

ÉCOLE COBBLE HILL

# PAC MEETING NOV '23

22 NOVEMBER 2023 / 8:40AM / DRAFT MINUTES

**VOTING ATTENDEES** Sylvia Cox, Kimberly Audy, Kathryn Wong, Erin Nicholson, Christine Oglend, Miranda Balding, Katelyn Luscombe, Jennifer Currie, Jana Anderson, Heather Theofanous, Lindsay Stewart, Hilary Busing, Erin Fikowski - *Quorum is achieved*

**NON-VOTING ATTENDEES** Ian Zibin, Grant Mellemstrand

**Call to Order:** 8:40am

**Adopt Agenda:** Christine Oglend, Hilary Busing

**Review & Approve minutes from October 2023:** Christine Oglend, Heather Theofanous

## TEAM LEADER REPORTS

**Chairperson: Kathryn Wong**

- Book Fair is done and it was the most successful book fair ever at ÉCH! Thank you so much to Lindsay and all of our parents and volunteers. Thank you for buying so many books for your kids and our teachers.
- Halloween: Great success! The gym was well used, the games and Photo Booth were hits. There was more space to mingle. We could improve garbage/recycle access.
- Art Cards are done. Thank you to Kelly Rawson for running this popular fundraiser.
- Amazing donations for the raffle baskets! Thank you for all of your contributions.
- Still accepting donations for the silent auction.
- 'The Forest' poem, from last year's grade 7 grad ceremony has been framed and a work order has been placed to have it hung in Pod A.
- We have formed a Grade 7 parent committee to meet for the first time next week to start grad planning for this year.
- Otter Shop - we placed an order for canvas tote bags. Parents were wanting the canvas bags that we used to have as library bags, but the library has now switched to plastic to better protect books. We also restocked some pink items.

- Coat Drive: in the past we have held coat drives and this was something that Lisa would spearhead with Christine and Grant. Will discuss later in the meeting.

### **Treasurer: Kimberly Audy**

- a. Our Halloween event basically broke even. This was the hopeful outcome, as the event is about school spirit, not intended as a fundraiser.
- b. So far, Purdy's orders total \$7400, which gives us a profit of approximately \$2000. Ordering is still open until Nov 25.
- c. Drumroaster orders in November generated \$230.75
- d. We have applied for the gaming license for the raffle baskets.

## **GUEST PRESENTATION**

### **ERIN ARROWSMITH on Composting program at ÉCH**

- This is a new program this year. Erin has been working at ÉCH for 5 years. When she first arrived the compost program was just for the garden, so not everything could be composted. We'd collect some scraps to compost in the back, but this was often contaminated with muffin wrappers and other items that could attract pests.
- Erin saw an opportunity to reduce how much we throw out every day. She noted that most of our garbage was paper towels from hand washing. She reached out to see what other schools are doing.
- We got the new program in place in June to start running this school year. We received a Climate Action grant of \$1500 to help run this program.
- Each classroom has an orange bucket to collect compostable items including some hot lunch packaging, paper towels, food scraps, etc. The bins are then emptied into 2 large bins outside which are picked up weekly by the same waste management company that handles our cardboard, etc. The cost of pickup is covered by the school district.
- Roots and Shoots club and Trevor's class wash the buckets weekly.
- We also have a recycling program for things like apple sauce containers, etc.
- Our custodians have noted a greatly reduced volume of waste going into the garbage. Last year, ÉCH created 121 yards of garbage. We're tracking to see how this year compares now that we have the composting program in place.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## Hot Lunch: Heather Theofanous

- Recycling packaging:
  - Subway; none of the packaging is compostable or recyclable, except the milk containers
  - Sushi containers can be rinsed and put in hard plastics
  - White Spot food wrappers are not compostable nor recyclable
- Two more lunches in this session. Next session is all set up with vendors and dates booked.
- Ordering for the next (Winter) session will include the first lunch following Spring Break as well.
- Note that the schedule for Winter session is not exactly every other week due to early dismissals, etc
- Heather proposed selling Moo's Pizza coupons instead of the hot dog lunch day, which is used as a grade 7 fundraiser. Will explore this option with Grade 7 parents next week.

