

## QUEENSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Meeting Notes

**Date:** September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Location:** Queensbury Elementary School (2020 Moody Avenue) - Library

**Present:** Sarah McKinney, Ivona Radis, Leila Sadeghi, Soudabeh Noei, Mehran Hamzeh, Sunha Yoon, Mya Sarkissian, Annie Dempster, Lindsay Calder, Tessa Huff, Shilo Lefreshe, Lee-Ann Denham, Stacey Playle, Alexine Gauthier, Marina Andrew, Charlotte Hinkson, Anna Vlasova, Leslie Rossetti, Ishan Sharpei, Cherine Casillan, Jana Hrubá, Natalie Lauzon, Carly Roy, Janice Phillips, Flora Yuen

1. Welcome and Call to order: 7:04pm
2. Approve the minutes from the last meeting.
3. Land Acknowledgement.
4. Admin Report (*presented by Vice Principal Carly Roy*)
5. Chair Report (*presented by PAC Chair Janice Phillips*)

#### NOTES:

1. Parking Lot/ New Principal / Introduce Pac Exec - Lindsay, Sarah M, Flora, Shanna, Cherine
2. Welcome back to all our returning families and a special hello and welcome to all our new families. We are excited to be back for another year with an amazing group and welcoming community.
3. This year we are focused on all things COMMUNITY Building. We are proud to have brought back some well-loved events from the past so far such as: Back to School BBQ, Pancake Breakfast, CARD project. We intend to surprise and delight our Queensbury staff throughout the year as well...We all know that happy and engaged teachers and staff are crucial to a healthy community.
4. Introduction of FreshSchools- one platform for communication, volunteering:
  - Asking if everyone is signed up on the app and are able to use it.
  - Please be patient with us, Jan is the tech department and is working through everything and that we're trying our best.
5. Priorities - Class Reps, signing up people on Fresh Schools, Grade 7 coordinator.
  - General discussion around classes that still need classroom reps; volunteers from those present.
  - Still require reps for Div 9 (Ms. Walters) and Div 3 (Ms Roy)
6. Fun Lunch - Outstanding work by Flora and her onsite team.
7. Upcoming fundraisers: After school care for early dismissal, Purdy's/coffee/Growing Smiles
8. Community Builders- Spirit wear, Parents Night Out (November 25), Pancake breakfast (being put on by the PAC this year).
9. Living City Grant - \$2500 so we are fortunate to be using this with the Loutet Farms edible garden project.
10. Need to build more raised planters.
11. Ideas for Fundraising goals:
  - Discussion:
    - Defibrillator.

- Edible Gardens Grants – noted that 5 classrooms can be supported doing that grant; garden site is currently looking a bit sad, though feel like we can figure that out on our own (without the grant).
- Noted that the PAC is looking for ideas for fundraising goals either tonight or whenever; would like it to be something that represents the whole school.
- Last year the focus was bringing the whole community together; that is still a focus.

12. Budget overview and approval (and discussion) – **See Attached Approved 2023/2024**

**Budget.**

- Last year was our first Fun Lunch after covid, which was a big learning curve.
- Proposed budget will be to start off with \$35,000 in Fun Lunch
- Love Ball and Photo Shoot are some good earners.
- Added funds for skipping club and crochet club out of gaming funds.
- Noted that the Lions Club will not be offering Pancake Breakfast; they may come back with something else for the schools.
- Another great thing is that they've heard about the Vancouver Giants, that they hold 50/50s for schools. Jan is looking into this as well.
- Motion to approve the Budget: Sarah McKinney.
- Seonded: Lindsay Calder.

*General Discussion:*

- Outdoor kits:
  - Include a class set of binoculars, science kits, laminated sheets, bird sightings (Northwestern Canada), three Tupperware kits that are grab and go, with a class set of sit-apons.
  - Will prepare an email and send them out to Admin so that it can be circulated to the teachers, so they know that these supplies are there.
    - Noted that they were being used more in the spring and into June last year.
    - The outdoor learning section is in the library.
    - There is also one Wagon specifically for this.
  - Carly noted that we also have five other wagons for outdoor use that were purchased for outdoor learning.
- Raised garden beds – please let PAC know if anyone can give time or materials.
- Ms. Harrington/McTavish mentioned that they would be interested in having their own garden bed – in front of their classroom?
- Could there be eight to ten wood or metal bins if we had the money, that could stay there for a bit longer. This was an idea that we wanted to share.
- Ms. Harrington has volunteered to be the staff contact for the Loutet Project (edible garden).
- Carley Roy noted if building new beds need to confirm with facilities first.
- Discussion around 50/50:
  - Can we do a 30/70 draw? That is something PAC could look at.
  - Can we do an online 50/50? No gaming license does not allow.

- PAC is looking at an online auction that we're allowed to do because there is no gambling license involved.
- Discussion around if the PAC would want to look at getting a Square/stripe account.
- Discussion around e-transfers, and the PAC being able to accept those possibly in the future.
- The RCMP have identified our neighbourhood is very dangerous for students (traffic) – that they will be in the area in the coming weeks, and they will be visiting and ticketing.
- Have identified that right near the kindi area, the staff parking lot is not available for drop off, for turning around.

***Meeting ended at 8:29 pm.***