

*We acknowledge that we are on the shared traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples and the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations... and for this we are thankful.*

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*Date:* October 14, 2020

*Location:* Roberts Library

*Time:* 6:30 - 7:40 pm

*Exec attending:* Ian, Lucy, Ryan, Holly, Michelle - *Absent:* Andrea, Leanne, Juciane

\*38-39 attending by zoom

### **Canopies Update**

Ian (chair)

- Last month \$2,600 was approved to use towards purchase of canopies
- Teachers have expressed an interest in outdoor classroom
- School already has 1x 10x10 - need 4 total for a full class
- Retailer info
  - Commercial tents (include tie downs etc.) - \$2,550
  - Plus rain gutters \$225
  - Total with tax - \$3,108

**DISCUSSION** - vote to increase the amount from PAC from \$2,600 to just over \$3,100

- PAC would purchase the canopies and have them delivered and donated to the school
- As property of the school will likely be covered under VSB insurance - Sean will confirm
- School will be responsible for storing the canopies, repairs etc.
- In addition to outdoor education during school time and sports events, PAC would be able to use them for events
- The canopies come with ropes, ties and the feet can be pegged down in gravel or grass
- The funds to pay for them are coming out of PAC budgets - 1 of 3 places depending on how the year goes (1. \$\$ put away in fundraising budget & with covid will not likely need the full amount 2. PAC will continue to do fundraising this year 3. Received DPAC \$1,400 that was unexpected and wasn't in our budget so could use this here)
- Rain can pool on the sides so will need to push water out of the middle - part of the reason for the rain gutters

**MOTION** - INCREASE THE AMOUNT of \$2,600 provided by PAC BY \$550

Ryan made motion

Lucy seconded it

Majority voted - 24 out of 36 participants

**MOTION PASSED**

### **Fundraising**

Holly(fundraising)

- Holiday shopping guide -options have been narrowed down to Purdies, poinsettias, fundscript & online auction
- Dates still being worked out on the website & will likely up next week
- Paper info package coming home next week
- Note: shorter order period (usually 6-8weeks) - this time about 4 weeks
- PAC set the same fundraising goals as last year
- Pickup dates for orders will be the last Wed/Thurs in Nov 2020 as the Fri is Pro D
- Fundsript - ordering gift cards

COBBs - remember to let Robson location know you support LRoberts

### **Direct Appeal**

Ian(chair)/Sean(principal)

- No launch date yet but parents/friends/grandparents can donate at any time through website
- Donations go through the school directly (not PAC)
- 3 year plan - modernize and standardize tools around the school will continue this year with purchase of projectors etc. as parents have indicated #1 priority
- Last year PAC raised \$15,000 and assisted with the installation of 8 interactive projectors in classrooms - grade K & 1
- This year goal \$15,500 - for a further 7-8 classrooms (note: each classroom has different costs associated)
- Sean advises that currently some classes still have nothing but a chalkboard and other classes with a full set up to assist in integrating technology and audio/visual content into lessons
- Opted for interactive projectors over smart boards for longevity and cost effectiveness

### **Division WhatsApp Groups/Reps Update**

Lucy (vice-chair)

- There are division reps in 25 of 27 divisions this year
- Thank you to those who have volunteered and are setting up WhatsApp groups
- Division 1 (grade 7) and Division 18 (grade 2) still need division reps and WhatsApp groups
- Go to Lord Roberts PAC website and into "Community" to find 3 options there 1. division rep 2. class chat and 3. guidelines on how to make the most of being on WhatsApp
- Note: if too many notifications on WhatsApp group simply mute the chat and check when convenient

### **Transport policy**

Lucy (vice-chair)

- See website for updates on this issue
- walking or riding bikes are recommended way to get to/from school as it's safer for kids and less congestion

- if driving - go slow, park a bit a way and walk, do not block driveways or use the school parking lot
- Pendrell is recommended to avoid congestion

## **Advocacy**

Ian (chair)

### **- School name**

- Topic came up at our last PAC exec meeting
- Lord Roberts is a colonial name (Boer War) and it has been discussed that our school name does not reflect our values or our diverse community
- DPAC representative, Leanne, has reached out to school trustees to understand VSB policies about the naming and policies of changing them and has posed 2 questions
  - 1. Will VSB consider changing the names
  - 2. Will VSB commit to creating an action plan in this regard
- Reached out to parent group
  - Vote for "West End Elementary School"
  - Some for it, some concerned with financial as a barrier, some do not want to erase history and concentrate on other issues at hand

### **- Coal Harbour**

- PAC is preparing a letter to City of Vancouver raising concerns about transport routes to/from the new Coal Harbour Elementary School
- Lord Roberts Annex will be demolished, Coal Harbour Elementary to be built (2023-2014) and BC Hydro Sub-station to be built (2023-2031)
- Students at existing Annex will be relocated in the meantime
- Some students at Lord Roberts are already coming from Coal Harbour and transport is not optimal but when Annex closes that many more families will be travelling to Coal Harbour school
- Looking into current routes and what City of Vancouver projects are in the works and what to ask the City of Vancouver to do to assist this potential issue
- Traffic engineering is a different channel at City of Vancouver than the usual involvement of permits so PAC representation is helpful

## **PAC Website & E-mail List**

- budget now up and updated monthly
- Most emails come directly from school but PAC has own mailing list - sign up on site

## **Principals Update**

Sean (principal)

- Lots of staff absences with colds and needing negative results of covid testing in order to return; so far all negative but some have had to wait significant times for results
- Seems Vancouver Coastal Health is trying to rectify this and may be working to get results back sooner for teachers

- Although many people (teachers/support workers) are stepping in to assist, the staffing issue affect special needs students the most especially students who require someone with them all times
- Working to stabilize & trying to have consistent teachers in place
- On Oct 13 25 more kids returned from at home learning and school now has just under 560 students in class and 70 kids still learning at home - anticipating more to return to in class on Nov 9

### **Q&A**

Sean (principal)

Q - if child is wet during recess and not dressed appropriately and call home for pick up; is there a space in class to store extra clothes?

A - some more thought will be given to this issue considering the rules around covid; Sean will talk with the teachers - maybe on the hook or in the cubby; sending students home is rare as there is sometimes alternate clothing available in the office

HOLLY - clothing drive is for this purpose - office has a small storage for these items

Some kids don't have proper raincoats & lots of older kids will not wear proper raincoats

Some kids do stay under the undercover because not all kids are out at the same time

Q - does the school need umbrellas?

A - possibility but maybe covid issue with more than 1 kid sheltering under one umbrella

Q - Actually for teachers and staff!

A - yes!

Q - need volunteers?

A - yes - the week of Nov 23-26 - more info to follow

ADJOURNED at 7:39pm