MTP PAC Meeting Notes Date: December 11, 2024

**Time:** 6:00 PM (In-Person)

**Location:** Mount Pleasant School

# Agenda & Notes

## 1. Call to Order, President's Remarks, and Welcome

- The meeting called to order by Megan
  - Emphasis on meaningful acknowledgment of unceded Indigenous territories by Ariella.
  - January PAC meeting confirmed for Jan 15th 1 week later to allow people to settle back into their routines.
- 2. Treasurer's Report (Gill)
  - Current Balance: \$14,695.07 (main account) + \$5,100 (gaming)
  - Total funds as of today: \$19,795.07
- 3. **Recycling Program** (Treena Sly, Teacher Special Guest)
  - Proposal for intermediate students to participate in a life skills program involving grocery shopping, cooking, and recycling.
  - Challenges: Reduced recycling opportunities. Requested PAC support.
  - Pilot Program: Cooking for six students, \$25/meal. Proposed \$300 for two sessions per student.
    - Grade 6 Students How are they selected
      - Children with designations, who receive assistance from Resource Teachers.
      - Intermediates because they want to be independent at this age
    - Subjects covered: Math and Science, among others
    - Recycling is to be brought to school for tangible learning.
      - email Ms. Sly for recycling: psly@vsb.bc.ca
    - Shopping:
      - SAVE ON FOODS Richard is the manager
      - Nesters
  - Motion: Miranda motioned to approve \$300 funding. Kathy seconded. Motion carried.

### 4. Funding Requests

- Tech Funding Request (Gavin):
  - School proposal:
    - Purchase 20 iPads annually over five years to replace aging equipment. (Lifespan of a device is ~ 7 years)
    - Microsoft class action suit 2017 IT department got money back from school
      - o 25 surfaces we can have from this law suit

- Epson Projectors Epson projectors ultra/short throw and a couple of interactive devices
  - Lifespan can last 10 years, bulbs are \$300.
- Purchase products based on only what VSB have vetted.
- Total cost: \$10,340 annually.
- Additional considerations:
  - Procurement is at the end of April
  - Explore financing options for gradual purchase.
  - Parent Suggestions:
    - o Direct ask campaign to be launched in January.
    - Connect with Neil at the BIA
    - (Alex) Community Fundraiser request if the community donates \$5000, then PAC will match funds for technology upgrades (totalling up to \$10,000).
  - Motion: Lisa motioned, and Dorian seconded. Motion carried.
- o Monthly Pizza Lunch for Technology (Jan 17 or 24) Lisa
  - **Motion:** Lisa motioned for funding lunch up to \$800, and Miranda seconded. Motion carried.

## 5. Subcommittee Updates

- Fundraising (Lisa):
  - MTP Day: Seeking a lead; planning to commence shortly.
    - No lead volunteer identified; urgent need for planning.
    - Event can be as big or as small as volunteers would like.
    - Previous events raised \$10,000–\$12,000.
    - New coordinators encouraged to step forward.
    - Includes a silent auction, food donations from Save-On-Foods, and other activities.
  - Purdy's Winter Fundraiser: Generated \$1,468.29 profit (Megan).
  - Craft Fair: \$2,700 profit.
    - Feedback: Pricing slightly high for adult crafters.
    - Majority (2/3) of vendors interested in returning.
  - Market Day (Dorian):
    - Potential partnership with Columbus Meat Market (Dorian).
    - Other Options: Neufeld Farms, Peaked Pies, Raise the Funds BC.
    - Decision pending based on feasibility and interest.

### **■** Tree Chipping:

- Scheduled: Sunday, January 5th (10:00 AM 4:00 PM).
- Volunteers needed!
- Donations accepted even without trees.
- Promotion and advertising via Signal and social media.

### ■ Movie Night:

- Scheduled: January 31st, budget of \$700 approved.
- Motion: Approve \$700 funding. Motioned by Miranda, seconded by Megan. Motion carried.

- o **DPAC (Ariella)**: Discussion deferred.
  - Hired a EI to help with the issue
  - Open positions noted.
- FIDO Committee (Kirk):
  - Concerns: safety (children bitten, afraid), cleanliness (dog feces).
  - Ongoing issues with off-leash dogs.
  - Reports filed with the city and BC Ombudsperson.
    - Facilities director Ronald McDonald. No call back
    - Jeff Perman 5 emails and 3-4 calls no word
    - Escalated contact with Leslie BC Ombudsperson; no resolution as of yet.
  - Current Actions: to escalate through newsletters and community engagement.
    - Brianne Ramirez Animal patrol is engaged and wants to help but has limited availability (10 officers city-wide). Supervisor is adding patrol between 7:45-8:45am and 3:15-4:15pm
    - Newsletter call for community stories.
    - CBC's digital journalist, Liam Britten is interested in a story; potential January feature.
    - Schedule a special FIDO PAC meeting in the new year.
  - Proposed solutions
    - Permanent dog bans modelled after other schools (8 schools have succeeded with ban
    - Increased signage and community reporting.
    - Starting an community email tree to contact government officials with requests and stories on how dogs are affecting the community.

