

**Strawberry Vale Elementary PAC
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday February 17, 2016

Call to Order at 6:30pm

Attendance – Chair Brenda Knox, Jeni Mason, Whitney Drinkwalter, Corwin Sikora, Roberto Rael Ruffolo, Moira Chambers, Cindy Sanderson – Principal, Bev Ross – teacher

- Approval of minutes: January 2016 meeting Moved by Brenda, Seconded by Jeni – approved
- Approval of agenda: February 2016 meeting Moved by Roberto Seconded by Corwin -- approved
- Correspondence/Feedback Letter of thanks from Jenn Horton for parent donation of books from the Book Fair to her classroom

Teacher's Report

Bev Ross

- Bev reported that the school community is very keen to get started on the garden (part of the Nature Perimeter Pathway). There will be a notice soon about how community members can get involved in the garden. Focus will be on seasonal planting. There is a need for gardening equipment, and before any is purchased, the school community will be asked for donations of used equipment that is in good condition.
- Bev noted her mixed emotions on her early return from her teaching exchange in Ireland. She loved the country and adventure, unfortunately a health concern required her to return home for access to diagnostic testing. The good news is, the health concern is not serious, and she is happy to be back in her classroom!

Admin Report

Cindy

- Cindy reported that Lenny Ross has announced his retirement. The wonderful Hannah Gough has been filling in during Lenny's medical leave, and is expected to remain in the class until the end of the school year, although the temporary position will have to be posted as per contract requirements. Watch for details of how the school will celebrate Mr. Ross's retirement – he has been at SVE for 28 years. It was noted that two members of the PAC executive and many current parents at the school were taught by Mr. Ross!
- Mrs. George has been off on medical leave and is not expected to return in time for report cards. Student led conferences for that class were rescheduled to March 3, and report cards will be issued once Mrs. George returns.
- Cindy asked for clarification of the Technology Replacement Fund, which is \$2500 the PAC sets aside annually to allow the school to replace or repair student technology such as iPads and MacBooks. She noted that with rapid advances in technology, sometimes it is new technology or software that is needed, not simply replacement of aging tools. The PAC will consider changing the Tech Replacement Fund to simply the Tech Fund, to provide more flexibility on how this money is used to best support students. This discussion/vote will occur at the June PAC meeting, which is when the Tech Fund is voted on by the incoming PAC, for the following school year.

Executive Update

Brenda

- Parent Education Fund – we received \$250 dollars from the School District, and will apply for a further \$250 in the fall. Suggestion was to pool the money for one bigger parent education event in the fall, as there is limited PAC capacity to pull together an event this spring.
- Constable Dani – School Liaison – noted that Constable Dani is available as a resource for parents to learn about safety issues, and we can set up a session for parents if there are issues they would like to learn more about.
- VCPAC Meeting – (Corwin to provide details – there was much discussion about upcoming Parent Conference.)
- Next VCPAC meeting is Feb 23 – No one from PAC executive is available to attend this meeting at Campus View. Will canvas broader school community to see if a parent is interested in attending on SVE behalf.

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- Parent Conference – Feb 27 – PAC executive will talk to see if there is any interest in attending this very worthwhile event, and will vote on using some of the Parent Education funds from the District to purchase one or two tickets for PAC members to attend.

Treasurer's Report (see attached) Jeni

Event Reports (Updates/Feedback/Action Items)

- Scholastic Book Fair – Brenda reported for Lisa Teschke that the event went well. The new space was very well received by everyone. Bev Ross noted it was a much better space for classroom visits. It was noted that only five teachers submitted 'wish lists' for books for their classrooms. Lisa and the PAC will explore a different system for parents to donate at the book fair for classroom books, perhaps asking parents at time of purchases if they would like to donate to a school wide classroom fund, which teachers could access to purchase books for their classroom. Financials for this event are still being calculated and will be provided at April PAC meeting. Next Book Fair will be with Russell Books May 12-17th.
- Spirit Day Qoola – *Brenda for Leanne Kopp* – went smoothly, thanks to parent volunteers, next Qoola Day is March 4th – Hat Day
- Victoria Royals Fundraiser – *Jeni, Tamara, Moira, Rob* - Family Day game went well. All 100 tickets were sold, plus a few extras on game day. 50/50 raised about \$2500 dollars, although final profit won't be known until after ticket sales conclude for the Feb 20th game. The agreement with the Royals required the PAC to purchase 300 game tickets for \$3000. At PAC meeting time, there were still about 130 tickets (or \$1300 worth) of tickets to sell. Options were discussed about how to sell these tickets, since not as many Strawberry Vale families had purchased tickets for this evening game. Cindy is reaching out to other schools to let their parents know that we have tickets, an ad was placed on Used Victoria and Varage, Moira will try to get some promotion from local radio stations, the Royals have agreed to pass on contact info to any groups looking for tickets as the game is almost sold out, and Moira will set up table at school Thursday to sell tickets.
- Mother's Day Flowers – Brenda for *Alex Gilbert*- Order forms to go home prior to Spring Break.
- It was noted that there is no PAC meeting in March, and the April meeting is one week early to accommodate the school musical "The Wizard of Oz" The April meeting will focus on planning for upcoming activities - Fun Day, School Supply orders, Staff Appreciation Luncheon, Grade 5 Luncheon. We are looking for event coordinators to assist with these year-end activities.

Program Reports

- Class Reps, Child Alert, Lice Check, Earthquake Kits, Fruit & Veggie program – no reports

Old / New Business

- Fundraising opportunities – Western Speedway – *Corwin* – still waiting to hear. There has been a change in the operations management at Western Speedway, which is delaying a decision somewhat. Corwin has requested fundraising tickets for Pirate Princess Night, and Superhero Night.
- School Grant Coordinator – Diana Moffat has agreed to take on this position, and has already pulled together a great deal of information about available grants. She will be invited to next PAC Executive Meeting to help establish a process for sharing information and making applications. We are thrilled to have someone keen to take on this very important function!

Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday April 13, 2016 at 6:30PM – Please note this meeting is the second week of April, one week earlier than usual. This is because of the school musical.

PAC Happenings for March/April

- Spirit Day Qoola on Hat Day – Friday, March 4th

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- Lice Check – April 1st (no joke!)
- Mother's Day Baskets – April 4-15. Watch for order forms before Spring Break