

## DPAC MONTHLY MEETING: 4 MARCH 2020

*Nicole Woods called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.*

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In attendance:

Nicole Woods  
Fiona Ely

Robin Grazley  
Cyndi Whaley

Adrienne White

Staff: Mrs. Cindy Harte

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### 1. Principal & Vice-Principal's Reports

#### *School Updates*

- Cindy H: construction, in and out of the building:
  - guard posts are in for the garden fencing and irrigation is underway, waiting for fields to dry to stretch fencing -- Abigail is happy
  - Facilities noticed the mudpit on the primary playground -- they dug up primary playground, replaced the drainage pipes they could, and Saanich will take over fixing the pipes they own at some point -- they will put in crush in the midpoint so it does not get swampy anymore
  - waterfall factor on the right -- those pipes need repair -- we hope that will be fixed with intermediate playground replacement -- again, Saanich responsibility, all connected
  - library wall/expansion of M Bremaud's classroom is in progress -- painting happening in the new room -- will be finished as the months go on -- timing can be an issue, but will be figured out
  - Childcare studios are almost done -- announcement went out today -- contact info
- April is environmental awareness month -- emphasis on litterless lunches, pack-in/pack out -- also a musical celebration with green focus (April 24), with half of the divisions performing, timed near to Earth Day -- we'll also have a concert in June with Ms Johnson, and the Strings program
- Walk & Wheel Wednesdays are coming in May
- A clothing exchange has been proposed by a student -- families donate gently used/outgrown clothing, kids can shop -- the student and Cindy H will organize
- Our new custodian, Roger, starts Monday
- In prepping walls for painting, the plaques, pictures, etc. have been coming off -- they will be stored for now, not sure what we'll do with them yet, but perhaps a display of some kind

- A brief discussion of storage of school/PAC items followed
- We are busy and looking forward to spring break!
- Question from Nicole: do we have a firmer deadline on when the portables are done, and we'll have the Cage back? Cindy H: now that the interiors are done, they will likely move on to the parking lot, but weather/season may affect paving -- requests have been made to move fence, but no action yet
- Nicole: questions from Katia:
  - school garden? See update above.
  - Katia is also wondering if Cindy H is able to speak to anything re: possibility of teachers' job action, rumoured as possible in May. Cindy H: there is an admin meeting tomorrow, may be more info then -- some participated in a "red walk" on Friday morning -- info is not trickling to admin level. The union does not want to strike, and that would be a last resort -- job action (e.g. work to rule) is more likely than strike. It's up in the air right now -- the district will send info to pass on to families if need be.
  - playground: can we confirm that everything was submitted? Cindy H: yes -- Marni will know who did get PEP when it's announced.

2. February 2020 Minutes to Approve: motion to approve by Adrienne White, seconded by Nicole Woods

3. Vancouver Island Parent Conference (February 29)

- Nicole: Katia attended VI Parent conference -- it was greta, but she was a little disappointed that it wasn't better attended -- she enjoyed it, will talk next month

4. Intermediate Playground

- See discussion above

5. Bike Rack

- waiting to hear -- Cindy H might ping CRD and see what's happening

6. Bingo Night (Feb. 21)

- Nicole: Mercedes said Bingo Night was well attended, although not quite as busy as last year -- successful overall.
- There were a few technical issues (projector, ball popper) -- Fiona, Cyndi W, and Robin explained for those who weren't present
- no issues with the food this year! But we did have extra sushi in particular. Parent volunteers (as usual) did a great job of keeping things running!