#### 6. Extracurricular Events

- Spring Enrichment Activity Vote (Miranda): Voting to be conducted at the January meeting for proposed activities.
- Saleema Noon Update (Miranda): Scheduled sessions confirmed.
- Ethos Lab Update (Dorian): Reported progress.
  - Primaries are scheduled 9-10:30 am on January 24th for on campus MPR for science lab
  - Intermediates are scheduled10 am-2 pm on January 22nd and 23rd at Ethos Lab
- o Pancake Breakfast (Gill): Plans underway Dec 20,
  - Volunteers secured. 20 teachers will help.
  - Donations accepted.
  - Students and families will need to bring their own plates and cutlery.
- Lunch Survey Results (Megan):
  - The lunch survey results refer to the lunch survey that was sent out -
    - Generally positive feedback
    - Further exploration in the New Year (deferred due to lack of time)

- Parents expressed concerns about recent lunch changes. Please refer to lunch changes under Section 7 in the Principal's report.
- Suggestions include:
  - Increasing outdoor playtime and addressing seating policies.
  - Sensory accommodations for neurodiverse students.
- Speakers for Parent Education (Ariella): Suggestions requested.
- School Merchandise (Megan): Exploring new options. Current inventory and pricing updates to be shared in the New Year (deferred due to lack of time)

#### 7. Principal's Report

- Enrollment: Approximately 240 students across 12 divisions.
- Staffing
  - Courtney King has left; the position is now open.
  - Transitional SSA will stay until March. They have to apply for a position

## Lunch Program:

- Addressed concerns about new procedures.
  - School decision came about from teachers
  - Provide more instructional time for students
  - 25-30 min to eat lunch
- Children have assigned seating and lunch music sometimes music requests are accepted.
  - Primaries all fit at one lunch table.
  - Intermediates fit at 2 tables
  - Neurodiverse children can make an exception or ask the parents to come ask me.
  - Proposed initiatives: Wacky Wednesday and Pizza Friday seating flexibility.

## Space Allocation:

- Strong Start remains essential due to increased enrollment after Florence Nightingale's Strong Start closure.
- Airflow issues in two classrooms noted -
  - No windows and too hot in the summer.
  - Principal to explore classroom air quality improvements.

#### Extracurricular Activities:

- Volleyball season concluded
- Basketball practices underway for January season.

## School Events:

- AIRS Project: Community invited to view ongoing art projects. Miss Treena Sly is lead.
- School Teams:
  - Volleyball season concluded
  - Basketball practices underway for January season.
  - Thanks to Ms. Pavelick and Mr. Little
- Assessments: Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) are completed

- Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) and Early Development Instrument (EDI) surveys Grade 6's and K's This is an ongoing project will help us understand how children think and feel about their lives, both inside and outside of school during ages 9 to 13 (middle childhood years). Students in Grade 6 will be asked to share their views by answering questions on the MDI. The MDI asks about areas of child development that are strongly linked to well-being, health and academic achievement. The project is administered by researchers at the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in partnership with school districts. Schools, governments and communities can use MDI information to improve support and services for children
- Field Trips: None currently planned.
- Report Cards: Scheduled for distribution on December 16th.
- WATARI STAR Program: Sessions for Grades 6 and 7 on substance use prevention. As part of the BC Physical Health Education curriculum, we are welcoming the WATARI STAR program to teach students about impacts of personal choices on health and wellbeing and learn strategies to prevent substance use. The WATARI STAR program is contracted through Vancouver Coastal Health and consists of 4 one-hour sessions
- Black-a-thon: Approved for January dates.
- Winter Break Activities: Possible sing-along events.
- Technology:
  - 5-year tech plan shared on November 13th.
  - Microsoft settlement funds allocated for laptops, projectors, and charging carts.
- o **CAMP:** Tentative dates: May 14-16; cost: approximately \$325 per student.
  - Grade 6 & 7 camp planning underway.
- PAC Odds and Ends -
  - Teacher requests for PAC funds thank you for the poster and information on how teachers can apply for funds

#### **Action Items:**

- Recycling Program: Treena Sly to formalize and submit a detailed proposal for PAC review.
- **Technology Campaign:** Launch a direct ask campaign in January; connect with Neil at the BIA for additional support.
- **Pizza Lunch:** Organize fundraiser scheduled for January 17 or 24.
- **Tree Chipping:** Promote the January 5 event and secure volunteers via Signal and social media.
- **FIDO Meeting:** Schedule a special meeting in January to organize and initiate a community email tree for advocacy
- **Playtime Feedback:** Principal to evaluate options for increasing outdoor playtime and sensory accommodations.

- Camp Planning: Gavin will keep PAC informed about any planning efforts required for the Grade 6 & 7 camps.
- Movie Night: Ensure January 31 event is organized with approved \$700 budget.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting date January 15th



QR Code for 5 year tech plan: (password is LionsMTP2300)