

Parent Advisory Council Minutes
Laidlaw School
April 24, 2023

Attendance: Heather Eby, Ruth Abreu, Meaghan Jensen, Janelle Penner, Tracy Enns, Laura Speziali, Christine Louizos, Gagan Bageri, Sandeep Kaur Maghera, Jill Correia, ??

Meeting began 7:03

Executive Positions: Chair – Ruth Abreu, Vice Chair – Jill Cesario Correia, Secretary – Janelle Penner & Meaghan Jensen, Treasurer – Tracy Enns, Social Media – Lacey Terwin, Fundraising Coordinator – Laura Speziali & Christine Louizos, Fun Lunch Coordinator – Katie Denis, Pizza Lunch Coordinator – Ashley Abbott, Volunteer Coordinator – Karley David

Vacant Positions: Treasurer (2), Fun Lunch Coordinator (2)

1. Principal's Report – Heather Eby

Discussion/Action Below:

a. School Update:

- i. 279 students – new registrations continue to come in.
- ii. Staffing for FCC, Resource, Music and Art will be posted soon to fill term positions
- iii. Community letter sent out from school announcing the shift to three 7/8 multi age classrooms (instead of one Gr 7 and two Gr 8) for 2023-2024 year

b. March/April Highlights:

- i. Indigenous Student Group continues to meet with our new school Knowledge Keeper, Mahihkan, building on their own understandings of their culture to eventually share with the rest of the school. Focus around mental health and personal well being.
- ii. Momenta Foresthood Program a huge success for K and 1/2 students.
- iii. Badminton tournaments for Gr 7/8 students in April and May. Gr 5/6 badminton intramurals at lunch with Ms. Hiraoka, Ms. McLeod and Ms. Lavoie.
- iv. Apr 11 and 19 Grade 4 students completed the TIMSS Assessment – data is anonymous and helps with decision making regarding curriculum and comparisons amongst provinces.
- v. Apr 14 PD Day for all staff focused on school plan review, use of EAs, school calendar planning, STEM stations and learning. Mental Math PD with divisional math consultants and Cyber Security Awareness certification for EA's.
- vi. 5/6Lavoie's class is involved in a divisional inquiry project with our Indigenous Student Success Teacher Jull Fast, who is collaborating to

learn more about eh Urban Reserve Naawi Oodena that will be developed in the community (old barracks location).

- vii. First lockdown drill and several fire drills to complete before the end of the school year. Lockdown means any unsafe situation in which students need to remain in their classrooms for their safety.
- viii. Monitor arrived for display case upgrade – waiting for glass case to be removed.
- ix. Teacher Idea Fund Application was submitted to Manitoba Education on behalf of the school. The request was to help with the creation of a walking path around the school grounds with a focus on our Circle of Courage, an Indigenous medicine garden and continues support for our Outdoor Education programming. Will be discussed with PEG subcommittee.

c. School Plan:

i. Four school priorities of focus for Plan 2022-2023:

1. Environmental Inquiry – Classes working to get outside as much as possible for wellness or connection to curriculum. Three Grade ½ classes have been involved in the Momenta program – looking to continue the program in 2023-24
2. Authentic STEM based learning experiences – STEM Club competed in the divisional STEM competition where they created self-propelling race cars. Some classes are involved in the “Level Up Winnipeg” Minecraft challenge.
3. Mental Math Skills – PD Day April 14 – afternoon devoted to math learning. Mr. Cameron and Ms. Hiraoka are attending a full day Math workshop with MB ASCD which addresses best practices in MY math and gradeless assessment practices.
4. Collaborative school community (EY to MY cross grade) – Students continue to meet with buddies and have a scheduled period to connect with math games, reading and making personal connections. School wide assembly on April 24 to celebrate school, city spirit for the Jets and Music Monday.

d. Upcoming Events:

