



TOMSETT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
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Minutes of Tomsett Elementary School PAC

November 21, 2019

In Attendance

PAC Members: CM, CL, FD, LB, SB, JJ, HK, RL, JC, JP, MC, PH.

Staff: Mike Murray

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:38PM by CM.

Principal's Report

1. FSA (Foundation Skills Assessment) Complete – Grade 4 – 7 students who wrote will receive their results prior to Xmas. Ministry of Education reports that Richmond has one of the lowest participation rates in the province (mostly due to parents opting out).
 - Teachers district wide graded papers. Results and answer sheets will be returned to student and parent/guardian.
 - Ministry of Education asked to engage more parents for next year. Is it because parents do not want kids to join or does not understand what FSA yields?
 - Teachers union opposed to FSA – Fraser institute takes the results and ranks the schools. Seems unfair to test student on just one day as opposed to over the duration of a year.
2. Winter Performance – Wednesday, December 18th – 1:30pm and 7:00pm. We are encouraging as many families as possible to come to the afternoon show as the evening show will be very busy. All of our classes will be presenting.
 - No tickets will be issued, however should the attendance increase over the years, the school will consider giving out a limited number of tickets to each family.
3. Report Cards / Point of Progress Reports – will come home on Friday, December 20th. A reminder that a Point of Progress report looks different than a traditional report card.
 - E-portfolio report cards will look different for the students in classes participating in e-portfolio.
4. Family Skate night – City of Richmond has informed us that they have no availability for after school during the month of December. They reach out to schools who have participated in the past first and then fill in spots based on the waiting list.
 - Limited spots due to corporate parties and hockey times.

- Skate night will not run for this year.
- 5. Opportunity – Volunteer Interpreter Opportunity. RSB is looking for volunteers who might be able to assist with translation / interpreting. If you are interested, know someone who might be interested, please let me know. Criminal record checks are required.
 - District looking for volunteers - interpreter opportunities.
- 6. Seismic Update – parent information night coming up in early 2020.
 - Working closely with school district – will have parent information/community information in the early new year. Information session will be held in school gym.
 - Plans and information will be shared formally.
- 7. Breakfast Club – an update.
 - 7 staff members helping to support with the breakfast.
 - Started with 18 children, today there was 24 children this morning (11/21/2019).
 - Not promoting this event, letting it grow by word of mouth.
 - An opportunity to understand what kids like to eat – causes less wastage.
- 8. Questions
 - E-portfolio liked by parents; able to post questions and comments online.
 - Water quality.
 - i. 2 years ago, Vancouver Coastal Health did studies about water quality in schools.
 - ii. Drinking water quality does not meet drinking standards. Usually older schools.
 - iii. Tomsett – Water Fountain next to Ms. Flewelling class has been sealed off. Pipes in Tomsett has been flushed to ensure that there is no lead leached into the water in all of the school’s pipes. School website will be updated with water information.

Chairperson’s Report

1. Update on current fundraisers and direct donation, Playground Fund - donation from Polygon.
 - a. Direct donations can still be done on a later date if last date for donation is missed. Receipt can be provided by the school district.
2. New Fundraiser Ideas
 - a. Boston Pizza Cash Back – Submit code (found on receipt) for Tomsett to get a certain percentage back.
 - b. Christmas Concert Front Row Tickets + Reserved Parking
 - i. Mr. Murray has ruled this out as it would disadvantage some families.
 - c. FundScrip gift card
 - i. PAC will gather more information on FundScrip to share during next PAC meeting.
 - ii. Per Mr. Murray, given his experience from the previous school which dealt with a similar program, he’s advised PAC to document accurately if PAC is to proceed with this program.
3. Special PAC Lunch Days
 - a. Sushi Wednesdays
 - i. Next sushi day – December 11, 2019
 - b. Pizza Day
 - i. Should we run it more often? – Once every two (2) weeks.
 - c. Munch-a-Lunch

