

**École Crescent Park Elementary School -
Parents' Advisory Council Meeting**

Minutes of the meeting on Monday, October 5, 2015

In attendance:

Jackie Vuilleumier	President
Katherine Botelho	Vice-President
Erin Mazza	Co-Treasurer
Laura Langton	Co-Treasurer
Pam Robertson	Secretary
David A'Bear	Principal

Hilary Gottschalk
Catherine Newell
Ally Ulmer
Erica Ansah
Katherine Botelho

Theresa Ackles
Tannis Pratt
Lisa Shao
Jenny Kepler
Tanya Denman

Nichole Gerllays
Jane Gibson
Kathy Matty

Guest: Ms. Beverley Bunker, grade 6/7 teacher at Crescent Park

1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting commenced at 7:05 p.m. and introductions were made around the table.

2. Minutes from the September 2015 meeting

Motion was made by Tannis P. to approve the minutes from the September 2015 meeting, seconded by Jackie V., motion passed.

3. Principal's Report

Class Organization

Classes have now settled, teachers are very busy and well into term 1 work, and we currently sit at 374 students.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to the PAC for hosting the BBQ during Meet the Teacher night. We had a great turnout and every classroom seemed busy.

- In discussion Mr. A'Bear asked if there was any feedback on the night and a few parents commented on how the use of the gym because of the rain was a bit hard to control with all the students in there, so Jackie V. noted that we may want to approach things differently next year (e.g. perhaps think of having food served in the gym).

Mural Project

Jason is just in the process of completing the foyer mural. Last week he ran a workshop for the primary students on colouring and perspective, tying in the mural. He also ran workshops in the intermediate classes on both life drawing and line drawing.

Community Building Field Trip to the Richmond Oval

A huge thank you to PAC for financially supporting the field trip for all students in grades 4 to 7. From the stories I am hearing, there were many new friendships made.

Halloween

I am once again asking for a group of parents to help patrol our school on Halloween night. Having an adult presence at the school really deters unwanted activity. Please contact me at abear_d@surreyschools.ca if you can assist.

New Curriculum and Communicating Student Learning [see notes on the presentation below]

- Where we were
- Where we are currently
- Where we are going

Dates to Remember:

October 7th - Individual Photo Day, Grade 6 Immunizations
October 8th - Andy the Musical Scientist performance at 9:00 a.m. in the gym
October 12th - Thanksgiving Day (school closed)
October 19th - Election Day (Crescent Park is a polling station)
October 22nd - Interim Report Cards sent home
October 23rd - Pro-D (no school for students)
October 30th - Halloween Parade at 9:00 a.m. in the gym

Presentation on the new curriculum by Mr. A'Bear and Ms. Bunker:

Mr. A'Bear talked briefly about the changes coming to the curriculum, with a new focus on how content is approached and how students will be doing more engaging activities over the course of the year. He also noted that the school's wish list for purchases supported by the PAC, to be discussed after our budget approval, would reflect necessary leaps in order for teachers to bring their classrooms up to the levels required. He then showed an engaging video of the TED talk by Sir Ken Robinson entitled "Do Schools Kill Creativity?," which the teachers have also viewed, in order

to clarify for parents the thinking behind the coming changes. (See https://www.ted.com/talks/ken_robinson_says_schools_kill_creativity.)

Ms. Bunker then showed parents examples of how she has been using these new approaches in her classroom and at her previous school. For instance, the use of round tables to facilitate teamwork and allow for a lot more flexibility in the learning space of the classroom. She also spoke about formative assessment, which will be integrated into our school more fully in the coming year and replace the traditional report card approach, and outlined the Principles of Formative Assessment: Learning Intentions, Criteria, Questioning, Descriptive Feedback, and Self and Peer Assessment. This approach to assessment is much more interactive and includes the students in the process, and has proven in recent years to have more value over traditional reporting and grading.

Mr. A'Bear went on to clarify that while the old curriculum was about "summative assessment" - reporting after the fact on what students did during any given term - formative assessment is ongoing and continual, showing what students are doing in their classes as it happens. We will also be seeing new reporting methods, including FreshGrade (which some classes in the school are already using), rather than the traditional report cards we have seen in the past. Mr. A'Bear described it as being like a window into your child's learning in current time.