7. PAC website

- no volunteers so far for the redesign -- Jen contacted Camosun, but as of right now, no interest -- their coordinator thought it might be too basic for what students want to do. At this point, it's not top of our priority list.
- Cindy H: has it been put out to families? Nicole: not at this time -- our parent contact is not interested in doing it pro bono.
- Adrienne will put it in the newsletter, ask for skills/suggestions for someone to refresh PAC website

#### 8. Parent Education

- Fiona: the Mohapel presentation went well! Many people registered after Cindy H extended the invitation -- we went from 30 people to 170, and the day of 180 people were registered. We set out 150 chairs and about that many actually showed up.
- glitches: the gym was double-booked again -- how did this happen? Fiona & Katia checked the booking/date with Braefoot & Margo. Cindy H also checked with Margo. So, we're not sure how this happened. The softball people had two times set up and had to turn their people away -- they were upset about it. Katia has not followed up yet on following up. This is an unfortunate circumstance and we'd like to make sure it doesn't happen again.
- One other thing: we had arranged with Donna at Braefoot to provide refreshments -- at 5:30 the evening of, she texted that they were bringing refreshments/snacks, but they had spent \$177 and expected us to pay half -- very steep for coffee & Timbits? Fiona didn't have a chance to discuss with them first -- in future, she recommends that we set a budget. We also may have reimbursed them for the whole amount.
- otherwise, this event was a big success -- presentation well received

#### 9. Magic Forest Cleanup

- April 4-5? Remove garbage, possibly invasive species pull. Previously they have been held Saturday-Sunday, as it's difficult to find times parents can come on weekdays. Adrienne will ask or date/time (newsletter info).

#### 10. TC 10K

- Katie contacted Katia with update -- only 6 people have signed up so far -- promotion time? Katie's concern is a deadline for registration -- Adrienne will follow up re: registration deadline

#### 11. Easter Purdy's Fundraiser

- Alexis will have info out tomorrow

#### 12. Spring Fundraiser

- junk, trunk ... not much to contribute at this point. Katia's concern re: possible strike -- this might affect timing. Discuss next month.

#### 13. Other Business

- Katia was contacted by Flying Squirrel: we sell tickets at regular price, we get a 25% kickback -- is this something we are interested in?

- are we interested in advertising/promoting? Katia asked what the catch was, but there are no limits, minimum orders, etc.
- Adrienne: is there a code or something? Nicole will forward the email
- Discussion turned to list of businesses we have a fundraising relationship with -- Erin might know all the sponsors
- Katia & Nicole have been emailed by two different groups in the past month or two -- Language hub for kids -- immersion in Spanish/French/German -- free trial class (after school) -- it's a a franchise:
  - do we want to put this out to parents? advertising? issue of sponsorship/approval -- Adrienne checked it out, and anyone can get a free trial. Cindy H raised the issue of vetting -- does it seem like we are endorsing the program? also, where would the classes be held?
  - Nicole: they offered to come in to speak to PAC -- reluctant to add this time to the meeting, though -- the fact that they'd do it on-site does make it easy.
  - Adrienne: it would be nice to list these things on the website -- we could put it under resource tab, with a disclaimer that we're sharing, not endorsing. Nicole: we could put it on the poster board? It's a community board, so we don't end up feeling like we're advertising
- We have also been contacted by Parents4Climate, who are focused on raising awareness of climate emergency in the schools -- asking us to share their information. They had a big meeting yesterday -- their rep is wanting us to send this message out to parents, get our parents more involved in pressuring SD61 toward zero-emissions, climate action. A Doncaster parent did contact our PAC requesting we sharing their information before (Sept 23 action at the legislature). We missed the deadline for this event -- also the kind of thing which could go on the community board in future.
- grade 5 celebration -- no rep for Div. 2 at this point? No one present tonight knows about it -- Fiona was able to explain events from previous experience. We could put a call for parents to participate in the committee in the newsletter? Best to check with Mercedes first -- Karin Kwan will take the lead, most likely, and the teachers will be involved. Nothing really needs to happen until end of April.
- The next PAC meeting is the AGM -- Adrienne will promote it in the newsletter so we have a good chance of quorum -- to be held April 1.
- Are we anticipating any changes in executive? Not really, but Katia and Nicole may co-chair.

**Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY, 1 April 2020, in the library**

*Nicole Woods adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm*