



Cedar Grove Elementary – P.A.C. Meeting

2023/09/14 PAC Meeting

Co-Chairs: Tamara Hedden & Marissa Rizzo

Recorder: Marissa Fischer (secretary)

Members in Attendance:

- Tamara Hedden
- Marissa Rizzo
- Marissa Fischer
- Jen MacInnes (principal)
- Cheryl Gyourou
- Leah Tannock
- Jess Procter
- Signy Bjarnason
- Gosia Kapinos
- Ursula Dragowska
- Devika Naidu
- Simon Croak
- Nicole Arnett
- Kathleen Colquhoun
- Silvia Howden
- Estefania Rivera Perez

Meeting called to order at 19:03

- Introductions & land acknowledgement
- Meeting agenda:
Additions to agenda: no additions

Motion to approve agenda: 1st Marissa Rizzo; 2nd Simon Croak. Motion carried.

- Minutes from last meeting:
Acceptance of Minutes – accepted at previous meeting
Review action items – no outstanding action items

Regular Reports:

Chair report – Tamara Hedden & Marissa Rizzo (10 min)

- Looking forward to new school year, came back together last year after some hurdles
- Great to see new faces at the table; thanks to last year's PAC

Treasurer's Report - Leah Tannock (5 min)

- Balances. Last year, fundraising earned \$4000 more than we expected to; expenses were lower. \$5,000 we'd allocated was not spent.
- CGES PAC Balance is \$23,368.95
- Gaming grant was \$4,800. Remaining gaming Account Balance is \$2962.83
- Applied to gaming grant for this year, and supplied report for gaming grant

Principal's Report – Jen MacInnes (5 min)

- Exciting new trends in communicating student learning.
- Parent/teacher meeting time will be before the report. Giving us more time for learner goals and plans.

- Terry fox run next Friday Sept 22nd
- Want to start a school-wide morning mindfulness practice.
- Open doors to parents at 08:00 – 08:15, all are welcome (staff, parents, students). Open to discussing offering mindfulness at other times of day, morning probably best for now.
- Upcoming FSAs Oct to mid-November. Grade 4 and 7, participate, district gathers info on student learning: reading, writing and numeracy.

Questions for Jen?

1) Simon asked about Jen's background

- Jen provided an overview of her life and career.
- Moved to the Sunshine Coast to start Grade 5 at CGE; attended Elphi; moved off Coast for university, degrees in music and education.
- Taught in both the UK and Canada.
- Taught for 10 years in Pender Harbour as band director, foods teacher, school counselor, Social Studies, English.
- Lived in Gibsons, wanted to cut down on commute and also work with elementary school students. Came to CGE to work with Barry Kringle.
- Taught grade 7, then moved younger to grade 3/4.
- Wanted to be proactive in preventing certain behaviours from forming, rather than reactive once behaviors were entrenched.

2) Simon wanted to provide feedback on the start of the year. It was very stressful and challenging to prepare his child for school, with the delayed process of being sorted into classes. Would like to know where that lack of organization came from. Was it due to the registration deadline? Felt there was a lack of communication from the school.

Jen's Response

- Guidelines from the ministry allocate a certain amount of money to fund a certain number of classes based on enrollment. Official DL for enrolment is the end of June, but anyone who moves into the area is entitled to enrol at any time. Legal requirements or restrictions have changed over the years. Research has shown, starting the year by going back to your former (last year's) teacher, who is familiar to the student, is less disruptive than being immediately moved to a new teacher, and then have to potentially change classes.
- Ministry sets how many students of each grade we can have in each class, and the maximum number of students differs by grade. We are also only allowed to have two IEP ministry funded students in each class. In CGE's case this year, we had just over the maximum number of students in each grade, but not enough students to make up the minimum for starting a new division. It was challenging and frustrating.
- General reminder that we do the best we can with the system we've got.
- We are also a rural population, with rural numbers
- We do have DL for enrollment in June, but we have to make education available to everyone, and people move unexpectedly.
- General reminder that children are resilient, we have to allow them to engage with and process through adverse conditions.

Jess suggested an email to remind parents to adjust kid's expectations at the start of the year – if they know they won't be getting their permanent assigned class for a few days, they can

prepare differently

Trustee Report – Sue Girrard (5 min)

- No report

DPAC Report – Simon Croak (5 min)

- No report (no DPAC meeting yet this year)

Old Business:

- Nicole and Tamara are still in contact with Roberts Community association about upgrading CGE kitchen. Nothing approved or passed yet.

New Business:

Hot Lunch/ Popcorn (Tamara/Lisa)

- Kathleen has decided to stick with hotlunches.net, reopen our account and remake the menus. Prices will change, contacted all vendors, 5 days a week, with potentially six vendors on board.
- Roberts community school is funding underprivileged families hot lunch

Questions:

Tamara: Where are we at outstanding balances last year?

- There are two families SD46 said they would cover. They need to follow up if that happened.

Ursula: Where are we at with reinstating the morning snacks?

- Roberts creek community school will be liaising for new snack

Class Reps (Tamara)

- A class rep coordinator, sends info from the PAC to the class reps, who in turn send it out to parents of each class
- Devika class rep coordinator

Staff Wishlist (Marissa R)

- All staff are invited to ask for stuff not covered by the district that they need for their classroom or programs.
- Budget of \$300 / staff member.

2023/2024 Budget approval (Marissa Rizzo)

Motion to approve budget: 1st Tamara 1st; 2nd Cheryl. Budget approved.

Fundraisers and Events (Tamara)

- Welcome Back BBQ – Wed Oct 11, 2023
- Halloween haunted house walk-through (needs exact dates)
- Movie night in Nov (needs exact dates)
- Dec 7/8 Growing Smiles Poinsettias fundraiser
- Feb – Valentine’s day dance (needs exact dates)
- Spring faire – need to form a sub-committee and pick a date
- March – scholastic book faire // bingo

- April – School Play
- May – Cheryl suggested a Mother’s day Vendors Market. Tamara moved to hold this event. Nicole 2nd. Vendor’s Market approved. (Needs exact dates)
- June – Leaving ceremony, Sports Day, PAC Leaving BBQ

ACTION ITEMS:

Need dates for most events.

Need to form sub-committee for Spring Faire

Tamara moved to adjourn meeting. Nicole 2nd.

20:50 Meeting adjourned.

PAC Executive List for the 2023 – 2024 School Year:

Chair: Tamara Hedden

Vice Chair: Marissa Rizzo

Treasurer: Leah Tannock

Secretary: Marissa Fischer

DPAC Rep: Simon Croak

Hot Lunch Coordinator: Lisa Patterson

Fundraising Coordinator: Tamara Hedden

Volunteer Coordinator: Nicole Arnett

Yearbook Coordinator: Dan Tsuji

Class Rep Coordinator: Devika Naidu

Members at Large: Urszula Dragowska