There will be many info sessions for parents and support for both teachers and parents as the school shifts gears on this front. Mr. A'Bear also provided parents with copies of District Superintendent Jordon Tinney's article "What Do Letter Grades have to do with Performance?" (see <http://www.jordantinney.org/what-do-letter-grades-have-to-do-with-performance/>).

4. Treasurers' Report/Budget Approval for 2015-16

Co-treasurer Erin M. started her report with a review of the previous month's transactions and an overview of where the PAC finances sit. She also clarified that due to a misunderstanding the PAC funding for the intermediate field trip was assumed to be \$3,100, rather than "up to \$3,100" with parents contributing \$12/student (instead parents paid just \$9.70 per student). The school offered to cover the difference out of their discretionary funds but in discussion the PAC decided to just leave our contribution as is. Erin also noted that the PAC gaming accounts money has just been released by the province so we should be receiving those funds soon.

Crescent Park Elementary PAC
2015-2016

October 2015 Treasurer Report:

Prepared by: Erin Mazza & Laura Langton

Bank Balances

Gaming Casino Fund School Grant	30-Sep-15	\$ 238.09
Crescent Park PAC	30-Sep-15	\$ 39,491.07
GIC Invested in 1 year term at 1.5% (Mar 30, 2015)	30-Sep-15	\$ 15,543.00
District Held PAC	30-Sep-15	1,000.00
		\$ 56,272.16

Expected Income: Gaming grant \$ 7,200.00

Activity: to Sept 30, 2015

PAC General Account: Sept 30, 2015

	Income:	Expenses:
Hot Lunch	\$ 22,846.38	\$ 666.16
Meet the teachers/BBQ	\$ 2,136.00	\$ 1,919.73
Hospitality: Back to school welcome coffee		\$ 110.31
Teachers Fund (\$250 per class)		\$ 4,750.00
New Parent Welcome		\$ 29.64
	\$ 24,982.38	\$ 7,475.84

Gaming Account: Sept 30, 2015

	Income:	Expenses:
Bank Fees		\$ 2.50
	\$ -	\$ 2.50

What funds do we have in reserve outside of this year's expected income?

Our GIC	15,543.00
General PAC Funds as of August 31	20,256.99
Remaining Gaming Grant \$ from 2014-2015	238.09
District Held (RBC Volunteer cheque from Fun Fair)	1,000.00
	\$ 37,038.08

Committed funds to subtract from our reserve:

School Mural (approved in 2014-2015)	3,720.00
Library Commons (approved in 2014-2015)	3,048.30
Intermediate Fieldtrip (approved Sept 2015)	3,100.00
	\$ 9,868.30

Reserve funds - October 5, 2015 **\$ 27,169.78**

Erin then presented the proposed budget for 2015-16. The line item amounts were based on what we have spent and brought in through fundraising in the past, and were given an initial review by the PAC executive prior to this meeting. Erin also clarified that while we do approve a specific budget in the fall, it is an organic document, which will change over the course of the year to reflect school needs, fundraising success, etc.

A few notes from the discussion:

- It was decided to change the “Hot Lunch” income amount to \$10,000, rather than \$11,000, to reflect the accounting that Catherine N. and Jane G. based the prices on this year. Jane also extended a huge thanks to Catherine on behalf of the PAC for all her work getting the program up and running this year.
- Our “Income Other” line item is where we can tally unexpected earnings like making money from the spirit wear sales or other small fundraising sources. For instance, if school parents (or anyone) shops at the COBS Breads in Ocean Park and says they are with Crescent Park, we receive 5% of the purchase money back to the school.
- Nichole G. and Hilary G. will continue to handle our emergency preparedness and update our supplies as needed. Nichole noted that the earthquake bins down at the Annex building need to be brought up to the main school and integrated with the emergency supplies in our container in the parking lot.
- The “Education Programs” funding has in the past supported us bringing the Saleema Noon organization to the school. Previously we have alternated between workshops (last year was iGirl and iGuy afterschool workshops, which were very popular and resonated well with the students who signed up) and Body Science workshops during the day for everyone K-7. However the District policy on contracting out school-hour programs might conflict with this plan. Pam R. will work with Mr. A’Bear to see what is possible this year.
- Our “Sports” funding is for programs brought into the school for sports that are not covered within the school curriculum, for instance inline skating or tennis.

