

PAC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 8th February, 2018

1. Introduction and Welcome – Kimberley Rogers

Attendees: Kimberley Rogers, Kristin Semmens, Julie McCracken, Joanne Gemmill, Kim Smit, Anne Grimm, Ken Andrews, Deidre Murphy, Paula Marchese, Tonya, Rebecca, Mercedes Calvert, Kathryn Robertson, Hazel Currie

2. Vacant Positions – Kristin Semmens/Kimberley Rogers

Joanne is now filling the Secretary role. With grade 8 parents leaving the school in June, there are upcoming PAC vacancies: Fun Foods coordinator and ideally someone to spearhead the playground work. We have about \$30k right now which, with additional funds in September from Fun Foods and the voluntary donation, we should have enough to install a large piece of equipment such as a net climber. We're looking for a member of the school community to do research, selection, etc. for the final piece (ideally a grade 6 or 7 parent so they are at the school for another year or two). Boulder seating is finished as are swings, surf board and log star.

3. Update from Administration – Ken Andrews

- There seems to be the feeling that there's no space for out-of-catchment families at MMS but that's not the case. Families should definitely still apply for September. The current grade 6 class is unusually large but upcoming grades are average size;
- Net climber may be \$50-80k installed. He would love to see it installed while Kimberley is still at MMS because she has been such an integral part of the whole playground project. There is still a fair bit of fundraising to do to get all the money ahead. The log star that has been built is lacking: it is neither a great seating area nor a great play area. We had envisioned a log circle so maybe it can be built into a log circle at a fairly minimal charge?
- When you walk through the main doors, there is an athletic legacy tree. The last date on it is 2008. 2 people have recently asked what the amount is to get their name on it. He has to give some thought to it. He doesn't want it to interfere with main fundraising but maybe it could be put out to grade 8 families in May/June that they might want to consider donating and get their family name on it;
- In the years to come after the playground fundraising is complete, the MPR could use more money invested to set it up – lighting, sound, curtain, etc.;
- We have a new school focus – social/emotional development – resiliency of students. We got a grant from SD61 for teachers to go to a conference in Vancouver on the next Pro D. We think there's going to be support for this team to present at May Pro D.
- Pink shirt day is Feb 28 and we're trying to bring it back to its origins. It is being run by the Youth Creating Inclusion Club. We're bringing in an outside speaker and students will be speaking about their experiences. Dance club will do a performance;

- Existing MMS video to song “Happy” needs to be updated. Ideas need to be brought forward for the new version;
- We are the first middle school to do an emergency reunification drill. Marketa Lund from SD61 is heading it up on Tuesday, May 29, for 1-1 1/2 hours to practice notifying parents, etc. She’ll speak to staff at May 9 staff meeting and they will be assigned roles in advance of the drill, taking into account whether they have young families, live nearby, etc. There will be a parent education meeting beforehand (maybe at the AGM May 10?). Emergency kits will be available to buy at that meeting as a fundraiser;
- Ken wanted input about traffic safety on Monterey. Parents aren’t driving following signage. A neighbour wrote a nasty email to him about school parents driving badly on Monterey but he was able to provide a copy of the email he’s sent to parents asking that they follow northbound Monterey, southbound Oliver directions to help traffic flow. Should MMS pursue suggestion about making Monterey northbound only? Would have to get neighbours’ input, go to council, police input, etc. It was decided by those at this PAC meeting that it isn’t the school’s responsibility to pursue changes to Monterey Ave. Perhaps leaflets can be made up about people not parking in “rush hour” in drive through, people not stopping on Monterey to let kids out of the car and not turning left into and out of the drive through. Maybe speak to Const. Leuder about having more of a presence on Monterey;
- Cybersafety – Darren Laur was at MMS a couple of weeks ago presenting to grade 7s and 8s. Parents and teachers have mixed feelings about his presentation style but it does fulfill what SD61 is trying to roll out about digital safety. Some teachers incorporate safety information in class and don’t approve of him. Feedback from students was positive. Might want to get Dr. Mohapel to speak about digital distraction and Darren Laur to speak about online safety, etc.

4. Technology at Monterey – Kimberley/Kristin

The new cell phone policy has been very successful. There was talk at the last PAC Exec meeting about usage on rain days. Ken said that there are different levels of enforcement by EAs. Kids are allowed on phones before and after school. If it is a rain day (8-12 days/year) kids are allowed in the school early and can use their devices until the bell rings. Some EAs were allowing kids to use their phones and some weren’t. At lunch, depending on the EA in the classroom, sometimes kids are able to use their device and sometimes not. This may depend on whether the EA is one-on-one with a student or if they are a class monitor. It was decided by staff/administration that it should be up to each teacher whether the devices are used at lunchtime and usually the teacher will stay in the classroom to monitor. The program has been so successful we don’t want to get sloppy and the program falls apart.

5. **Committee and Program Updates**

- Speakers – Kimberley Rogers
 - Successful year for speakers. Maybe Const Leuder for the April 12 PAC meeting. He did a great talk last year about substance abuse. It was suggested that it would be useful for kids to learn strategies for dealing with drug pressures at high school. Possibly have him speak to grade 8s;
- **MMPA & Staff Appreciation Lunch – Kimberly Smit**
 - Staff appreciation lunch Feb 14. Lots of donations already signed up for. Unfortunately, 4 teachers are missing it due to prior commitments. Leftovers will be at the staff meeting that afternoon;
 - Purdy's fundraising for Easter - Chocolate pick-up will be at the March 7 concert;
 - April 25-27 is band trip to Whistler;
 - May 16 Musical Desserts Night

6. **PAC Food Shack at YE Marketplace March 14th – Julie McCracken**

Julie has volunteered to run a fundraiser the night of the grade 6 YE Marketplace. She approached a number of local businesses. She can pre-sell pizza and Subway through Munch a Lunch. Pizza will be available at the Marketplace as well as doughnuts and Lollipops from Sweet Delights. Will talk to Kristin/Kimberley about last year's sales.

7. **New Business**

We got a letter from George Jay to the PAC thanking the school for supporting a number of their school families with the holiday hampers.

8. **Next Meeting – Thursday, April 12th, 7:00pm**