

Porter Street Elementary PAC

Meeting Minutes for January 19, 2021

Location: ZOOM MEETING

Attendees (27)

Nicole Marcelin (Porter PAC Chair), Tanja McAffer (Porter PAC Treasurer), Joanne Elsdon (Porter DPAC Representative), Jenn Faccin (Porter PAC Secretary), Ashif Jiwa (Porter Principal), Alison & Steve Janes, Amy Williams, Anna Maria Marando, Bobby Kataria, Christine Segaric, Claire McCrea, Danielle, David and Tina Olan, Jessica Liao, Karen Bhartu, Kimberly Sivak, Laura Ziefflie, Mi ok Lim, Paraskevi (Vivi) Tsahtsiris, Sylvia, Tina Corrado, TKim, Victoria Nalugwa, William Chan (Tina). Attendees not eligible to vote: 2043923222, Steve's iPad, the fam.

Quorum is met

Introduction

1.0 Commence meeting: Nicole called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Introduction and welcome.

2.0 Adopt previous minutes – November 18, 2020

- a. Jenn motioned to adopt previous minutes, Tanja seconded. Previous minutes adopted.

3.0 Additions to agenda

- a. No additions to the agenda.

Business Arising

4.0 Principal's Report (7:09pm)

- a. **COVID Protocol Reminders:** Thank you everyone for sticking to the COVID protocols. There are staff meetings every week and we do a refresh of COVID protocols. At the district level there are principal meetings every Thursday and we discuss and address COVID issues to maintain the best protocols. The vaccine is coming but will be a while so we're working hard to keep everyone safe.
- b. **Valentine's Day:** Please don't send anything in from home including paper cards. The teachers are working hard to make it a special day and have plans for the students to create things in class so it still feels celebratory.
- c. **Changing School Play Zones:** There has been some discussion about swapping play zone areas as some are more fun than others especially considering our new playground equipment so some juggling around may be coming up possibly after spring break if reasonable for each age group. Kindergarten teachers have expressed concern over the distance for the younger kids being difficult to manage so that will be taken into account before any changes are confirmed.

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- d. Services available through Porter:**
- i. Counselling services - available 3 days a week. Contact your teacher if you'd like to initiate a meeting with your student and a counsellor.
 - ii. Indigenous Support Worker - available on Tuesdays.
 - iii. Learning Assistants – two learning assistants serving two segments of students: grades K, 1, 2, 3, and grades 4 and 5. They provide support as general learning assistants, and for ESL, and/or special needs students.
 - iv. French Learning Assistance - available with Madame Leblanc
 - v. Educational Assistants
 - vi. Psychologists - accessible through referrals from school-based teams meetings. School Based teams consist of a counsellor, learning assistant, teacher, and the principal. The team convenes to provide support in situations or with issues that may arise.
 - vii. Speech and Language Pathologist - available for students with speech and language assessments.
 - viii. Public Health Nurse Liaison – assists with vaccinations and aides students with diabetes
- e. Gradual Transition Students:** We're very happy to have so many students back in class whether it is full time or part time. The gradual transition list is flexible to support parents as they may be more or less comfortable given the changing community circumstances with COVID-19.
- f. The New Playground:** The Playground is now up and running. Thank you to the Province for the Gaming Grant funds and the PAC for additional funds to include a slide. Feedback has been positive and the students have really been enjoying the new equipment.
- g. Annual Poetry Café:** Coming up soon is our annual poetry café. Celebration of poetry in French and English, a couple students are chosen to present to the whole school usually in the gym and this year we will do it virtually similar to the holiday concert.
- h. Body Science:** About 70 parents joined in the parent presentation of Saleema Noon's Body Science sexual health education program. Some parents have asked to observe the student presentations - for the younger students we will facilitate observation, however for the older students the presence of parent observers would be more of a distraction/embarrassment issue for the students and detract from the information being presented.
- i. Kilometre Club:** Thank you to Laura for working out a way to get the KM Club up and running remotely.

