

George Jay PAC Meeting

12 Feb 2020

6:30-8:00 pm

George Jay Library

In attendance

Executive: Angela Cooper-Carmichael (President), Kim Drapeau (Vice-President), Zeta Lay (Treasurer), Roberta Hamme (Secretary), Lilli Bauer (Member-at-Large)

Staff: Melanie Postle (Principal), Joy Nugent (Vice-Principal), Jennifer Loukras, Aly Mackay, Marcy O'Keefe, Rebecca Bathurst-Hunt

Parents: Jessica Asch, Eileen Coyle, Cara Gibson, Emma Gillespie, Grace Lore, Leslie Rewega, Anna St. Denis, Sarah Sweeney

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. Welcome and recognition of traditional territories (Angela)
2. Agenda accepted as circulated.
3. Minutes of 8 Jan 2020 meeting accepted.
4. Update on Ready Step Roll (Angela for Natalie Bandringa, CRD)
School is getting both a bike rack and a scooter rack. Plan for students to draw traffic tickets that police will give out. At HAWC fair, families will create map of active travel routes. Signage being posted to ask bicycle riders to dismount on school property.
5. Reports on previous action items
 - a. Create google spreadsheet to facilitate donations (Cara) Report on the results of the survey for fundraising goals. Many responses supporting arts/culture, hot lunch, more EA support, additional bathrooms. Structural maintenance came up a lot. Responses came from a great cross-section of people. Many respondents were not involved in any optional activities but wanted more information on activities – when are they – how students can join. Raw data can be made available to everyone.
 - b. A new spreadsheet has been made to connect donations with teachers needing donations.
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18IXhSgCQIH4LNx3uECdZ4xWgvS6s1KpNIsFrNG2g89s/edit?usp=sharing>
 - c. Fundraising for risers – Melanie is looking into getting a quotation for this. They would be portable and could be used for a variety of things including performances. PAC has expressed an interest in fundraising for this.
 - d. Document volunteer hours (Cara and Zeta/Andrea) – Another google spreadsheet has been created for volunteers to log their hours and what they do. This will facilitate future grant funding applications. Plan to send link to teachers to send out to their volunteers

or teachers could enter data directly. Link will be sent out to PAC via e-mail list and is shown below.

<https://bit.ly/3aEOdQC>

6. Principal's Report (Melanie)

- a. Gather parent input on district's new strategic plan – The district is developing a new strategic plan and has been gathering information at every level. Looking for big directions to improve student learning. Input can be ongoing, send to Melanie. Melanie handed out large paper-based discussion questions at each table. Concern arose that we would not be able to devote needed time to this during the meeting. *Motion passed for a special meeting on Feb 26th at 6pm for an hour to gather this input.*
- b. Jan / Feb has been very busy. Lion Dance assembly 12 Feb. Pink shirt Day is 26 Feb. Pink shirt day assembly will be 27 Feb with Travis Price who initiated Pink shirt Day. Mitchel du Plessis has organized an active diversity group. They are making signs for washrooms among other activities. Many students in Lego Club. Mme. Andison has joined the school as the current 3/4 French teacher. An extra teacher has been present to help with social/emotional learning. A new behavior-support EA will be joining school soon. Outdoor learning happening in many individual classrooms. Ms. Trinh organized another grant for the garden, and it is coming along. Many classes are doing the Royal BC Museum Eagle program. Cartooning club has been full every Wednesday. School has 2 basketball teams that have been doing really well. Great school spirit with everyone cheering each other. (Kindness! Jay Rocks!) Spirit wear store is up. Several items have been added since store first opened. Question whether hats could be added. Mel will investigate though store closes soon. Inclusive playground update: Sensory wall has been bought through Habitat and has been paid for. Wall is being built and district will install. An extra buddy bench has been placed nearby. Learning studio update: Structure now has roof and walls. Scheduled for installation immediately after Spring Break. Studio has no plumbing. Staff will make the decision on how it will be used (music room, Strong Start, general break out space). Initial discussion happened today. Decision to be made in March. Child care facility progress unknown.

7. President's Report (Angela)

- a. Update on Diversity and Equity subcommittee – Angela has spoken with Gunderson of One Love Consulting many times. She's agreed to help us. It's been hard to find a time for subcommittee to meet. Anyone wanting to be on subcommittee should e-mail Angela. Goal is to address bullying and equity and find ways for students to avoid racism or violence. Any presentation to students would need approval of Staff Committee.
- b. Printing and sending Emporium thank you cards – Monk Office has printed the cards. Mel has been writing and sending the cards out. Original idea was for kids to write them. Leslie Rewega volunteered to write out the rest and send them out.
- c. Update on new bylaws – A full draft now exists. Planning to thoroughly discuss at 11 March open meeting and pass at April General meeting. Want to discuss with the PAC some issues like how many people should have financial signing authority.