## DPAC: Lindsay Stewart

- We've had two DPAC meetings since our last PAC meeting.
- Great presentation from Director of Inclusive Learning about reporting on literacy and numeracy framework in schools. There's an informative handout with a QR - will post to PAC bulletin board
- Robyn Grey - Quw'utsun Secondary School on track to be complete by June 2024
- Before and after school programs at 6-7 schools in the district including ours and the goal is to have it in all schools eventually. Funding is available, but schools need a parent advocate to push for the implementation of these programs if desired.
- Safe Arrival program in schools - discussions happening on how to best implement.
- DPAC has approved their \$2500 budget, which is mostly used for things like host PAC 101 workshops, support school specific events (if they're open to the whole district to attend), and purchase learning resources.

## ADMINISTRATION

### Principal: Ian Zibin

- Our Remembrance Day Assembly on Thursday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> was a beautiful assembly with songs, poems, and art all by the students at ÉCH. Merci à Cecily, Isla et Grant.
- Grade 12 student alumni currently in French Immersion from Cowichan Secondary visited our school on Monday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> to read with children and support our literacy and oral language goals. This will continue once a week leading up to the Winter Break.
- Professional Learning Community (PLC): The 2-Hour Early Dismissals we use to collaborate as

a whole staff to focus on our school goals of French Oral Language and Literacy and how we can support students with their learning. Today, we will be reviewing our data from the learning inventories and focusing on classroom interventions to help move our learners forward. Thank you to our learning team.

- Popcorn: Thank you to our volunteers who make and distribute popcorn on Tuesdays.
- Thank you to all the parent volunteers who help drive students, organize events, and distribute hot lunches.
- Thank you to all our staff for your support and hard work leading up to the Winter Break.
- I am looking forward to celebrating with our school community the week of the Winter Concert and the performances by our children.

### Vice Principal: Grant Mellemstrand

Basketball tournaments happening after winter concert and wrestling after winter break

## OLD BUSINESS

1. **Automated External Defibrillator:** Discussion around purchase of an AED. Erin Nicholson shared some statistics on AED use provided by a local emergency physician.  
**MOTION:** Kimberly Audy moves that PAC support the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator for the school from our savings account up to a cost of \$2500 and PAC commits to support ongoing maintenance of said machine. Seconded by Heather Theofanous, voted all in favour. **MOTION PASSED.**  
PAC also supports acquiring a narcan kit (at no cost) to be added to the school's First Aid kit.
2. **Silent Auction:** Thanks to all who have donated already, we are still collecting donations. If you have a business or a family friend with one please feel free to approach them. We currently have a low number of donations so far, would like to see more. Items don't have to be solicited from businesses, check your cupboards for items that you might want to part with that could raise some funds for the school! Discussion around suitability of some types of items, need to be compliant with school policies.
3. **Winter Food Drive:** Tree will go up Monday Nov 27, some food donations have already come in. Darlene will set up school cash online for cash donations which can purchase additional food or gift cards for Superstore.  
Winter coats and accessories are also included in the Drive.  
Final collection date of December 13 so Christine can make up baskets by December 15.  
Erin N will add to the Friday bulletin.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. **Facebook group:** Discussion around group's intended purpose and moderation
  - a. 'Parents of Ecole Cobble Hill' Facebook group was started 11 years ago and we feel it's time to evaluate its effective use. We have basic general rules and we want to make sure that everyone still agrees with the rules and regulations and at what point admins draw the line for moderation
    - i. Be kind and courteous
    - ii. No promotions or spam
    - iii. Respect everyone's privacyThis can be tricky for admins to determine what people consider solicitation and spam.
  - b. Current admins would welcome another admin as it's a time consuming process.
  - c. Ian offered that anything that helps and supports our school community could be shared, but he is not part of the facebook group, and also recognizes there's time involved in administration. Majority of parents at the meeting say "Keep it school specific" as there are many other community pages that cover the community events.
    - i. School-related deadlines, fundraisers, information
    - ii. Lost and found
    - iii. Parents connecting with each other
    - iv. DPAC and SD79 hosted posts
    - v. Posts specifically related to ÉCH including events and resources.

Next meeting: January 24, 6:30PM

Adjourned at 10:04am