da2f85-emjs>) will be emailed out, looking for parent volunteers and collaborators - need more ideas and people to make them happen. Confirmed grade 5 and families fundraising Game Night hosted by the Boardgame Cafe, Jan 24 in the gym 6:30-8:30 pm

4. Fall Dance (Carolyn)

Lots of volunteer spots available.. Parents encouraged to pitch in as they are watching the event. Need a point person for the set up, see Carolyn for the info, must be able to arrive 2/3 pm. Will be by donation - hoping for at least \$10 per family. Food sale - pizza and pumpkin pie for sale cash only - buy tickets \$3 for each food item, \$1 for each beverage. Parent: hoping the gym won't be too loud or too dark. Brett: will the Food be inside? Need to let the custodians know. Parent: May try to use both covered areas as the weather looks wet, looking for carpet to lay down between doors to minimize mess.

5. Winter Hampers (Carolyn)

Last year eliminated Fall dance raffle baskets in response to consumerism/gambling concerns from families. Instead we made holiday baskets for 7 local families (who were identified and sign up via community organization for people in need, SHARE) with personalized items purchased with cash donations collected via hot lunch site and at Winter concert. Was a very successful, meaningful, personalized effort that helped families in need in our community receive wish list gifts and fresh foods we fundraised, purchased, and delivered on Dec 21. All participants found this a moving experience.

This year opened up the hot lunch donations for any families that cannot afford hot lunches. So far, with zero promotion, families have donated \$1200 to this fund. Any family in financial need can make lunch orders online using same system. Leave balance unpaid and contact the school counsellor to zero their balance. This is all totally confidential from lunch team and teachers. In addition to online donations will take cash donations for the Winter hampers closer to December. All donations using this feature on hot lunch page will be used for families in need in our community for hot lunch or Winter hamper. Fairfield Gonzales does a non-perishable food drive, but it is separate. The hamper donation/coordination does not overlap or mean to take away from the food drive. Teachers still may participate in the non-perishable food drive if they want to.

Mme. Ashley Friketich: can we please have some dates to communicate to families. There is now a line item for staff meetings that teachers can speak to each month regarding PAC business.

Carolyn: Agreed. Will give lots of notice

6. Budget update (Michaela, Anne and Carolyn)

Core programs we will try to maintain include IRide, Chess Club, Dance/Yoga, Science Ventures
\$3000 for Aboriginal awareness may be reallocated, as is now a specific curricular item

Monies for the benches didn't include installations when they were suggested, so waiting on quote from SD (school district) for 1 bench including install, as cost to install is as much as the bench. Brett to keep us posted on this.

Bike club monies to be reallocated, as no longer able to use the field for bike club due to sprinkler system
Stencils - SD says no, money to be reallocated

Recycling bins - no, hot lunch waste will no longer be a problem, as staff and admin have requested the hot lunch be reduced significantly. Money for bins to be reallocated.

Science venture was unfunded in initial 'bare bones' PAC 2018/2019 budget; can take recycle bin and stencil money to Science Venture

7. Admin Update (Brett)

We are on the list to have lines re-painted on outdoor courts.

District quoted \$20,000 last year for a new sound system. Included expensive, durable roof mounted digital projector. All equipment includes large installation costs. Teachers and admin agree that they would like (need) a permanently installed sound system. Current one is broken, limiting for many applications Brett will get a breakdown for the next PAC meeting for audio quotes. Options to change

venues or time of events are to accommodate parents.

Genny - better to put in whole system at once as the intention to do piece by piece may result in components that don't fit, are not compatible, then all 'old bits' need to be replaced with new bits.

Ashley - all staff want a new sound system

Parents: May be a targeted campaign to fund for the sound system.

Anne: Funds can be reallocated to help pay for a soundsystem if there are PAC funded programs that should be cut.

Lunch program may provide those funds. Also more new ideas could be discussed.

Parent: value of the axed lunch program was \$20,000

Genny and Ashley will bring the ideas to the staff, looking for ideas of new fundraising paths other than hot lunch

Parent: Can we buy smaller components, mikes, receivers, to make a stop gap until the big ticket items can be fundraisers for.

Brett: will look into stop gap measures.

Ashley: can we get a copy of the budget for our next meeting

Brett: will provide the budget to teachers

Added Item --> Hot Lunch (Carolyn)

Teacher delivery requests available, first lunch service is on Weds Oct 31. Parent volunteers should arrive 11:15 am to get orientated

Ashley: delivery request form is well done, thank you for responding so thoughtfully to our feedback on class disruption and students feeling left out.

Brett:

This week has seen parent teacher interviews, cross country meet, reunification drill - Thanks to parents, teachers and Janet for helping and organizing - All very well done

Janet:

- Strong environmental component in progress for gK- 5

- K-2: Garry Oak restoration along Foul Bay on the field, gr. 3-4: Trafalgar Park won a grant to buy plants

- Aqua Van school wide presentation next week on Arctic ecosystems and pollution

- Mr. Pite and Ms. Grigor's classes are doing studies on whale watching boats around race rocks, students will present at the RBC museum along with a number of other schools

- Other teachers will take on this next year. Is costing \$30 per student. Eco education was a guiding value for this company which is, Eagle Wing Whale Watching. This is a partnership with SD61.

- Naturalist will come into school to facilitate, then accompany classes through on-water experience and

facilitate the reporting

- Growing Young Farmers farmers is continuing Lieutenant Governor's house have invited more groups to participate. Will be expanding on the east lawn.

Brett: learning pavilions (aka portables) have been worked on 6 days per week. No deadline is reported at this time, not to over promise.

Music room is almost ready. Div 7 is almost ready, tech package is being installed.

IRide - communicating with city to see if we can use Pemberton Park as there is a sprinkler system installed in the field.

SD direction on memory books is that parent permission for use of student images is required. About half of parents declined to allow district to use images of their children. Will need to get permission from parents before we can go ahead with memory books.

8. Teacher's update

Stacey Akert - music teacher; concert Dec 19, and 20 will be two afternoon concerts. Will get a save the date in November.

Genny - as school getting bigger we are focusing on building a nice community and foster connections. Spirit days will be happening including pajama days. Hoping to plan a pajama day with popcorn on last day before winter break, Dec 21st in the afternoon. Does PAC have a popcorn machine we can use?

Anne: The one PAC used in the past belonged to Central. Claire and Joe have one. We could rent it. PAC commits to help make popcorn Dec 21st happen for the school.

9. Traffic safety

Heather sends regrets, via email: 30 km zone is not followed in the school area. Parents counted cars and near misses in the spring, gave data to the city. City has decided after their own metrics taken that no changes will happen as the problem is not too bad, and their budget is very limited to installing only 10 new lights per year. Potential to move the crosswalk to the other side of Chandler, would provide better visibility to pedestrians.

Links to city council may be provided in the newsletter, as high citizen feedback does often yield results. Parents that see this as an issue should call and write council and mayor.

10. AOB

Brett: Parents are asked to not park in the parking lots during pick up and drop off, parents taking 2 minutes to drop off in these areas is causing frustration, parking issues and increased hazards.

Parent: Any plans for landscaping plans around portables?

Brett: Greenery will be added along fence to help provide shield for neighbours. Problem is that the fence does not provide very much space for plants to grow, will be a challenge to install the greenery as was promised but is required to provide privacy for the neighbours. A covered bike rack was also in the initial plan, but may or may not be. All of these decisions are up to the SD budget and staffing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm