

Strawberry Vale Elementary PAC
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 8th, 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, , Kiersten Brooks, Sam Jassal, Andrew Balo, Melanie Styles, Chantelle Bowden, Danielle Grbavac, Tanya Strubin, Nadia Hobbs Garmen, Lauren Lemieux, Laura Bey, Raven Yager
- 1.3. Approval of minutes: October 2023
 - MA: Chantelle; Seconded: Nadia
- 1.4. Approval of agenda: November 2023
 - MA: Chantelle; Seconded: Laura

2. Guest Spotlight

N/A

3. Teacher's Spotlight

Kiersten Brooks

- Kiersten's presentation included providing an overview of the environmental education program that half of the divisions at SVE are currently receiving. The other half of the divisions will receive this education starting February 1st. Activities include free play and body movement activities, learning about invasive species, plant identification, pulling weeds, food foraging information, planting, and also learning the value of hard work. A tree specialist was invited to the school to give a presentation and included the planting of a new Garry Oak sapling.
- The other half of Kiersten's presentation included discussing the current condition of the dock down at the pond. There is some rot and decay that needs to be addressed. To go along with refurbishing the dock, she will be working with the students to create artwork to be the new signage at the pond.
- Other information provided by Kiersten included discussing the agreement between BC Hydro, Saanich, and SD61 with regards to who is responsible for tree maintenance. BC Hydro will be removing a large tree from the front of the school.
- Kiersten asked for PAC support on refurbishing the pond dock. Details of the request are included in Section 7 (Funding Requests).

4. Admin Report

Scott Thomas / Christine Patterson

- Since the last PAC meeting, it has been a challenging time from a staffing perspective. There have been a lot of illnesses which have caused staff shortages especially with the EAs.
- School activities that have wrapped up include:
 - Cross Country - 49 students across grades 3-5 raced. Jade Simpson was the city champion!
 - Soccer Gamboree for the grade 4 and 5's was a success.
- New and ongoing school activities include:
 - Choir - grades 3-5 students;
 - Strings - grade 5;
 - Rainbow Club (grades 3-5) - This club meets every 2nd Tuesday. The focus is to promote inclusivity and kindness at school.
 - Basketball will be coming for all the grades. The schedules are in the process of being finalized.
- There will be a school-wide musical happening in April. This will be the first one since the pandemic.
- With term 1 coming to a close next month, the teachers are gearing up for using the new reporting system and information to families around this topic will be sent out later in November.
- A discussion was had around if the PAC meetings are an appropriate forum to discuss social issues around the school. It was agreed that parents are free to come to the PAC meetings and bring up concerns they have but if there are child specific issues, those need to be directed to Scott outside these meetings.
- A discussion was also had around bringing back the grade 5 leadership roles such as crossing guards. With staff shortages, some of these roles can't be fulfilled. It is something that the school would like to bring back but logistics are making it challenging right now.

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5. Executive Update

Sam Jassal / Chantelle Bowden

- None at this time.

6. Treasurer's Report

Andrew Balo

6.1. 2023/2024 Financial Overview Update

- Cheques issued for expenses for the monster ball and to pay the coupon book fundraising company. Apart from this, no change since last meeting.

6.2. 2023/2024 Gaming Grant Update

- \$5,000 was given to SVE.
- Reconciliation of last year's gaming grant was submitted.

6.3. Fundraiser Financial Update: Monster Ball, Book Fair, Community Value Books

- Monster Ball - profit of \$360. This was down from last year which could be attributed to higher expenses, more food donations instead of monetary donations, and lower attendance.
- Book Fair - Please refer to section 8.7.
- Community Value Books - profit of \$3,237.50 (250 books sold with \$12.95/ book going to the PAC).

6.4. Discuss outcome of fundraising committee meeting that took place on October 17th

- An outline of all the events/ programs that we currently run at SVE was developed.
- New events/ programs that were discussed included:
 - Bottle Drive (Laura Bey to research);
 - Drop-in swimming for grades 3-5 (Astrid to provide more detail in January)
 - School-wide Fun Day in June, i.e., beach day
 - Generation Pound Fitness to more of the classes. Currently, this is being offered to Mrs. Cech's grade 3 class. Cost is \$50/class.
 - Tennis (spring)
 - Epicure (spring)

7. Funding Requests

7.1. Discuss options to revitalize the garden and pond.

- Kiersten Brooks requested PAC support to purchase lumber for dock upgrades, labor that may be required, and printing of students' artwork from Island Blueprints.
- A quote for lumber and printing of the artwork to be discussed at the January meeting.