5.0 Proposals, Voting, and Discussion on Budget Items: (7:20pm)

- a. Voting via Zoom:** The 'Raise Hand' button will identify Yay and Nay votes. Only parents/guardians of Porter students can vote. Abstaining from voting: Nicole Marcellin as Chair, Ashif Jiwa as Principal, and all attendees who have not identified themselves with a personal screen name. At the time of the vote there were 21 meeting attendees and 17 qualified to vote.
- i. **Voting Item: Crosswalk Safety Program:** The East and West crosswalk locations to receive self-serve crosswalk safety flags and buckets. Total cost for all three crosswalk locations is \$1000.00.
 - ii. **The motion passed with 15 votes in favour and 2 abstained.**

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5.0 Proposals, Voting, and Discussion on Budget Items: (7:20pm) cont'd

- b. **Playground Equipment:** We need to vote to pass an additional funding allotment of \$3936 to add a slide to the new playground equipment. Proposal to vote on this expenditure approval at the next PAC meeting on March 10, 2021.

6.0 Ongoing and Upcoming Events, Projects, and Updates (7:37pm)

- a. **Body Science:** Saleema Noon Virtual Education happening in classes this week.
- b. **Out-of-School Care:** There is a complete list of currently operating care providers available at the office.
- c. **Kilometre Club:** Virtual Edition 2021! Reminder for families and students that you can sign up any time through the link on Mr Jiwa's Sunday update emails. About 75 students have logged KMs over the last two weeks. There are necklaces for KM club available at the office for new members. Running rewards necklace charms are expected in February and will be distributed through the classrooms.
- d. **PAC Canopies for Playground Rain Cover:** It had been suggested that we use the PAC Canopies for the lunch hour in the playground zone that has no rain cover, however the logistics of erecting, dismantling, drying, and returning to storage is difficult to manage; and the canopies themselves are quite small at 8' square and that presents a challenge with the kids potentially huddling together causing COVID-19 concerns. Students are increasingly coming to school prepared for inclement weather and have adjusted to the expectation that lunch and recess is spent outdoors. Mr Jiwa will send reminders about inclement weather clothing for students.
- e. **Call for Volunteers:**
 - i. **End-of-year Teach Thank You Event/Gift** – A person or group is needed to spearhead this annual event.
 - ii. **Fundraising/Upcoming Events Coordinator** – The Fundraising Coordinator reviews and presents attractive fundraising opportunities and manages ongoing fundraising efforts.
- f. **Fund Raising:** Reminder of our ongoing fund raising programs.
 - i. **Bottle Drive via the Return It Express Program**
 - 1. Donate your empty bottles and cans to Porter. Return It Express Account (ID: 6049364296 – the school's phone number). The process is contactless: Bag empty bottles in a clear plastic bag, label each bag with the school's label (print one or more labels at any Return It Depot label kiosk), leave them at the depot and they will take care of all the sorting and counting and deposit the funds automatically to the Porter PAC's account.
 - ii. **Mabel's Labels**
 - 1. If you're ordering labels this year from Mabel's Labels you can help raise funds for Porter at the same time. Families wanting to contribute to PSPAC through Mabel's Labels can select the option to "Support a Fundraiser" and choose "Ecole Porter Street (Coquitlam)" from the drop-down menu. No deadline, no minimum for free standard shipping, individual orders.

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7.0 DPAC Update : (7:45pm)

- a. **DPAC:** The District Parents' Advisory Council is the parent's voice at the district level. The DPAC also hosts speakers on relevant topics.

- b. **Previous DPAC Meeting:**
 - i. **Topic:** Coping with COVID and related anxiety. Joanne and Elisheba are developing a page on the PSPAC.com website to support our parent community and provide a common location for all the mental health and community support resources they have identified.

- c. **Upcoming DPAC Meeting:**
 - i. The upcoming session topic: Technology. Meeting date: Jan 27th at 7pm via Zoom. To receive an invite to this meeting please rsvp to office@dpac43.ca

8.0 Treasurer's Report (7:55pm)

- a. Checking Account – Balance **\$24,502.29**
- b. Savings Account – Balance **\$6,314.22**
- c. Gaming Account – Balance **\$15,756.88**
- d. Total PAC Account Balance **\$46,573.39**
 - i. \$6000.00 set aside for Earthquake kit.
 - ii. \$10,000.00 set aside for Playground Enhancement.
 - iii. \$1000.00 was approved today for the Crosswalk Safety Program.

9.0 Additions to Agenda (8:13pm)

- a. No additional items.

Adjourn Meeting: Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm. Joanne Elsdon motioned to end the meeting. Seconded by Tanja.

Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, March 10th, 2021 @ 7:00pm via Zoom invitation to be issued by Ashif Jiwa.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Faccin, PAC Secretary