

Parent Advisory Council Minutes
Laidlaw School
May 30, 2023

Attendance: Heather Eby, Ruth Abreu, Meaghan Jensen, Tracy Enns, Laura Speziali, Amy Vokey & Ashley Abbott

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 & 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. 281 students – new registrations continue to come in.
- ii. 4 new staff hired for next year for Grade 5-8 french, Phys Ed (term for Mr Stupak's paternity leave), Art/STEM (term for Ms. Tomczyk Mat leave) and Music (Term for Ms. Dangerfield Mat leave)
- iii. Mr. Cameron & Ms. Lavoie have accepted teaching positions at Shaftesbury for next year

b. April/May Highlights:

- i. Field Trip season is underway. Students are enjoying exploring places such as The Leaf, Fort Whyte Alive and RBC convention Career Days
- ii. School Track & Field Day on May 17thn was a hit with grade 3 students able to participate in the activities
- iii. The staff are being trained on the new monitor & entrance improvement. This will let them play with our Laidlaw TV announcements, scroll photos and share messages to the community more.
- iv. Outdoor Basketball net for grade 7/8 has been purchased and will be installed over the summer
- v. Class creations for next year are complete. We have the same configurations for 2023-24 as we do this year (except for the three 7/8 multiage classrooms). Two 7/8 classes will have the R1 students included (Art/Band options in both classes) with one class of 7/8 with only Laidlaw students that take Art as an option. Teacher remain the same (except will be hiring a new teacher to replace Mr Cameron)

c. School Plan:

We will be continuing with our school priority of "Environmental Inquiry" and "Numeracy- Mental Math".

Next year, there will be a focus on Literacy. This will include a focus on writing for all students and reading interventions for EAL students and struggling readers.

We are considering implementing a new program into the timetable to support belonging and mental health. As modelled at HGI and Charleswood, students participate daily in an interactive/club time for our 1-5 students and allow the grade 7/8 students to be involved in this time of choice/voice/passions/activity. More details to follow.

- d. Upcoming Events:
 - i. May 31 – Laidlaw Art & Band Show 6:30 pm
 - ii. June 7 – Welcome to Kindergarten “Stay & Play” 6:00 pm
 - iii. June 16 – Report card writing day
 - iv. June 19 – “Meet next year’s teacher” for students
 - v. June 21 – National Indigenous People’s Day! LL Schoolwide celebration
 - vi. June 22 – School BBQ 4pm-7pm
 - vii. June 26 – Kindergarten Farewell AM & Picnic (Report Cards go live)
 - viii. June 27 – Grade 8 Farewell @ Lunchtime
 - ix. June 29 – Last day of Classes
 - x. June 30 – Admin/PD day for Teachers
2. Treasurer’s Report – Tracy Enns
 - a. \$41,359.00 in PAC Chequing account (this fund can be used for school initiatives funded by PAC such as BBQ, Staff Appreciation, Grade 8 Graduation)
 - b. \$11,082 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. New platform for Fun Lunch needed. Will discuss in Fall and decide how to move forward.
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. School Improvements –
 - a. Bee Project Apiaries will not be happening this year
 - b. Heather proposed a new screen & projector. Quote from Feb '22 was \$16,000, with everything included (including installation). Heather will get an updated quote for start of next year.
 - c. PAC agreed to order more Balls for classrooms. Order to be placed and have for the month of June.
 - d. Amy & Ashley suggestion of updated our Pinnie's for sports days & gym. Source for Sports suggested as possible supplier. Follow up discussion to happen at start of school year.

7. Grade 8 Grade –
 - a. PAC agreed that going forward we will do a "per head" individual amount rather than one lump sum to make it fair. Suggestion of \$35.00 per person approved by PAC members to cover the celebration. (Decision made a few days after meeting via email to up the amount to \$45.00 per student as requested by Heather to cover everything). Discussion should be had next year about what to do going forward.

8. Questions/Concerns:
 - a. Amy Vokey raised the question about possible sleepaway camp or Ski days for the older grades.

9. Meeting adjourned 8:31pm.