7.2. Exploring the Salish Sea Classroom Program

- Christine Patterson requested \$2,200 for the grade 5 students to take part in the Exploring the Salish Sea program. This program is offered through Eagle Wing Tours and includes an in class session, a 2-hour boat ride to Race Rocks, and an art project afterwards. This is a highly accredited program and something that students can look forward to in their grade 5 year.
 - MA: Andrew; Seconded: Sam
 - All in Favor: Unanimous yes

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

8.1. FaceBook	Jasmine Jassal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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>). ● Discussion around if SVE's social media outlets can be used for private advertising such as out of school care. It was a unanimous 'no' for offering private advertising as it shows unintentional PAC endorsement. ● With respect to out of school care specifically, it was decided to inform Lindsay from SVE's out of school care about other options for families that she can pass along. Melanie to connect with Lindsay on this.
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<p>8.2. Parent Education</p>	<p>Tanya Strubin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was decided not to hold a PE event in December given that people are gearing up for the holidays. • Mary Klovance, founder of the Neurodiversity Family Program, was contacted to do a presentation on neurodiversity in January. Tanya will connect with Mary around her availability for January. • Tanya is also in contact with other local elementary schools about joining in on a presentation to be given by QMUNITY in the new year. Tanya to provide more details in January. • The application for the PE fund was submitted by the deadline. • Home Alone Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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. ○ First Aid Near me is an accredited organization with positive reviews. Dirk is offering the program to the 40 grade 4 students at a cost of \$39/student. Session would be 3.5 hours long with the presentation divided into 2 groups (20 students/session). ○ Currently, the PAC has \$1000 earmarked for this program. A motion was put forth to spend \$600 more to offer this program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MA: Sam; Seconded: Raven. ■ All in favor: unanimous yes.
<p>8.3. Fun Lunches</p>	<p>Melanie Styles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First fun lunch (pizza) scheduled for Friday, November 24th. • Online ordering went live on November 6th and will close on November 16th.
<p>8.4 Community Value Books</p>	<p>Melanie Styles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraiser closed on November 3rd. • Item closed.
<p>8.5 Art Cards</p>	<p>Danielle Grbavac</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplies were ordered and have been shipped to the school. • Discussion around if trying to do this project this year could work. It was decided that given its already mid-November, it would be too rushed to try and get the artwork submitted in time for the holidays. • Danielle to confirm with Art Cards if we can store the materials until September 2024. • Danielle also corrected a point about shipping costs. It is the responsibility of SVE to ship the completed artwork to Art Cards for them to process.
<p>8.6 Book Fair</p>	<p>Laura Bey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Profit of ~\$4,000 with 40% going to the library. • Next book fair is scheduled for the spring and will be with Russell's Books. • Item closed until the new year.
<p>8.7 Purdy's Fundraiser</p>	<p>Melanie Styles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraiser went live on October 27th and will close on November 24th.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chocolate to be delivered to the school by Friday, December 8th.
8.8 Toy Drive	Chantelle Bowden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled for Thursday, December 14th during school hours. Discussion around if the profit from this event can go to SVE families instead of to the community. Mr. Ritchie will be going through any books that are left over for the library. Toys that are purchased will be put into a paper bag with a label with the student's name and division for pick up at the end of the day. Scott confirmed that labels can be printed. Discussion around how many days in advance the toys can be set up and if toys can be stored at the school up until set up. Scott confirmed that the grade 5's can help with set up and during the event. Chantelle and Scott to work together on wording for the weekly email updates.
8.9 Epicure Fundraiser	Astrid Loucks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was discussed at the fundraising meeting on October 17th. Please refer to section 6.4.

9. Old / New Business

9.1. Buddy Benches	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates since last meeting.
9.2. Bike Racks	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates since last meeting.
9.3 School Sign	Melanie Styles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quote for sign refurbishment: \$1350 + tax Quote for Letters: \$895 + tax Quote for the pole: \$125 + tax It was decided to go ahead with sign refurbishment first and then decide on letters and the pole at a later date. Melanie to connect with Houston Signs around timing.
9.4 Playground Replacements	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates since last meeting.
9.5 Swimming/ Other	Astrid Loucks / All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item was discussed at the fundraiser committee meeting on October 17th. For details, please refer to section 6.4.
9.6 Yearbooks	Scott Thomas / Laura Bey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using photos for the yearbooks falls under the privacy form completed by parents online. Laura discussed the results of her research. Edge Imaging offers a soft covered yearbook with 24 pages that would cost \$14.99 per book. The school would

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		<p>have to purchase a minimum of 75 books. The company will autofill each student's individual picture. Other photos would need to be added by the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More information to be provided at January's meeting.
9.7 Movie Nights	Raven Yager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• December 1st - movie night for K-grade 2. Doors will open at 5pm. Movie to start at 5:30.• Raven to send Scott movie options. Scott will pool the K-grade 2 students to decide on the movie.• Melanie to contact Pizzaz Pizza for the event.• Raven will update the signup genius.• Collection of prizes is underway.

- 10. Next PAC Meeting**
Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30 pm.