

Peter Ewart Middle School
Parent Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 13th, 2024, 6:00pm PEMS

Attendance

Administration

Kim Casquilho

Executive Members

Christos – President	Brenda Brown – Secretary
Robyn Graham – DPAC	Darko Brunac - Vice President
Maria Fiorentino - Grade 7 Rep	Alma Edwards - Grade 6 Rep
Ukumaka Ude – Grade 8 Rep	Wendy Sjodin – Munch
Akane Awazu-Ayres- treasurer	

General

Welcome – Christos

Christos welcomed everyone at 6:04pm.
Territorial Acknowledgment

Approval of the Agenda – Christos

Agenda was received. Christos motioned to pass the February 2024 PAC agenda. Motion passed.

Minutes

Christos made a motion to pass the January 2024 minutes. Motion passed.

Principal's Report – Kim Casquilho

1) Grade 8 address change: in follow up to the communication from the district regarding verification of proof of residence, we are sharing instructions for all grade 8 families. To help in planning for student transitions to middle school, we are requesting all families visit the office in person with required documents showing proof of parent/guardian residence. The school will not be keeping or making a copy of these documents. Documents can be brought in on the following dates/times: February 20-22, 3:00-7:00

2) Playground: The playground is now officially open.

3) Feeder School visits: Langley Meadows April 19th 9:00-12:15, RCG April 23rd 9:00-12:15, DGR April 29th 9:00-12:15

4) Slam off final (for grade 8s):

- PEMS School Final May 1st

- District final @ BGMS is in planning for the slam off: Tuesday May 21st in the afternoon, specific timing 2-3 minutes/slam poem (2-3 students)

5) Speak out (for grade 6 and 7): PEMS school final April 26th, District final May 15th 12:15

6) Seismic upgrades: Timing February 21st-24th. Main entrance will be on the south side of the school. The office will be moved last and will be located on the south side of the school. The driveway area will remain closed.

7) Diversity week: February 26th- March 1st. The diversity committee is working on a plan for that week. There will be a schoolwide activity for all staff and students. Our advisory classes will shift from character strong to include various lessons on inclusion and diversity for the remainder of the month.

8) Grade 7 camp: we are still looking for parent volunteers to support. April 3rd-5th 706-711, April 8th-10th 701-705

9) Upcoming dates:

- Feb. 16th Professional development day (no students in attendance)

- Feb. 19th family day (school closed)

- Feb. 26th design and assessment day and report card prep day (no students in attendance)

- March 8th second term formal learning updates go home

- March 13th and 14th early dismissal for parent teacher interviews (late night is Wednesday)

Welcome and Introduction

Treasurer's Report – Akane Awazu-Ayres

Gaming – January 2024

1) Balance: \$28,593.19

2) Akane made a motion to pass January 2024 gaming account. Motion passed.

General – January 2024

1) Spent \$3,070.25 for munch

2) \$560 for year-end event

3) Akane Made a motion to pass \$5.45 for the grade hoodie. Motion passed

4) Balance: \$19,165. 22

5) Akane made a motion to pass January 2024 General account. Motion passed.

Grade Report:

Grade 6- Alma

1) All grade 6 classes went skating at LEC on February 7th

2) Mt Seymour cancelled our field trips due to no snow, so we are looking for alternatives.

- 3) Speak out presentations will be April 26th of which the grade 6's are participating
- 4) Feeling frustrated with lack of tech available for classes
- 5) Mrs. Donaldson and Ms. Demarzo are planning a girls' conference for the may pro d. we are going to promo it starting April for girls to sign up for a day of learning to love oneself, mental wellness strategies, healthy eating etc. We are still in the planning stages, but we are reaching out to local businesses to donate prizes, money and food. We want to be able to keep the registration fee as low as we can and have an "angel fund" for those that can't pay for it. Lunch and a T-shirt will be included. We'd love for the PAC to help sponsor this.

Grade 7- Maria

Grade 8- Ukamaka

- 1) 1925 for a bus for the year end field trip.

Updates:

- 1) Spirit wear cheque \$ 925.23. The new run is out on Monday February 26th. Delivered Thursday before spring break.
- 2) Year end: found a Dj for \$200 or \$300, possibly for free. 14/15 volunteers.
- 3) Two meetings left April and May
- 4) Pub night sales are low, possibly cancelling.

DPAC:

a) Family Smart program (www.familysmart.ca):

This organization provides free support and resources for families. They specifically deal with parents of children and youth with mental health/substance use challenges. Children and youth do better when the adults who care about and for them are supported. There are monthly events both online and in person. More details about the programs are available online.

b) IDEA Summit:

The 2024 IDEA summit will be held on May 7th at the Langley Events Centre. DPAC presented the new curriculum that was introduced this year with the Entrepreneur Fair. The booklet was new this year and the district recognizes that the roll out of the updates was not as smooth as hoped as the information came out late. They are working to make sure teachers are supported and can make use of Setting Up for Success programs and Lunch & Learn programs that are available.

District Admin also advised on the date of the fair and “judges” come to visit. Students may be selected in conversation with teachers to present at the IDEA Summit – LMCS has 7 students who were selected based on their Entrepreneur Fair ideas!

District funds are available to support students who may need additional resources to participate in the Entrepreneur Fair (both as entrepreneurs and for those students purchasing from their fair) and can be accessed with help from the student’s teacher and school.

c) District Superintendent Report:

The District Superintendent talked about the transition rate (completing 8-12 school in 6 years/5 years). The Langley school district has a transition rate of 95% and 92% respectively. Our rates have consistently improved over the past few years. Rates are lower for students who are indigenous, neuro-diverse, and children in care respectively.

The District Superintendent took the BC Minister of Education on a driving tour of Willoughby to highlight the growth and need for change in policies when it comes to building and ensuring that the community needs are met in alignment with the rate of development.

d) Other:

District Scholarships are open for applications by Grade 12 students.

A link to the live chat with the District PAC president is available on the LMCS PAC Facebook page.

Minutes for past meetings and the power point presentation are available online on the DPAC website:

<https://langleydpac.ca/monthly-meetings-agendas-minutes/>

The next DPAC meeting will be held virtually on March 14, 2024.

Adjournment:

Christos adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm. Motion passed.

Next meeting:

Next meeting will be April