

## Mount Pleasant Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2025 | 6:00 PM | In-person Meeting

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### 1. Call to Order and Welcome

- Meeting called to order by Vice President Miranda Wiley at 6:00 PM.
  - Land acknowledgment provided by Ariella Assouline.
  - 10 participants in attendance.
- 

### 2. Treasurer's Report

- Main Account: \$18,960.50
  - Gaming Account: \$5,100
  - Stripe Account: \$578.55
  - **Total Funds: \$24,639.05** (confirmed during meeting)
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### 3. Fundraising and Events

- **Pizza Lunch:**
    - \$600 raised from two events. Each lunch generates about \$200 after costs.
    - Next lunch (Feb 13) will have fewer pizzas due to the long weekend.
    - Volunteers noted challenges with waste management and suggested encouraging reusable plates or napkins.
  - **Direct Ask Campaign:**
    - \$610 raised from direct ask, \$440 including pizza orders = ~ \$1000 for the first week.
    - Developers have been contacted for support, with no responses yet.
    - Neil from BIA was suggested to help with social media promotions and reaching out to businesses.
  - **Market Day:**
    - 47 orders placed, generating \$1,436 in sales and \$231 profit.
    - Attendees supported holding similar events in April and June, possibly adding products like Stapleton Sausage and locally produced freeze-dried candy.
    - Survey released, Dorian sent email to people that participated:  
<https://forms.gle/Q2LK5n8kxQaC9Qwj8>
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## 4. Lunch Program Update

- Two trials completed; 2nd lunch went better than the first.
    - C'est Mon experienced some food temperature issues.
    - Sushi was well received.
  - Parent feedback varied on lunch frequency, with preferences ranging from daily to weekly service.
  - Exploring <https://www.bittersweetkitchen.ca/> as a potential vendor post-spring break, though its logistics are more complex.
  - Equity considerations emphasized, ensuring every student has access to hot lunches.
  - Awaiting financial analysis to determine long-term sustainability.
    - Nightingale has had success with 2x a week drop off = no parental help
  - Britannia - will have a difficult time supplying all schools if universal lunch goes through.  
Ideas to support Britannia:
    - Grade 7 fundraiser - could Grade 7s become food safe and offer grilled cheese Wednesdays?
    - Grade 12 - HomeEc classes (VanTech)
  - **DPAC Food Advocacy:** PAC voted to support the BC Coalition for Healthy School Food initiative, brings together the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and then also working with sustainability in the Department of Agriculture (Right to Support BC Farmers), urging the provincial government to secure \$79 million in federal funding for universal school lunches.
    - Request for PACs and Parents to send letters in support of universal school lunch. Letter submission planned before March 15.
      - [W PAC TEMPLATE Letter for BC Agreement Ask - 01.31.2025 BC-CH...](#)
    - Motion for MTP PAC to send letter - Ariella
      - Seconded Kathy
      - Accepted by all 10 attendees
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## 5. Sub-Committee Updates

- **MTP Day (June 8th):** \$8,500 budget approved with a fundraising target of \$10,000.
  - Plans include DIY games, expanded food options, a book sale, silent auction, and stage performances.
  - Examine Funfairs from the past, also at Saint Xavier's
  - Committee leads required - please email: [hello@mtp-pac.com](mailto:hello@mtp-pac.com)
    - Games - Miranda
      - Connect with other schools to see if we can share games that we own
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      - No dunk tank, animals, or bouncy castles allowed

- 50-50 Raffle
    - Tie the noodle
    - Snakes and Letters
    - Lollipop Tree
    - Marketing - Brandon
      - Farmer's Markets - connect with vendors to auction off or sell their goods.
      - Placement in Community centers and local businesses
    - Entertainment - Dorian
      - Debate on stage use highlighted importance for attracting attendees and boosting revenue.
    - Silent Auction - Megan Livingston
      - Brings a large portion of earnings
    - Craft Fair - Megan Cindric
    - Food/ Grill - Luke
      - More than hamburgers and hot dogs - maybe some gluten-free options.
      - Food Donation - Save-On Foods
    - Book Sale/Swap -
      - There may be books from previous years stored in the PAC closet.
      - Will send unused books to Value Village or Salvation Army.
    - Volunteer Coordinator - required, email: [hello@mtp-pac.com](mailto:hello@mtp-pac.com)
  - Any ideas are welcomed, email: [hello@mtp-pac.com](mailto:hello@mtp-pac.com)
  - Budget is still being drafted - pre-approval for \$8000.
    - First - Tim
    - Second - Kathy
    - Approved - by all 10 attendees
  - **FIDO Committee:** Focused on securing permanent fencing for the field. Volunteer recruitment efforts are ongoing, with outreach to VSB decision-makers and other schools.
    - 8 schools have already had success with getting their schools fenced off.
    - Need from MTP parents will be to set up regular calls and emails
    - Continue contact with complaint filed with Ombudsperson: <https://bcombudsperson.ca/>
    - Join FIDO committee - email: [mtpFIDO385@gmail.com](mailto:mtpFIDO385@gmail.com)
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## 6. Grade 6/7 Updates

- Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony, covering decorations, food, and potentially an English Bay cruise. Discussions included involving Grade 6 students in planning to foster community engagement.

- Grade 7 teacher is new to the position - she is still trying to figure out what she wants to do.
- 21 Graduating 7th graders
- Not sure how much money the teacher requires
- Kathy requested a preapproval for \$800
  - First - Ariella
  - Second - Dorian
  - Approved by all.
- Options
  - Gavin shared that his Grade 7s last year did a cruise of English Bay for \$65. (12:30-3:30p - Just kids and teachers/aides)
  - Party
  - Special Assembly for the whole school for grade 7 ceremony
  - Grade 7s previously earned money (35% of bakesale) by helping at the bake sale but now they need to be food safe certified. So, new options need to be considered.
- **Camp Jubilee:** Scheduled for May 14-16, with \$1,000 approved for bus transportation. 36 students confirmed to attend, with subsidies available for families in need.
  - Meeting tomorrow for the parents - dave duckworth - asked parents to be here
  - \$4600 check today, \$3300 send for the next check
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    - 2 nights
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## 7. Extracurricular Activities

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- **Parent Education:**
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    - Nightingale will be asked again if they want to join us.
  - Other considerations for Internet Safety - free and vetted by the VSB.

- Gavin (principal) will be focused on in-school education for grade 4-5.
    - Possible parent education but dates undetermined.
  - **Saleema Noon Presentation:** Confirmed for March 12 at 6 PM. PAC meeting to be held at 5:30 PM on the same day.
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## 8. Principal's Report

- **Questions**
  - **My son told me there's no history classes at school. He had history classes at his previous school last year and he loved it. It would be great if there was a History teacher at Mount Pleasant. Also, it would be great if kids had homework. I don't understand why kids don't get homework nowadays, I don't think it prepares them well for high school and the future in general.**
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    - Basketball backboard replacement request submitted to VSB.
- Temporary Grade 7 teacher James Baker may continue post-spring break.
- Microsoft technology funding expected soon.
- Performing Arts showcase scheduled for March 4 and 5, with parent attendance on the 5th.
  - We will be hosting a 'Share-Out' on March 5th and parents are invited
  - This will be an afternoon performance and not an evening performance
    - Could we have a videographer and photographer to capture the performance? Practice on the 4th and performance on the 5th
    - Perhaps we could send this via PAC channels and people they know to source this opportunity?
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- Pink Shirt Day on February 26 will include a school-wide activity creating personalized shirts.
  - MPCPC is donating shirts and fabric markers – whole school event – volunteers from MPCPC will be on-site to assist teachers and provide instructions
- **School Events**
  - AIRS is creating some amazing work! Stop by the art project area for progress on School Teams –Senior Boys and Girls basketball teams are practicing and games are in full swing (thank you to Ms. Pavelick and Mr. Little for coaching)
  - MDI (completed) and EDI – Middle Years Development Instrument and Early
  - Student Learning Surveys – for Grades 4 and 7 – Ministry of Education is asking all Gr 4 and 7 students to complete this survey – this is a survey dedicated to look
  - Thank you to PAC and Val at Strong Start for booking our Lion Dance on Jan 31st – students loved it!
  - Return to School forms – are to be completed by this Friday – please spread the word as our response is low

