

Lord Selkirk Elementary School

Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting February 19, 2019 @ 6:30pm

MINUTES

Call to Order – 6:35pm

Attending: Jenny Stephanson, Mirian Leo Gindin, Holly Hergesheimer, Martina Waldkirch, Jason Clarke, Alison Mills, Jennifer Cox, Mimi Simon, Danielle Rae, Heather Schofield, Jola Lekich, Anna King, Erin Dosman, Jennifer Cooper-Stephenson

Chair's Report: (Erin - 5 min)

Erin delivered an Enhanced Services Program update on behalf of Vanessa Mani;

- The Secret Santa program and Cocoa and Carolling were a success. Both initiatives received significant support from Selkirk parents.
- Project Backpack Initiative is going on right now – part of grade 7 transition. We have received donations of umbrellas, gloves, cards – the goal is to fill 50 back packs this year. There are boxes to donate items around the school if your child would like to bring in an item. New items only please.
- The Enhanced Services team hopes to host a bingo night and another movie night in the spring.

Financial Report:

No financial update at this time. Financial update will be provided in March.

School Report:

Selkirk had its first snow day in 17 years! Mme. Burton acknowledged that the Selkirk site is quite challenging during winter conditions like we are experiencing, and it can get particularly icy. A huge thanks to Dan our fabulous school engineer for all the salting and shovelling to keep us safe.

Pink shirt day is coming up on February 27th – Mme. Burton confirmed buddy benches were introduced at the school assemblies, videos were shown to students about the idea behind the buddy bench. Kindness bookmarks will be distributed in connection with pink shirt day.

Conferences for some classes coming up. Spring break is also coming up in 4 weeks.

Still working through the WITS program – Mme. Burton has three more lessons to do. Selkirk is ordering hoodies so peer leaders will be identified on the playground. WITS is an anti-bullying and conflict strategy – the next few sessions will be role playing so leaders can practice what they have been learning.

Seismic Project Update:

Note: the meeting with VSB Principal Christopher Wong and Cathy Sullivan is scheduled for Tuesday February 26, 2019 at 6:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

The seismic project announcement has been made and the ministry is focusing on projects that can be done quickly. There is a swing space for displaced Selkirk students at Gladstone Secondary. The space has its own washrooms and entrance and is currently empty. 76% of grade 6 and 7 students live in cachement so can walk to Gladstone. The decision has been made that intermediate students will move as primary students are not developmentally ready for that space. There is no playground at the swing site but there is a field, and students will have access to the cafeteria at a separate time than high school students. Staff at Selkirk will be working to ensure that the move does not disrupt learning and that leadership opportunities continue to exist for older Selkirk students who will be moving.

Regular Business:

Discretionary Fund Committee;

1. A few small items have been approved to date - \$850 approximately has been approved. PAC discussed whether there is a threshold amount for discretionary funding each year. In the past PAC has been reluctant to set a limit because fundraising each year fluctuates. Mme. Burton confirmed that the administration should also review requests to ensure PAC is not paying for items that should come out of the school budget. Anna confirmed she will cc Mme. Burton on requests – if Mme. Burton doesn't respond PAC can proceed. PAC confirmed process - Discretionary Funding expenditures need to be circulated to the whole PAC and must be approved by a minimum of 5 PAC members to proceed.
2. Ms. Chan is coordinating Timberline Camp for the grade 7 students – Mme. Burton and another teacher going as well. Heather offered the Clean for a Cause fundraiser as perhaps the grade 7s may want to use it this year. PAC discussed approving a one-time expenditure to get the grade 7s started – an equal amount will be given to grade 7 French for an activity when the French twins come from Quebec. Accordingly, PAC moved and approved \$400 for Timberline Camp and \$400 for Quebec Exchange activities (\$800 approved unanimously).
3. Last item is project chef, a cooking program for grade 4s (4 half days for two grade 4 classes). School must apply for project chef – this year our application was accepted. Originally the school thought it was subsidized but it wasn't and Selkirk received an invoice. PAC agreed to cover the expense this year – motion to approve the \$1200 approved unanimously.

Teacher's Wish List;

Mme. Burton provided PAC with the Teachers' Wish List for 2018-19. Teachers listed everything they wanted and every staff member got 7 votes. The top 11 items (that received the most votes) formed the Teachers' Wish List. Items total \$16,200. PAC discussed the best way to seek approval for the items from the parent community, including putting the list out on Facebook in advance of March meeting and then move to approve the list at the March 12th meeting. PAC confirmed everything from last year's list was purchased. It was agreed the list will be published through the newsletter and Facebook so parents who want to come and vote are aware.

Selkirk Royale;

60 tickets sold to date, \$11,000 in donations for the silent auction. The committee has secured lots of great new items, good music lined up, top 3 gamblers win a prize. Confirmed we need the gym on Thursday night for set up. The decorating will be done on Friday. We will need an extra garbage pick-up on Monday.

Fundraising Initiatives;

1. Mabels Labels – no report/update, received a cheque with some funds.
2. SPUD – PAC receives a cheque every three months. We did have a corporate sponsor purchasing for the office but that order has been cancelled.
3. Famous Foods will be added to agenda as a regular fundraiser. Jola and Heather are leaving gift cards for pick-up in the office. This is a great fundraiser for us and amounts raised have been increasing. Gift cards can also be purchased on-line in \$50 or \$100 denominations.

New Business:

Brewers Park Meeting and East 22nd Ave Street Side Garden – deferred until next meeting. The Parks board is discussing renewal project which is expected to get going in late summer or fall. The delay is to allow summer programming at the park to proceed. Some initial pruning of bushes has been completed.

Yoga – Miriam emailing Erin (founder of The Yoga Buggy) about the possibility of a joint fundraiser with the PAC. Consider a “by donation class”, the proceeds of which could be split. The multipurpose room could be used for small groups. If we are considering after school hours – evening would be better for a fundraiser. It would be a PAC run event after hours – Miriam will connect with Dominic re scheduling.

Multicultural dinner- PAC discussed a welcome back dinner instead of spring. This year we could do spring and fall.

Thursday May 16th is sports day.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:12pm.

Next meeting will be Tuesday March 12th at 6:30pm. The meeting was originally scheduled as a PAC Executive meeting however in order to fully consider and vote on the Teachers' Wish List the March meeting will be a PAC General Meeting – all parents are welcome to attend.