

## DPAC MONTHLY MEETING: 1 March 2022

*Nicole Woods called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.*

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In attendance:

Nicole Woods	Laura Mercer	Adrienne While	Jodi Green
Warren Weicker	Cindy Luchka	Jill Appleton	Chris Wright
Mari Imahori	Elena Schultz	Erin Prescott	Erin Long
Cyndi Whaley	Jaime Matibag	Jen Grant	Alex Omoding

Staff: Cindy Harte and Tim McKreesh

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### Old business

1. Nicole did the territory acknowledgement.
2. Feb 2022 minutes: motion to approve by Adrienne, seconded by Chris.
3. West Coast Seeds fundraiser (Nicole): The seeds arrived. Thank you to Morgan for organizing. Raised over \$500.
4. Purdy's Easter fundraiser (Laura): 10 orders so far, still a month left to order. The announcements have gone out. Deadline for ordering is during spring break.
5. Parent education (Nicole): From Jennie: The effects of stress on parenting on Wednesday, April 13th at 7pm on zoom.
6. Fun Lunch (Mari): Thanks to Yuki for organizing the sushi in Feb. Thanks the grade 5s for distributing the Feb fun lunch. Wondering about giving them a thank-you gift, like ordering extra subway cookies to give them. Cindy L. said the budget line item for lunch monitors could go towards that. Nicole is inclined to give a smaller gift/treat than the full pizza lunch, since that was for gr 5s who were lunch monitors every day. Cindy H. suggesting the real fruit gummies as a treat for the gr 5s since Nicole goes to Costco often. Mari got a new vendor for the April fun lunch. Discussion about the May fun lunch being pizza with gr5 helpers if not enough parent volunteers.

### New business

1. School updates (Cindy H and Tim):
  - a. Updates on covid: lifting of some restrictions, kids don't have to sit in rows. Volunteers back in the building (e.g., literacy support groups). Field trips resuming. Staff meetings in person. Families are at 50% capacity for assemblies, so they will start with the kindergarteners and gr 1s who haven't had them at all yet.
  - b. Basketball is running for gr 5s (two teams). Rebecca, parent volunteer, manages it.
  - c. A long-time teacher (and former Doncaster teacher) in the district passed away last week (Josie Mallow), and some Doncaster staff are grieving her, and planning on adding a rainbow bench at Doncaster with a plaque dedicated to her. Nicole shares her condolences.

2. Victoria school board politics (Cindy L.): 2 trustees were removed by the board. Nicole forwarded VCPAC emails out to families. Cindy L. attended a meeting about the issue last week, and they decided at that meeting that they would write a letter boycotting their participation on the budget. But the next day, the school district released more information about the suspension of the two trustees, which have caused the VCPAC to pause. The school board met last night, proceeding with business as usual, but with only 7 trustees at the table. Were the 2 trustees removed judiciously? The greater victoria teachers association did a vote of no confidence for the board. Nicole wondering who holds the school board accountable? Cindy L. says the ministry of education, and they should be included if people want to write letters.
3. School zone safety (Laura): Last year a student was hit by a car at the crosswalk, and there have been several near-misses since then. Grateful for Carlos (the crossing guard) when he's there, as it makes a difference. But there's a 15 minute period after school when Carlos isn't there when lots of kids are going to Doncaster grocery across the busy street, and there are lots of near misses with cars. Wondering who sorts out the crossing guard contract? Can adjustments be made to it to ensure someone is there everyday, maybe for a longer time period?
  - a. Nicole spoke to Saanich and Saanich police about this. It takes a small committee of 1-3 people who will need to research and pursue this.
  - b. Erin said that it's come up recently at Cedar Hill Middle School and Reynolds too. Saanich has a safety person, who reviews plans only every 7 years or so. There is a need for more advocacy. Erin can pass more information that she has on the matter.
  - c. Nicole spoke to the engineering department at Saanich, who then reaches out to the police. Nicole spoke to the police who confirmed that the squeaky wheel gets the grease. Nicole learned that there is a big crossing guard shortage in the city.
  - d. Erin said Sir James Douglas school has a group of parents doing advocacy on this topic too. They have a sign outside their school saying "their crossing guard is sponsored by [some company]".
  - e. Nicole wondering if parent volunteers are an option?
  - f. Alex O. asking if we want a police speed enforcement, and Tim and Jen say yes. Alex will aim to set that up, and also talk to ICBC, which may have funding and will do an assessment. Tim wondering about the electric speed sign getting set up, and Alex says, yes, that is a possibility.
4. New spring fundraiser (Nicole): Host a Doncaster family garage sale in May, where parents rent a table and set up around the school, outside. Maybe get food trucks. Nicole clarifies that it's mainly a community event for Doncaster families, but the public could shop. Jill suggests including a bake sale too. Lots of support at the meeting to do this. Nicole will lead it, but will put out a call for volunteers to help. They will come up with a date and go from there.
5. Next meetings (Nicole): PAC executive elections should occur in April. Need 10 people for quorum. Sticking with zoom for likely a better turn-out. Can discuss at that meeting about if/when to resume in-person meetings. Laura wondering if a hybrid model of zoom and in-person could occur.
6. Erin thanking the volunteers that went to the Feb garden work party.
7. Chris wondering about Doncaster getting a scooter rack? Cindy H. says that it's much more expensive than she thought it would be (Nicole said ~\$800-\$1000). The current mode is for kids

to put their scooters in the court yard for safe-keeping. This could be added to the list of outdoor spending (along with the lower basketball hoops).

8. February newsletter (Jen G. & Sandra). Things to include in April newsletter:
  - a. Fun lunch: March going forward as planned. Parent volunteers needed for March to distribute the pizza!
  - b. Parent volunteers needed for the new yard sale fundraiser planning.
  - c. Parents volunteers for a new school zone safety committee (with aim to increase crossing guard time-coverage).
  - d. Thanks to the volunteers who worked on the garden in Feb.
  - e. The April date for next meeting (Tuesday, April 5th), and it will be then for the new PAC executive elections
  - f. (left from last notes): Summary of previous fundraisers results? We probably have the final numbers and money transfers by now?
9. Nicole thanks parents for suggesting agenda items and welcomes further additions. Cindy H. says the same for their end.

**Next Meeting: TUESDAY, 5 April 2022, via Zoom**

*Nicole Woods adjourned the meeting at 7:57pm.*