- Thank you to PAC for Pizza and Hot Lunch opportunities – it's been well received!
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    - HR MacMillan space centre – Div 8
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## Additional Discussions

- **Equity Advocacy:**
    - PAC discussed ongoing efforts with DPAC to secure universal school lunches, highlighting benefits for families and local farmers.
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    - Letters due on March 15 to support universal lunch
      - Template provided - click here:
      - Universal lunch will take a year or so to get going but looks as if it will be cheaper for everyone in the long run.
      - Universal breakfast is not on the table yet.
      - Successful universal lunch programs do exist, PEI is one example.
  - **MTP Day Planning:** Suggested activities include musical chairs with prizes, a live auction, DIY games, and volunteer recruitment for promotion at farmer's markets.
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*Minutes prepared by Dorian LeVere*

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## 8. Principal's Report

- Questions
  - My son told me there's no history classes at school. He had history classes at his previous school last year and he loved it. It would be great if there was a History teacher at Mount Pleasant. Also, it would be great if kids had homework. I don't understand why kids don't get homework nowadays, I don't think it prepares them well for high school and the future in general.
    - History is integrated into social studies; homework policies vary by teacher.
  - Can we look at getting the basketball backboard replaced? It's looking very busted up.
    - Basketball backboard replacement request submitted to VSB.



- Temporary Grade 7 teacher James Baker may continue post-spring break.
- Microsoft technology funding expected soon.
- Performing Arts showcase scheduled for March 4 and 5, with parent attendance on the 5th.
  - We will be hosting a 'Share-Out' on March 5th and parents are invited
  - This will be an afternoon performance and not an evening performance
    - Could we have a videographer and photographer to capture the performance? Practice on the 4th and performance on the 5th
    - Perhaps we could send this via PAC channels and people they know to source this opportunity?
    - Photographer has been sourced (name?)
- Pink Shirt Day on February 26 will include a school-wide activity creating personalized shirts.
  - MPCPC is donating shirts and fabric markers – whole school event – volunteers from MPCPC will be on-site to assist teachers and provide instructions
- School Events
  - AIRS is creating some amazing work! Stop by the art project area for progress o School Teams –Senior Boys and Girls basketball teams are practicing and games are in full swing (thank you to Ms. Pavelick and Mr. Little for coaching)
  - MDI (completed) and EDI – Middle Years Development Instrument and Early
  - Student Learning Surveys – for Grades 4 and 7 – Ministry of Education is asking all Gr 4 and 7 students to complete this survey – this is a survey dedicated to look
  - Thank you to PAC and Val at Strong Start for booking our Lion Dance on Jan 31st – students loved it! o Return to School forms – are to be completed by this Friday – please spread the word as our response is low
  - Thank you to PAC for Pizza and Hot Lunch opportunities – it's been well received!
  - Movie Night on Jan 31st – great success and a solid turnout!
- Field Trips
  - Ethos lab for Div 1-4 (Thank you PAC)
  - In house Magic of Science for Div 5-12 (Thank you PAC)
  - WATARI –completed o Skating field trips (Div 1 -4)
  - HR MacMillan space centre – Div 8

## Additional Discussions

- Equity Advocacy:
  - PAC discussed ongoing efforts with DPAC to secure universal school lunches, highlighting benefits for families and local farmers.
  - \$79 million is at stake from the federal govt for BC to support universal lunches, without a universal lunch deal in place, the money will not be paid to the schools.

- Letters due on March 15 to support universal lunch
    - Template provided - click here:
    - Universal lunch will take a year or so to get going but looks as if it will be cheaper for everyone in the long run.
    - Universal breakfast is not on the table yet.
    - Successful universal lunch programs do exist, PEI is one example.
  - MTP Day Planning: Suggested activities include musical chairs with prizes, a live auction, DIY games, and volunteer recruitment for promotion at farmer's markets.
  - Merchandise: New school merchandise in development, with designs to be voted on by students and parents.
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Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes prepared by Dorian LeVere