

Sardis Elementary PAC Meeting

Nov 22, 2023 – PAC Minutes

Start Time: 7:02 pm

Land Acknowledgement: We are privileged to be working and learning on the Stó:lō unceded traditional territory of the Pilalt, Semá:th and Ts'elxwéyeqw tribes.

Attendance: Aleena Webber, Lindsay Sanderson, Joanna Kasper, Brandi Buell, Meghan Shattock, Erin Kelley, Amanda Darby, Cheryl Brockbank, Amanda Kowalski, Kendy Michaloski, Somaye and Mahmood.

Adoption of Agenda and Minutes from October 2023:

Two amendments will be made to the October 2023 minutes, one to clarify the Science World field trip request is for Neufeld and Duval's classes, and another to correct that the motion of giving the school \$10,000 for a projector was tabled and not passed.

Motion to adopt amended minutes by Meghan. Seconded by Kendy. Passed.

Principal's Report:

Joanna:

There has been a change in report cards – the same information is presented (including comments by teachers) but it will be done so in a different way and without separate reports for kids receiving help from a LA teacher or speech therapy for example, this information will be embedded in the report card. More information for parents will be coming out on this.

Brad from Habitat came to the school today to survey the playground. 1st piece - Asked for a swing that helps accommodate all students, we also looked at options for 2nd spinning piece that sits low to the ground that seats 4. We are looking at quotes from the district for preparing the ground. It will take until spring break to see any of this work done the swing could be completed sooner.

DPAC Report -Kendy

- Next meeting is Thursday, November 30. Meeting is hybrid (Zoom and in person) all parents are welcome to attend.
- DPAC's current focus is on advocacy, they have sent letters to the district and province advocating for parental authority to withdraw consent for their students to write the FSA. They also have focused on asking the provincial government to address the "lack of standards of practice, training and support for the EA's through researching the problem and establishing standards".
- Bussing – staffing is a major issue DPAC has brainstormed some ideas to help. Right now the focus is on getting students on the bus who need it. DPAC will be meeting with the Superintendent on Oct 31.
- ERASE - Family sessions online safety - 2 more Nov 28 and 30th get tickets through Eventbrite and watch the PAC page for info.

Motion by Cheryl to send the letter presented at the meeting from our parents to the district explaining our concerns with bus transportation. Seconded by Meghan. All in favor. Passed. (letter attached)

Treasurer Report:

Deposited for Swag and coupon books. There are pending debits for hot lunch programs. Thank you for the teacher reimbursement form it is helping to streamline the process!

Mrs. Noer and Mrs. Mulder request (from September) for \$500 towards the Fort Langley field trip May 12, 2024. Bussing will also cost an additional \$395. Motion to pay \$500 from the general account by Meghan and seconded by Kendy. All in favor. Passed.

School has received their budget which is \$15,000 less than last year.

Follow up for Hush Ups: Cost for 17 sets is \$4762.58. We will need additional fundraising to pay for these or wait for more funding to come in. Motion to table a decision to the next meeting by Brandi.

General Business/Open Floor:

- Sardis Swag: Need to take inventory and sell extras from the office, post availability on FB page.
- Fundraisers:
- Santa – Liz from Just Shoot Me is doing the photos paid for by the PAC, school pays for prints **one** 4X6 per student. We have a professional Santa coming this year (usually he charges but he had decided to donate his time)! Money collected for the Santa Photo is a fundraiser for the Starfish Backpack Program. Last year we raised \$1100. Popcorn Fundraiser Money was initially earmarked to pay for Santa, however now that he is donating his time so we will be putting that money towards the Starfish Backpack Fundraiser.
- Purdy's brought in 900 – the money goes towards the carnival.
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Admin Updates:

Joanna: Starfish Backpack increase in funding so increased our boxes from 5 to 8.

Breakfast program: Shauna Erler looking for volunteers and we have a few people willing to help.

We are very appreciative of Old Yale Brewing and Sardis Children's Center who have adopted 8 families for Christmas!

Fund Scrip – order deadline is Dec 10, payments go to PAC and then we etransfer to FundScrip, we would have to hand out the gift cards. Meghan to set up an account to pay for hot lunches, and other transactions done around the school.

Next meeting Wednesday, January 24 at 7pm in the library.

Meeting adjourned 8:30

November 22, 2023

To Rohan Arul-pragasam,

As parents at Sardis Elementary we would like to make you aware of the many problems with the bus transportation this year and how it is affecting our families.

Firstly, the registration process for the bus is not working. When you register online for the bus it's asks you to go to your student pay account to pay your fees- the fees don't show up on your account. It shows that you owe \$0. This has only been a problem since the \$25 registration fee was introduced. Parents must call and get this charge added to their account by the transportation office. This resulted in many kids not actually being fully registered for the bus on the first week of school, which was compounded by the fact that the bus passes were late. We understand that the late passes were caused by factors outside of the transportation office's control, but it was a factor that exacerbated an existing problem nonetheless.

Because of this children were unable to get a bus pass before the first week of school and this caused some students TO BE UNABLE TO ATTEND for several days until their parents were able to complete the registration process.

We would like to see a change in how you are prompted to pay online to make this a more straightforward process.

At Sardis Elementary last school year, the bus was late every day, this year it's 20-25 minutes early to drop off in the morning, which leaves kindergarten students who are at this point of the year sometimes still only 4 years old, at the school outside in the elements for too long. This is also causing supervision issues with our staff.

The notification process (the app) is not working for parents. Sometimes we don't get notifications that the after school bus will not be picking up until it's too late and the kids are having to call their parents, during class time, through the day to make sure they have a ride home. It is also causing anxiety in the kids who are really worried they may not have a way home at the end of the day.

We would like to see a major improvement in how we are notified about bus cancellations, because what is happening now is just not working.

Thank you in advance for addressing these concerns,

Sardis Elementary PAC