

**Strawberry Vale Elementary PAC**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, October 11th, 2023 @ 6:30pm**



**1. Call to Order**

- 1.1. Territorial Acknowledgement
- 1.2. Welcome / Introductions
  - Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm
  - Attendees: Scott Thomas, Christine Patterson, Sam Jassal, Andrew Balo, Melanie Styles, Chantelle Bowden, Danielle Grbavac, Jack Buchanan, Tanya Strubin, Nadia Hobbs Garmen, Astrid Loucks, Lauren Lemieux, Maria-Jose Pria
- 1.3. Approval of minutes: September 2023
  - MA: Chantelle; Seconded: Danielle
- 1.4. Approval of agenda: September 2023
  - MA: Andrew; Seconded: Chantelle

**2. Guest Spotlight**

N/A

**3. Teacher's Spotlight**

N/A

**4. Admin Report**

**Scott Thomas / Christine Patterson**

- There are now 278 students enrolled in SVE spread across 13 divisions.
- Division 3 (grade ½) welcomed A. Lyner as a teaching partner to K. Brookes.
- K. Brookes will be teaching environmental education on Tuesdays for all divisions. Divisions will be split into two groups with one group receiving environmental ed from now until February and the other group receiving environmental ed from February to June.
- Four new EA's have accepted permanent positions with the school.
- There are a total of 40 staff members at SVE this year.
- Staff had a very productive Pro D day back in September. There was a lot of discussion around the new school goal with regards to wording. For example, what does cultural inclusivity mean to the staff and school? Another discussion point was how to ensure that all students at SVE are seen and heard.
- School activities have started and include:
  - Choir with Mr. Martin and Ms. Parlee - 70 students in grades 3-5;
  - Cross Country - 55 students in grades 3-5 with 35 racing;
  - Soccer - grade 4-5 (co-ed); and,
  - Strings - 21 grade 5's
- Scott provided an overview of the history of strings within the school.
- Admin is working on having some activities over the lunch hour for the younger grades.
- Scott provided an indepth look at the new grading system that will be implemented across BC for K-9 students. As a summary, K-9 students will no longer receive letter grades but will be graded using a proficiency scale. Scott will be sending emails to families with more information as we get closer to report card time.

**5. Executive Update**

**Sam Jassal / Chantelle Bowden**

- One item was added to October's agenda under section 9: Movie Nights (section 9.7) (*agenda has been updated*)

**6. Treasurer's Report**

**Andrew Balo**

- 6.1. 2022/2023 Financial Overview Update
  - Two cheques issued for expenses for the welcome back BBQ. Apart from this, no change since last meeting.
- 6.2. Vote on proposed 2023/2024 budget
  - Budget approved by unanimous vote.
- 6.3. 2023/2024 Gaming Grant Update
  - \$5,000 was given to SVE.
  - Reconciliation of last year's gaming grant will be submitted by the end of October.
- 6.4. Update on fundraising committee

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- Fundraising committee members: Andrew Balo, Chantelle Bowden, Astrid Loucks, Lauren Lemieux, Danielle Grbavac
- First meeting: Tuesday, October 17th in SVE music room at 6:30pm.

**7. Funding Requests**

7.1. Discuss options to revitalize the garden and pond.

- Postponed until November meeting.

**8. PAC Programs, Events, Fundraisers (updates / feedback / action items)**

<b>8.1. FaceBook</b>	Jasmine Jassal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Posts can be made on Facebook and will either be approved or denied by Jasmine Jassal. Please email Jasmine directly for anything related to Facebook (<i>her email can be given by emailing the PAC</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>8.2. Parent Education</b>	Tanya Strubin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Results from survey that was sent out to families on September 29th and October 6th: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 13 responses;</li> <li>○ in person or zoom was preferred presentation style;</li> <li>○ topics that are of interest are neurodiversity, inclusion, parenting, sexual health for parents of kids of all ages, stranger danger/ body awareness;</li> <li>○ two people provided emails wanting to help organize these events.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Lots of discussion around how we want to proceed with organizing talks around the topics listed above.</li> <li>● First PE event tentatively scheduled for the beginning of December.</li> <li>● Tanya to reach out to contacts around the neurodiversity topic and report back at the next meeting.</li> <li>● Andrew to submit the application for the PE fund (due by November 3rd).</li> <li>● Home Alone Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tanya reached out to Dirk Popen from First Aid Near Me out of Eagle Creek. Presentation style will be games, handouts, group work and more participatory activities.</li> <li>○ Tanya to provide Dirk with final number of students to determine group size and cost. Tanya will also look into references and reviews of this company and report back at the next meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>8.3. Fun Lunches</b>	Melanie Styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● First fun lunch (pizza) scheduled for Friday, November 24th.</li> <li>● Melanie updated the group with the increase in cost per pizza from \$13 to \$14. The group was ok to proceed.</li> </ul>
<b>8.4 Community Value Books</b>	Chantelle Bowden/ Melanie Styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Coupon books sent home with students on October 5th with corresponding emails from admin and the PAC.</li> <li>● As of October 11th, 32 books were purchased for a total profit of \$414.40 (SVE receives \$12.95 per book).</li> <li>● Fundraiser closes on October 19th.</li> <li>● Fundraiser will be closed out financially on November 2nd.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>8.5 Art Cards</b></p>	<p>Danielle Grbavac</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next step is registering SVE to guarantee delivery of supplies.</li> <li>• Scott presented Art Cards to staff and it was well received.</li> <li>• Danielle informed the group that she got the go ahead from the PAC executive for the \$0.75 administration fee/ student for the art cards, as well as, covering the shipping costs if we decide not to go ahead with Art Cards this year.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.6 Monster Ball</b></p>	<p>Nadia Hobbs Garmen/ Chantelle Bowden</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduled for <b>Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup></b> from <b>6-8pm</b> with doors opening at <b>5:45pm</b></li> <li>• A suggested donation of \$2 or a non-perishable food item will be collected at the door. All donations will be given to a local food bank.</li> <li>• A SignUp Genius has been created.</li> <li>• Updated posters have been created.</li> <li>• Spider guess ballots created and given to Jeni in the office.</li> <li>• DJ is confirmed. The group voted yes to the new neon and black lights that our DJ offered to us at no cost.</li> <li>• Pizza from Ali Baba confirmed.</li> <li>• Floor plan for the Monster Ball will be the same as last year. A new volunteer position was added to help guide traffic and line ups at the pizza station.</li> <li>• Decorating the gym will start at 12pm on the 27th.</li> <li>• Students will be making decorations.</li> <li>• No balloon arch will be set up this year.</li> <li>• Concession prices will be the same as last year.</li> <li>• Prizes are being finalized. Donations are being asked for first before purchasing from places like the recreation centers, flying squirrel, etc. There will be 3 contests at the Monster Ball and winners of those will also be given a prize.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.7 Book Fair</b></p>	<p>Laura Bey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Scholastic book fair is scheduled for <b>November 6-8th</b> (Monday to Wednesday).</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.8 Purdy's Fundraiser</b></p>	<p>Melanie Styles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundraiser will open November 1st and close November 24th.</li> <li>• Chocolate to be delivered to the school by Friday, December 8th.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.9 Wild &amp; Free Organics</b></p>	<p>Chantelle Bowden</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postponed until the spring.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.10 Toy Drive</b></p>	<p>Chantelle Bowden</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduled for <b>Thursday, December 14th</b> during school hours.</li> <li>• Students are asked to donate gently used toys and sell them for \$2. Students will be asked to bring in a toonie. The students can then shop around the school and buy something with their toonie. Any left over toys will be donated. No student will be denied this experience so toonies will be supplied to those who need it.</li> <li>• Each division will have a chance to "shop" around the</li> </ul>

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		<p>school during the day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteers will be needed to help set up toys, rotate toys throughout the day, and clean up.</li> <li>Grade 5's may be able to help with taking money.</li> <li>Additional details will be given at the November meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>8.11 Island Sexual Health Programs</b>	Robyn Heisch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 4 &amp; 5 maturation sessions booked for February 1st &amp; 2nd, 2024.</li> <li>No other updates.</li> <li>Item closed.</li> </ul>
<b>8.12 Epicure Fundraiser</b>	Astrid Loucks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Astrid presented this as another fundraising opportunity for SVE. Epicure is a meal planning program where families can purchase weekday meals that are affordable, promote healthy eating and cooking as a family. Cost is \$25 per kit. SVE would see a profit of \$10 per kit sold. This will be discussed further at the fundraising committee meeting on October 17th.</li> </ul>

**9. Old / New Business**

<b>9.1. Buddy Benches</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates since last meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>9.2. Bike Racks</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates since last meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>9.3 School Sign</b>	Chantelle Bowden/ Melanie Styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pole and letters will be purchased from Amazon (Chantelle).</li> <li>Houston Signs was contacted but a quote was not received by the time of the meeting. An update will be given at the November meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>9.4 Playground Replacements</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion around a 'Communication For Everyone' sign that has been seen at other elementary schools.</li> <li>Scott to look into this and report back at the November meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>9.5 Swimming/ Other</b>	Astrid Loucks / All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Astrid contacted both Commonwealth and Esquimalt Rec Centres. Based on the information provided, it would be more cost effective to go with Commonwealth Pool as it would be less than \$2/ child..</li> <li>Saanich and SD61 have a Joint Youth Agreement which means schools pay per lifeguard needed versus per child, which reduces overall cost</li> <li>Cost breakdown is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One class, 20-25 kids: \$25 (not available Tuesday and Wednesday mornings)</li> <li>Multiple classes, 50-75 kids: \$92 (can accommodate up to 100 kids; available Thursday afternoons 12:30 pm and onwards)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The waterslide would not be available as its undergoing repair.</li> <li>● Students 8 years old and older do not need an adult in the pool with them. Discussion around how this would work logistically for students who are under 8 years old. Perhaps this is something offered to the older grades? Astrid to contact Commonwealth and find out more about this point.</li> <li>● Commonwealth also offers swimming lessons to schools. Lots of discussion around this point given that many families are struggling to get their children into swim lessons. Astrid to find out more information and report back at November’s meeting.</li> <li>● It was decided that swimming will be an activity to look into for the new year.</li> <li>● As for other activities, Scott mentioned that a bike safety and riding program will be coming back in April at no cost to the school.</li> <li>● Lots of discussion around bringing tennis back and also activities for each grade.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9.6 Yearbooks</b></p>	<p>Scott Thomas / Laura Bey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scott is still working on the privacy piece.</li> <li>● More details will be provided at November’s meeting</li> </ul>
<p><b>9.7 Movie Nights</b></p>	<p>Raven Yager</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● December 1st - movie night for K-grade 2</li> <li>● March 1st - movie night for grades 3-5</li> <li>● Melanie to contact Raven.</li> <li>● Additional details will be provided at November’s meeting.</li> </ul>

**10. Next PAC Meeting**  
 Wednesday, November 8th at 6:30 pm.