

MEETING MINUTES

SOUTH RUTLAND ELEMENTARY PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, September 15th, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Amanda Lucas, SRE PAC President

ATTENDANCE

Mark Watson Amanda Steen Megan MacDonald Judi Geib Mary Hutson-McBride
Amanda Lucas - President & Signing Authority
Lorna Campbell - Vice-President & Signing Authority
Sally McLaren - Secretary & Signing Authority
Corinne Herman - Treasurer
Amanda Kraft - CO-PAC Representative

AGENDA APPROVAL

Cori H. made the motion to adopt the agenda. Lorna C. seconded.

Motion carried by majority vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lorna C. made the motion to approve the June 2nd, 2022 minutes. Amanda K. seconded.

Motion carried by majority vote.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: MARK WATSON

School Photos: School Photos were taken on September 14th. A date for retakes will be confirmed soon.

New Furniture and White Boards: Summer additions included new tables for Room 7 and white boards replacing chalk boards in rooms 15 and 8

Health and Safety

- Daily Health checks
- Frequent handwashing
- Limited guests in the building
- Enhanced cleaning protocols
- Most importantly staying home if feeling sick

Enrollment: Our school enrollment is at approximately 200 students. This is slightly below our projections but similar to where we finished last June.

Terry Fox: Our Terry Fox Run is scheduled for Friday, September 23rd. Thank you to our Grade 3 classes for leading the organization of this event

Field Trips: Staff are excited to start planning field trips and are appreciative of the support of PAC.

Fruit and Vegetable Program: Thank you to Julie for keeping our Fruit and Vegetable running through a pandemic. Our first delivery this year may be delayed due to the day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II.

Staffing: Introducing our team of educators for 2022/2023

- Kindergarten Mrs. Gunn
- Kindergarten Mrs. Hughes
- Grade 1 Miss Kelly
- Grade 1 Miss Stephenson
- Grade 2 Mrs. Deleurme
- Grade 2 Mrs. Koebel
- Grade 3 Mr. Irving
- Grade 3 Mrs. Stober
- Grade 4/5 Mrs. Bergen
- Grade 4/5 Mr. Maxwell (Dionne)
- Grade 4/5 Mr. Rublee
- Mrs. Verhagen - Indigenous Student Advocate
- Ms. Bugera - CEA
- Mrs. Cornett - CEA
- Mrs. Cook - CEA
- Mrs. Blais - CEA
- Mrs. Koppe - CEA
- Mrs. Parker - CEA
- Mrs. Schleppe - CEA
- Mrs. Drummond - CEA
- Mrs. Haas - CEA
- Mr. Petty - CEA
- Mr. Reis - CEA
- Mrs. Tucker - CEA
- Mrs. Renner - CEA
- Mrs. Morris - Teacher-Librarian
- Mrs. Barton - Learning Assistance
- Mr. Tromsness - Music/Drama Teacher
- Mrs. Paley - Strong Start Facilitator
- Mrs. Skelton - Speech & Language
- Ms. Cameron - Resource Teacher
- Ms. Boru - Elementary Counsellor
- TBD - Mental Health Counsellor
- Mrs. Kobryn - Social Emotional Teacher
- Mrs. Droettboom - Support Teacher
- Miss Mills - Library Assistant
- Mrs. Sigler - Administrative

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: AMANDA LUCAS

SRE Fall Play Day has been moved to September 29th, 2022. It will be held in the morning & we still need a few parent volunteers.

Please use the SRE PAC Facebook page for updates regarding the PAC.

October 19th, 2022 - Movie Night: We will be holding our first movie night of the year, the concession will depend on if we have enough volunteers to run it. Our goal is to hold a PAC activity night, once a month.

November 24th, 2022 - Santa Pictures: We are looking into holding a Santa pictures event, 10 minute slots and have crafts ie: Christmas ornaments etc to do.

December 8th, 2022 - PAC Winter Dance: We are hoping to hold a Winter Dance this year, more details to follow.

We have applied for the BC Gaming Grant, we will receive the decision after September 30th, 2022 and we are usually awarded between \$3,500 to \$4,000 based on how many students are in the school.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: LORNA CAMPBELL

Lorna introduced herself & is excited to be on the PAC Executive this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT: CORINNE HERMAN

The SRE PAC bank account balances as of August 31st, 2022 are as follows:

General Account balance is \$10,269.82

Gaming Grant Account balance is \$366.72

Grade 5 account balance is \$55.00

Bookkeeper Update: In previous years we have had a bookkeeper double check the Treasurers work, ie: expenditure forms, cheques written etc with the bank accounts, our bookkeeper has quit. It is up to us if we want to hire another bookkeeper. \$50 a month is what we were paying.

Corinne indicated that she is going to compile a Profit & Loss Statement to show which Fundraisers have been successful etc. Also, a spreadsheet indicating the account bank balances & allocated funds that are to come out, so that we know what we are working with.

Request for Funds: In the past the PAC has provided funds for field trips and the staff would be appreciative if the PAC is able to do that again.

Request for Funds: There were no requests for field trips presented at this meeting.

Regarding Field Trips: In the past there have been dollar limits set between \$200 to \$250 for each class as funds permitted and teachers are made aware that the funds are available.

Mr. Watson's Input: We are seeking some clarification on the recent Ministry of Education announcement regarding the "Student and Family Affordability Fund". At this point we are unsure if the funding could be used towards Field Trips or not.

Amanda K. made a motion to pass a \$250 budget per class for field trips for the 2022/2023 school year, if they are not funded by the "Student and Family Affordability Fund". (\$250 x 11 classes = \$2,750) Judi G. seconded. Motion carried by majority vote.

COPAC REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER: AMANDA KRAFT

The COPAC meetings happen the first Monday of every month and the meetings are still happening via ZOOM this year.

- BCCPAC fees were paid for the year (\$75) - this allows our PAC to be involved at the province level (voting rights, parent education opportunities, webinars and more)
- First meeting was Monday Sept. 12th for COPAC
 - The Minister of Education, has announced a one time "Student and Family Affordability Fund". SD23's share of this fund is \$2,396,709 and the funds must be expended this year.
 - The fund has some very specific items that it can be spent on (see attached *Bulletin*). The intention of the fund is to offset direct costs that parents/guardians experience as a part of participating in schools. This includes school activities fees, school cultural fees, some school program fees (culinary arts, industrial arts, music, and school sports), school supplies that SD23 assesses parents for and some field study costs. The fund sets a priority on supporting families facing financial insecurity as outlined in District Policy 425 and the accompanying Regulation 425R (8. Financial Hardship). The fund cannot be used to reimburse parents for fees already paid.
 - The fund is also meant to expand school meals programs for students living with food insecurity.
 - At this time, until consultations are completed with the Board of Education, the District Parent Advisory Council and the District's Indigenous Education Council, in order to determine the appropriate allocation of this fund, SD23 has suspended charging parents the school fees noted above.
 - SD23 has asked for COPAC for feedback on how these funds might be best utilized and distributed as per the guidelines in the attached Bulletin. What would our parents like to see? (I need to respond by tomorrow)
- Bargaining was brought up briefly - both sides say talks are ongoing and they are hopeful
- District student council is looking for more students in grades 10-12 (if you have older students at home)
- There was talk again that SD23 staff in executive roles in PAC's can be a conflict of interest - looked at on a case by case basis right now if there are problems but something to keep in mind for the future as well. As of right now there is no board policy but it may not stay that way.
- New food guidelines have not been completed for the district yet - follow old guidelines for hot lunches
- Looking at potentially starting a PAC to PAC fund sharing (allows schools in resource rich areas to share with others)
- COPAC is looking for guidance if we have any ideas of what we would like to see happen this school year.

The ideas discussed were inclusion groups ie: PRIDE etc, school fees covered, field trips etc, t-shirts provided for orange, pink, etc days.

FUNDRAISERS:

Created by Kids: Mr. Watson indicated that the staff have requested we not do this fundraiser this year.

Fundscrip: This fundraiser was set up last year, you go online, order gift cards that are sent to your home and a percentage gets sent to the PAC of all gift cards purchased.

Fruit & Veggie Program: Is already set up and the staff are going to pass it out each week.

Kernels Popcorn: The cost is \$1.50 a bag & in the past we have sold it for \$2 a bag. It's an easy fundraiser that the students enjoy.

Other Ideas: Value Village has a fundraising program, you collect used items and they buy them. Seed/plants fundraiser, you do it in the Spring, need to register for it by the end of November. There's also a possibility of partnering with another school for larger volume items.

ORGANIZE COMMITTEES:

Grade 5: We need a parent or two to head up the committee. There have been a few parents interested, unfortunately they weren't present at this meeting. Mr. Watson indicated that he will contact Grade 5 parents when it's time to start planning.

Hot Lunch: We do have volunteers, we would like to have a few more as backup. Hot lunch is starting October 14th, ordering will open 2 weeks before.

Raffle Baskets: We will be putting together for December, we need volunteers to call businesses for donations.

OTHER: There will be childcare provided at every meeting, we need to decide on an amount to pay them. There was also some discussion around what to do with the fridge in the PAC kitchen that isn't working.

NEXT MEETING DATE TO BE CONFIRMED - Tentatively set for October 4th, 2022

Motion to adjourn (8:00 p.m.)

NOTE: It was determined after the meeting that we didn't need a meeting on October 4th and the date was set for October 13th, 2022.