- i. May 1-7 Sight Unseen Divisional Art Show (Grant Park 4:30)
- ii. May 9 – Immunization Clinic for Gr. 6-8 (catch up from Covid)
- iii. May 17 – Gr. 4-6 School Track and Field Date (May 19 rain date)
- iv. May 31 – Laidlaw Art and Band Show 6:30p,
- v. May 29 – Next PAC Meeting

e. Questions/Concerns brought forward:

- i. Review of role of PAC for new parents attending meeting

2. Treasurer’s Report – Tracy Enns

- a. \$44,848.00 in PAC Chequing account (this fund can be used for school initiatives funded by PAC such as BBQ, Staff Appreciation, Grade 8 Graduation)

- b. \$14,432 in Lunch Supervision Program account (this fund pays the Lunch Supervisors)
 - c. All parents need to pay all fees (Supervision and Fun Lunch) as soon as possible.
- 3. Vacant PAC Roles 2022/2023 – Ruth Abreu
 - a. Currently looking for individuals willing to support PAC:
 - i. Treasurers (2)
 - ii. Fun Lunch Coordinators (2)
 - b. Interested individuals can email Ruth abreurrc@gmail.com and/or Jill jillcesario@hotmail.com
- 4. Fun Lunch – Ruth Abreu
 - a. Pizza Wednesdays will continue every Wednesday until the end of the year.
 - b. Require two volunteers to run Fun Lunch Program for next year.
 - c. A schedule has been created for Grade 8's to assist with Pizza Wednesdays as money is for their graduation.
 - d. Shortage of Volunteers to provide lunches to classrooms.
 - e. Discussion of limit on Fun Lunch website to ensure parents pay balance in timely manner, with option of not ordering if have not paid.
 - f. Discussion of alternate program next year – use of program such as “Lunch Lady” that provides meals through one source. PLAN: H. Eby to send email to Ruth A
 - g. Discussion to scale back the lunch program to two times per month due to lack of volunteers.
 - h. Suggestion: Ruth A may step down as Chair to be the Lunch Co-ordinator IF there are no other volunteers by the fall.
- 5. Lunch Program – Ruth Abreu
 - a. Program running smoothly
 - b. Email was sent with reminders to parents about paying for the second half of lunch supervision.
- 6. PAC Members – Ruth Abreu
 - a. Consideration of ways to attract new members to PAC
 - b. Suggestion to have PAC booth at BBQ to answer questions families might have
- 7. Fundraising –Laura Speziali
 - a. Discussion of need to tighten up what are fundraising for and how often in September 2023. When know results of Teacher Idea Fund Application can direct fundraising in that area.
 - b. All fundraising discussion will be tabled until further notice.
- 8. School Improvements – Ruth Abreu
 - a. Bee Project Apiaries – Ms. Matthews will follow up with program
 - b. Meaghan J working on options for art in main office area.

- c. Work order completed for basketball nets and possibility of new backboard and metal ring, as appears to be bent.

9. BBQ – Ruth Abreu

- a. Budget approved for \$1500.
- b. Decision made by committee to charge \$5/wristband with most activities included (like previous years)
- c. A “Save the date” email will be sent out to the school community
- d. Looking at Face Painting options – issue with long lineups last year, however prices have increased substantially since. Discussion of face painting vs “Glam” table.
- e. Looking into tables and chairs being provided by Greek church – Christine L following up. (PTSD does not have tables and chairs available) Also encouraged to bring lawn chairs/blankets
- f. Need to make posters (Laura S) and encourage volunteers to sign up to assist with set up and take down.

10. PEG Project – Ruth Abreu

- a. First PEG meeting took place last month and was decided to move forward with the walk/run track around the back of the school.
- b. If accepted for Teacher Idea Fund Application (requested 150k), can add PEG funds to project for completion. Hoping to hear which projects are accepted before end of June.
- c. Architect used to assist with completion of application will also be used for completion of project – H Eby has worked with her previously (different school) and she has received approval from PTSD in past.
- d. PLAN: Sub Committee to meet to learn specifics of proposal

11. Questions/Concerns:

- a. None

12. Meeting adjourned 8:02pm.

13. Next PAC Meeting May 29, 2023 at 7:00pm.