- d. Grace Lore on Fernwood, North Park, Quadra Village Neighbourhood Planning working group – There is a new city planning process for these neighbourhoods focusing on villages and corridors and encouraging compact and contained communities. Timeline is fairly tight. Want to alleviate housing crunch – 9000 households currently in poor housing – while focusing on climate action and vibrancy. Grace suggests holding an open house to gather ideas, creating an online google document for people to post ideas, posting questions on Facebook, having discussions at the Fernwood Community Dinners, a table at the HAWC fair. Wants to hear from a broad cross-section of people.
- e. Money for PAC safe & Corina Smith's memorial plaque. PAC needs to have their own safe in office with a dropbox. Price's quoted \$1600 but many cheaper ones are available on-line. Need to investigate further. Quote has been received for \$345 for a memorial plaque to be mounted on the fence. *Motion to spend \$350 on plaque.* Tabled until April meeting. Action item for Kim: look into other discounted or possible pro bono sources for the plaque. Action item for Angela: investigate on-line safes.

8. Vice President's Report (Kim)

- a. Valentines Grab Bag – This will be a Spring Break grab bag instead. Plan to include free kids admissions for butterfly gardens and Crystal pool, as well as a coupons for Flying Squirrel and bouldering gym, and seed papers. Would like to have kids decorate bags and add a well wish. Cost for Crystal Pool pass will be \$1 per pass. Could we do something more with vouchers so that we are not paying for passes that aren't used? *Motion passed to pay \$1 per pass for Crystal Pool passes if can't negotiate something cheaper from them.*
- b. Bottle Drive – Plan to do this April 25th, day after HAWC fair.
- c. Grounds de-icing – Discussion on whether PAC keep salt on hand for de-icing. Discussion that this should be the district's job, not PAC's.
- d. Adult washroom – Adult/parent washroom has been moved to 3rd floor washroom. Presents a problem for strollers. The 1st floor adult washroom was also being used for storage of equipment, which was getting broken. Bathroom is meant for volunteers not for public. Location could become an issue when Strong Start returns. In general, bathrooms are an ongoing issue at the school. Also, a safety issue exists with non-staff adults are entering the school during school day. Volunteers should be signing in. Suggestion to give volunteers some kind of tag to wear. Separate volunteer coordinator position no longer needed.
- e. Dogs in the school – Parents have been inappropriately bringing dogs into school or tying them up near doors. Potential scary situation for some kids (and adults). Note that dogs are also brought in with permission for reading time. Action item for Melanie: send out a reminder to keep dogs off school grounds unless specifically arranged for with a staff member.
- f. Thank you to Welburn's – Would like to thank Mr. Vic Lum for their donations. Suggestion to create big Bristol board cards. Action item for Kim: lead card creation.
- g. Thank you to police for enforcing speeds on Bay – There has been an increase in patrols at 9am and 3pm. Suggestion to make a tree and have kids put thumbprints on it

with a theme of “Thanks for Helping us Grow”. Action item for Kim: lead thank you tree creation.

9. Treasurer’s Report (Zeta)

Return of unsold raffle tickets – No point in accounting for every unsold ticket now. However, next raffle it would be good to account for them all. This time, stubs were disposed of before accounting for everything. Updating bank account sponsors. Signers also need to be updated. Treasurer does not have the correct info to log into online banking, hence statements not available tonight. All budget spreadsheets on google, which anyone can request access to. \$1218.55 raised from silent auction. \$525.20 raised from wreath fundraiser. Lice funds exist in budget - Leila will use to buy shampoos. We’ve exceeded our gifts budget by \$72. \$194 for books has been put under the new line item on parent education. Zeta issues cheques on Monday. Having enough signers has been a major issue. Suggestion that three of the executive should be signers and then at least two others who come into school often. Obtaining a PAC safe will be really important if we do a raffle again. This should have a slot to insert funds and ticket stubs.

11. Health and Wellness Subcommittee Report (Leila) – Fair planning meeting happened today.

It’s going to be a great event covering physical, mental, emotional, social health. Will include community groups, sporting organizations, obstacle course, crossfit, and food trucks. Andrea will be site coordinator. Fruit and veg program is continuing but needs more funding. Food is gone immediately. Staff are requesting it. One donation was received. *Motion passed to increase fruit and veg funding to \$100 a week from \$75.*

12. Adjourn meeting

Next PAC meeting to discuss bylaws scheduled for 11 March 2020 at 6:30pm

Next general meeting scheduled for 8 April 2020 at 6:30pm

Items anticipated for April meeting

Post-disaster emergency reunification procedures drill

Natalie Bandringa on Ready Step Roll