Motion to approve the budget with the one change to the Hot Lunch total made by Nichole G., seconded by Hilary G., motion passed. The approved 2015-16 budget sheet appears at the end of these minutes.

Discussion of Principal’s Wish List:

Erin explained that in conjunction with our budget each year the PAC asks the school principal to bring forward a “wish list” based on school and teacher requests. Often these requests can be met within the budget, but sometimes there are requests that may go beyond our budget or require us to shift available funds from one area to another. We also expect that we may get additional requests as the year progresses.

- Discussion first focused on what the PAC is comfortable having at the end of the year in terms of start-up funds for the next school year. As Jane G. pointed out, we need to have a

solid base of funds at the outset next September to cover things like hot lunch starting up and basic per-teacher classroom funds.

- It was also clarified that we don't normally approve or deny all of the wish list items at this budget meeting - taking into account Mr. A'Bear's guidance on priorities, we usually choose to approve some items and revisit others, for instance once our fundraising plans are firmed up.
- Due to the meeting running long, it was decided that we need more time to discuss the furniture requests on the list, which reflect the shift to more flexible learning spaces. However the PAC did approve funding for the majority of the items on the wish list, including technology items, literacy materials, library funds, PE equipment and various classroom improvement items.

Motion was made to approve support on wish list items as discussed was made by Theresa A., seconded by Hilary G., motion approved.

5. Spirit Wear

Hilary G. updated the PAC on the status of the spirit wear orders, etc. The cinch bags will go home shortly with clothing order forms in them.

6. Fundraising and Events

Jackie announced that for the first time in recent years the PAC is going to have a separate fundraising committee, which can evaluate our overall fundraising plans and coordinate our main fundraising events. So far Tannis P., Erin M., Erica A., Ally U., Jackie V., Pam R., and Tanya D. have all offered to be part of the committee. Any other parents who are interested in being part of the committee can contact the PAC executive at volunteer@crescentparkpac.com.

7. Other Business

- Pam R. asked about plans for the photo night, which should be coming up soon. Jackie will check to see if we have received any mail in relation to it, and Mr. A'Bear will contact last year's organizer to get more information.

Motion to adjourn made at 9:14 p.m. by Jackie V. and seconded by Nichole G. Motion passed. Minutes recorded by PAC secretary Pam R. Note: these minutes are posted for early reference but will not be adopted until the next meeting. Our next meeting will be Monday, November 2, at 9:00 a.m., in the school library.

[budget sheet follows this page]

CRESCENT PARK ELEMENTARY - PAC	
2015-2016 Budget	
Category Description	2015-2016 Approved
INCOME	
Fundraising Income	
BBQ's (Meet the Teacher Night)	200.00
Family Portraits	400.00
Fun Fair	1,000.00
Spring Dance	12,000.00
TOTAL Fundraising Income	13,600.00
Hot Lunch	
Hot Lunch Income	60,000.00
Hot Lunch Expenses	50,000.00
TOTAL Hot Lunch	10,000.00
Grants & Misc.	
Gaming Grants	7,200.00
Income Interest	100.00
Income Other t-shirts and SD36	0.00
TOTAL Grants & Misc	7,300.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 30,900.00
	2015-2015 Approved
EXPENSES	
Administration	
Administration exp. including bank fees	400.00
Hospitality	400.00
TOTAL Administration	800.00
PAC Programs	
Emergency Preparedness	900.00
Gift Account - Leaving Teachers	800.00
Scholarship Elgin & EMS	900.00
Integration Room Supplies/Special needs	250.00
Sports Day Snack	200.00
*NEW Grade 7 Grad Donation	250.00
Student Education Programs	2,000.00
TOTAL PAC Programs	5,300.00
School Programs	
Computers & Technology	6,000.00
Field Trip Expense 374kids/\$15	5,610.00
Fine Arts Performances	3,000.00
Library Fund	1,800.00
Fine Arts Supplies	500.00
PE Equipment	1,000.00
Sports (tennis, gymnastics, inline skating)	3,600.00
*NEW Classroom Improvement Fund	500.00
*NEW Garden Maintenance	200.00
Teachers Fund \$250/13 divs+Music+FSL+LST+IN	4,750.00
TOTAL School Programs	26,960.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 33,060.00
NET (Income - Expenses)	-2,160.00