

**Lord Kitchener Elementary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Wed., Oct. 19, 2016
7pm - Library
Minutes**

1. Welcome and call meeting to order by Simon – 7:05pm
 - Fewer parents in attendance due to Byng Arts Mini School presentation and US presidential debate
2. Approval of September Minutes
 - Consent approval
3. **Reports and Updates**
 - a) Principal's and Vice-Principal's Report, Catherine Feniak and Ankie Carswell
 - Music
 - Met with 2 music teachers: Ms. Akita & Ms. Der
 - Starting in Dec 13-15 school will host annual sing-along 9-9:30 am, student-led (buddy classes lead)
 - Neither music teacher feeling strongly about musical (strength, ability to plan); proposed 2 different variety shows, primary & intermediate (singing, recorder, ukelele) + Strings Club -- late May/early June
 - Starting Jan. --lunch Strings Club for gr. 6 & 7 , school has violins & few cellos (not sure about violas) available
 - Next year, start new group for Strings (1 advanced, gr. 7s + 1 “learning”)
 - Suggestion: hire a drama coach to put on a production (both music teachers would support)--possible to hire Ms. Coulter?
 - Wishlist
 - Met with members of committee (Mr. Bruschart, Ms. Teschner, Mr. Raikes, Ms. Feniak)--total \$24,000--everyone gets 4 dots, prioritize items; will sit down with Julie to finalize
 - VSB News
 - Not much has been said to administration (meeting cancelled today), hoping next month or so will get more clarity
 - Dianne Turner has been appointed the trustee (prior Vancouver teacher, secondary administrator) for min 12 months, hoping to bring stability to VSB--1 Official Trustee
 - Day to day, minimal impact in the schools (Catherine & Ankie still reporting to Director of Instruction)
 - Other
 - Earthquake drill tomorrow 10:20 (cover and hold drill)
 - Soccer teams doing well--finals for Jr girls, Sr boys and Sr girls
 - Cross country meet tomorrow
 - 1 student entered contest w Family Channel and won (topic: what school is doing for anti-bullying)--so Family Channel is coming for anti-bullying rally--yellow consent forms went home. Oct 27 afternoon, every child will have tshirt, anti-bullying booklet

- The whole week of Oct 24, there will be events: antibullying rally, Spirit Day, School Code of Conduct...
 - Clown-specific threats and safety form went home last week--parents' suggestions that communication should include some tips for how to deal with scary clowns, helpful language...Catherine will give feedback to Director of Instruction; trying to sensitize parents at home about issue
 - Halloween costumes: no weapons, no scary clowns...
 - K registration starts Nov. 1
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- Water fountain
 - Plumbing done, but now working on electricity... installation v. soon
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- Robotics club
 - Suggestion from parents, Darren volunteered to help
- b) Update on Direct Appeal, Joyce
- Hopefully will end Oct. 25
 - So far, we've raised close to \$20,000 with another week to go
 - In the past, we usually raise ~\$27,000
 - This year a bit slower than past years, Joyce will send another reminder on Monday
 - Remember to get translation for reminders
- c) Parent Education, Lisa
- Successful Screenagers showing (~200 people)--60 Kitchener, 82 PW, 44 general admission, + 15 door sales
 - Sold tickets \$5 for Kitchener parents & kids, \$10 general admission
 - Cost of \$650 US to show + \$50 for shipping; tickets covered the price
 - Made \$100 from the whole showing (after accounting for \$500 budget approved last year)
 - Next up: hoping to coordinate something about *Sexual Health, Saleema Noon*
 - Different packages available (depending on how to separate students; more specific groups, more expensive) -- parents session separate from kids
 - We will use Eventbrite again, would parents be willing to pay \$5? Consensus seems to be yes
 - Lisa will look into and try to book (most likely after Christmas)
 - Parent Ed budget is \$1,000 this year
- d) Scholastic, Linda
- Craft & Caroling Fair Wed. Dec. 7; Book fair will happen that week, Dec. 6 - 9 with evening of Craft Fair open for Book Fair
 - Craft & Caroling night Dec. 7: 3 options for the caroling portion--1 of music teachers take on, 1 of parents to lead, or hire Ms. Coulter to come back?
 - Annie has some interest in helping, maybe coordinating with a teacher
 - Student Music Club?
 - Catherine will talk to the teachers and get back to PAC
- e) Wishlist, Julie
- Requests from teachers \$24,000
 - Requests from parents include music & drama coach, Robotics club (incl Lego for school)

- Within next few weeks, will have items down...direct appeal funds to apply--report at next meeting
 - Process has evolved over past few years, now is more formal itemized priority lists and more teacher input (prior, PAC decided)
- f) Playground equipment
- breaking down at a fast rate, starting to show age, wear and tear...we're fine but definitely will be an expense sooner than later
 - There are some parents who volunteered for playground committee.
 - We have a playground contingency fund
- g) Outdoor classroom, Krista (away, but she sent the update via email):
- Fresh To You Fundraiser
 - Tomorrow is the last day to get forms in for the Fresh To you Fundraiser. Green forms were sent home last week offering two bundles of produce to purchase.
 - Bundles will be delivered mid-November, a date to be set by BC Agriculture in the Classroom. 40% of the proceeds from the sale of the bundles are given to the PAC.
 - EarthBites
 - Grade 6/7's have been busy building Hoop houses in the garden. It has been gratifying to watch students use power tools for the first time and to be so proud of what they have built. Take a look in the garden to see the mini houses and see the "greenhouse effect" in action.
 - Thank you to parent volunteers who have helped with the weekly pocket markets. We have been holding weekly markets, selling produce, crafts and snacks. Proceeds from the markets purchase workshop snack supplies, seeds and soil.
 - Look for a table at the Craft Fair to purchase candles, dream catchers, salves and more.
- h) Walk n Roll, Wendy
- Promote mobility, walking/wheeling to school
 - We have done most of the recommended programs/tips over past 4 years
 - In the past, Wendy has secured donations and sponsors...so it hasn't been expensive venture for the school. However, tepid for HUB (Wendy doesn't feel very strongly about them).
 - Appetite in the staff to drive this again
 - Proposing to tie in with Sustainability--Lord Kitchener walks the globe, around the world calculating miles ...Walk n Wheel the Globe event near the end of the year
 - Need more parent volunteers and help
 - West Point Cycles v. generous, need a little bit of budget for prizes at the end (~\$300 for end of year celebration)
 - Primary Bike Rodeo, Wendy will hand over
 - Intermediate: Biking for Fitness + spin workout for Gr. 6 & 7 (will need some contribution from families)
- i) Signup form for emails will go out in next Hot Sheet
- Is Class List valuable to parents?
- Many classes have their own lists, Class Parents usually have all emails

- Benefits seem to be for parents in lower grades
- k) Sister school, Kira
- Intention to hold annual winter coat and boot drive 1st week of Nov.
 - New principal at Thunderbird, Catherine has been in touch with her
 - Usually coat drive gets lots of small sizes
 - Reached out to Linda Fong, PAC chair at PW to see if we could partner with them (to get more larger clothes)
 - Christmas hampers (kids in classrooms put together) worked well last year, will continue this year
4. Next Meeting Nov. 16
- Will include Guest speaker, principal at PW, Dave Derpak
 - Encourage parents gr 5 - 7 to come, not limited to those in PW catchment
 - Process of going to high school, de-stress process
5. Meeting Adjourned at 8:13 pm