

DPAC MONTHLY MEETING: 11 January 2022

Chris Wright called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

In attendance:

Chris Wright	Cyndi Whaley	Jodi Green	Mari Imahori
Cindy Luchka	Adrienne White	Jen Grant	Erin Prescott
Laura Mercer	Sandra Robertson		

Staff: Cindy Harte

Old business

1. Chris did the territory acknowledgement.
2. Jan 2022 minutes: motion to approve by Adrienne, seconded by Erin.
3. West Coast Seeds fundraiser (Chris): From Morgan: raised \$540, and seeds will ship in about 2 weeks time.
4. Parent education (Chris): From Jennie: ~50 people attended. Next session is about the Effects of Stress on Parenting.
5. Fun Lunch (Mari): Asking how comfortable staff is with doing Fun lunch in February and March. Cindy H. says that if it's a Subway lunch (which was planned for February already, along with sushi), the staff can manage it. But if it's pizza, that would be too difficult for staff alone. However, food service is an exception that allows parent volunteers in for food distribution. Discussion of what to do. ...Decided to keep Feb Subway/sushi as planned (which staff will distribute), and March pizza, keep as planned as long as parent volunteers can help. This is simplest since orders are already in for many families. Credit in the system for the canceled January can be applied by families in April-June.

New business

1. School updates (Cindy H):
 - a. Kindergarten & French immersion (FRIM) registration occurred this past week. 2 full FRIM classes and 10 on waitlist. 1.5 English kindergarten classes for next year, and 4 spots left to grow.
 - b. Black history month is a focus this month, with guest presenters (e.g., Lisa Genderson virtually on Feb 11th, and Alex Omoding date TBD) and Pink Shirt day coming up.
 - c. Q&A: Erin asked about absentees. Cindy H says it's been higher than normal (~60 each day), but generally consistent since the January return. For staff, there have been some absences, including Cindy & Tim, but nowhere close to functional closure levels. Chris asked why sneezing was added to the daily health check and Cindy H. said because of its relation to the start of a cold.
2. Grade 5 year-end celebration (Chris): Parents and teachers should start thinking about this. Cindy H says that Camp Thunderbird is booked for the grade 5s for June. In-house, Cindy hopes

to do a ceremony in the school with parents attending... playing by ear to see if that's allowed by June. The school will put out a call for parents to form a committee.

3. Garden update (Erin): From Abigail: garden work party planned for Saturday, Feb 26th. Will need a call for volunteers, as she's ordering in soil and looking for help to move it around.
4. Budget review (Adrienne): Explanation of budget spreadsheet.
 - a. **Revenue:** The Created by Kids fundraiser raised well over expected. The Poinsettias and Purdy's winter chocolates also earned a little more than expected. Overall, we've got more revenue this year than planned and the year isn't even over. However, most of the fundraising occurs in the first part of the year.
 - b. Jodi mentioned that some of these fundraisers haven't been promoted well. Many parents don't know about them.
 - c. Cyndi asked about if there a delay for Fairway grocery cards revenue? Erin says Fairway sends a cheque, but only every 3 months. They track which cards are being loaded, so families can check if theirs is working.
 - d. Question about not seeing the Munro's fundraiser - that's because that was a library fundraiser (not involving the PAC).
 - e. Note that we haven't communicated to parents that the Thrifty's cards are no longer raising money for the PAC, but that the Fairway cards are. Thrifty's has changed to be pre-paid cards fundraising system. There was openness for this new system, but only if it were promoted well.
 - f. **Expenses:** \$15/student gets distributed from PAC to teachers. \$8/gr5 student for grade 5 celebration - gr 5 parents decide how this gets spent. Cindy H will let the gr 5 teachers know that the PAC brought up this topic so that the call can go out sooner than later. The lunch monitor line item won't be spent this year because there are no gr 5 lunch monitors. Ditto their first aid training won't be needed.
 - g. Art starts/white hatter... gets paid via the gaming grant.
 - h. \$5000 allotted to outdoor learning and playground: Question from Erin wondering about outdoor learning spending plans. Cindy H said that Nicole asked Tim about the basketball hoops - lower ones for small kids. Cindy H also brought forward the idea of large tarps for sun protection. Cindy H following up with staff on whether those sun shades will be used, and it seems to be 50-50. Cindy doesn't feel it's worth the cost. Chris building on the exec meeting and how we'd like to spend some money on masks (backup masks for children) and \$1300 on sports equipment. Says that one should be it's own line item. Question about whether someone gets the sports equipment that ends up on the roof? Cindy H says yes, Roger does once a month. Despite that, sports equipment gets lost/stolen easily each year. Chris mentioned community lock boxes as a possibility. Jodi mentions spending some time/money to clearly label the sports equipment with "Doncaster" on it to discourage people walking off with it. Chris going to price out some of these ideas.
 - i. Q from Mari: wondering if banking fees is related to pay pal. Adrienne said no, it's the \$0.50 from each e-transfer. Mari said she tried to add the pay pal fee to the

hot lunch system, but she doesn't know how much to add to offset this cost. Cindy L. will look into it tomorrow and let Mari know.

- j. Adrienne mentioned that some things we fundraise for take a while (sometimes years for long-term projects). Chris says it's also good for parents to see the short-term projects come to fruition with the money they've spent.
 - k. Mari asking about the district's plans to cut music, which was a big thing last year. What's going to happen for next year (e.g., grade 5 strings program), and could the PAC support music if it gets cut again? Cindy H saying that staff are going over the district funding proposal next week. She hasn't heard any advance rumors about the music getting cut. Cindy L. heard that there's a special committee reviewing the entire district music budget, but that changes may not come for next year (but possibly in future years). Also notes that the PAC can't make up for the loss of a major program like that, though the PAC could look at possibly funding some sort of music club should that loss occur in the future. Reminder that Elena Schultz is our VCPAC rep.
 - l. Cindy H wondering if a google doc "poll" to parents could be circulated for ideas on how to spend the outdoor budget (could go into our newsletter). ...Could do, but what if the lower basketball hoops use up all that money? Chris said that there's a cheaper option of simply adding a lower basketball hoop... Cindy H wondering if the cheap option may get in the way for people playing with the upper hoops. Chris will investigate the various options.
 - m. Cindy L. mentions a new fundraiser for Tru Earth laundry and cleaning products - but need someone to lead this one.
 - n. Someone needed to lead the Purdy's spring fundraiser. Laura Mercer volunteers and Cindy L will send her the needed information. Cindy L also happy to receive and sort the chocolate.
5. February newsletter (Jen Grant & Sandra). Discussed how many people may not read the newsletter because it's an attachment, so each week the PAC can send Cindy H. a line item to include in her Friday emails to all families.

Things to include in Feb newsletter:

- a. Fun lunch: Feb going forward as planned, and likely March too. **Parent volunteers needed for March** to distribute the pizza!
 - b. West Coast seeds (seeds coming in 2 weeks time)
 - c. Parents needed to help with the Garden Work party, most likely on Feb 26th.
 - d. Parent volunteers needed to lead some fundraisers, such as the True Earth fundraiser (a new one, Cindy L has the info in an email), and the Soap Exchange fundraiser - but what needs to be done?
 - e. The March date for next meeting.
 - f. Summary of previous fundraisers results? Though final numbers and money transfers aren't complete yet.
6. TC10ks -- Jen wondering if we should promote that starting now or soon. The run is on April 24th. Adrienne says that someone has to organize a Doncaster team... Mme

Harrison did it before... Jen will follow up to ask if it's been done for this year. This might be the only track and field this year.

Next Meeting: TUESDAY, 1 March 2022, via Zoom

Chris Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:23pm.