- i. Hot lunch ordered online – time saver (PAC does not need to manually deal with cash).
 - ii. Transaction fee for each order and one time set up fee.
 - d. Other lunch ideas from other schools: Xyclo Vietnamese, Subway, Pita Pit, KFC
 - i. PAC will connect with Fuel Catering to set up an informational session in early 2020, preferably during January PAC meeting.
 - e. School Breakfast Club
 - i. Mr. Murray does not require volunteers or funding from PAC for now. However, should the attendance increase in the future, PAC can contribute both from a volunteering and funding perspective.
- 4. Upcoming Events – Update
 - a. Family Photo Night to take place in February 2020.
 - i. Should it be held in a studio or in school premises?
 - ii. Studio location is best as families can go any day, including weekends. Cost will be advised on later date.
 - iii. PAC will also contact Mountain West for information.
 - b. Other ideas: Family Games Night, Family Science Night.
 - i. Movie night – can consider older movies. Movie option - Abominable.
 - ii. Casino night
 - iii. Bingo night – to ensure that there is proper gaming license. PAC will have to apply for gaming license this year.
 - iv. Spring fare – dunking tank etc.
 - ✓ To be done for end of school year?
 - ✓ If school staff is involved, must ensure that this event does not collide with pre-scheduled agenda i.e. report cards
 - ✓ Ice skating – can be done in January? Would be easier to market if event coincides with year end holidays. There may be divisions that will be going on skating field trips.
- 5. School Parking Lot Updates
 - a. Working well after information provided to parents/guardians.
- 6. Crossing guards
 - a. Parents / Guardians can volunteer for “Speed Watch” – program run by Community Police Office. Police Force will train volunteers.
 - b. Mr. Murray will speak with and ask Grades 5 and 6 if they can volunteer.
- 7. PAC Communications
 - a. PAC Monthly Newsletter
 - i. Mr. Murray will include important PAC related information in school monthly newsletter.
 - b. New PAC website
 - i. Requesting Mr. Murray to upload all PAC related information under Tomsett School website (PAC dropdown box).
 - c. Communication from general Tomsett school for forms and notices can be sent electronically, however there are some information that is mandated by the district that must be sent home with children on paper.

Treasurer's Report as at November 20, 2019

General Accounts:

- 7 year GIC: CAD 1,063.98
- 3 year GIC: CAD 5,100.00
- Chequing: CAD 16,636.77 (total deposit: CAD 4,291.25 from Friday Store and hot lunch, withdrawals: Teacher allotment, FS grocery, Meet The Teacher BBQ split cost with school)

Gaming Accounts:

- 3 year GIC: CAD 4,096.58
- Chequing: CAD 5,206.34

Direct Donations 2019/2020: CAD 2,174.00

Budget:

1. Field Trip and Special In-Class Activity Subsidy CAD 20.00 per student (283 for 2019/2020): CAD5,660.00.
2. Classroom Consumable Money: CAD 150.00 per each classroom including resource/ESL teachers: CAD2,508.00.
3. KM Run Ribbons and Medals: CAD 450.00
4. Grade 6 and 7 Outdoor Education Program: CAD 1,000.00
5. Technological and/or Gym Equipment Upgrades: TBA*
6. Grade 7 Graduation: CAD 500.00
7. The PD Tomsett-MacNeill Scholarship: CAD 1,000.00
8. Playground Upgrade Fund: CAD 100,000.00 **

* Projected cost CAD 15,000.00

** Goal amount

Note: The monthly bank statement is available for viewing in the PAC drawing in the Tomsett Office.

Open Floor

1. Anti-Bullying Program
 - a. One parent brought up an issue which their child faced during class and inquired if there is a campaign against bullying in school.
 - b. Mr. Murray advises that some children whom are new to school might face some difficulties ie: new immigrant, language issue, learning new social skills.
 - c. Should a situation occur, Mr. Murray would get involved and sort the issue in his office with the children involved.
 - d. There are exceptions to the rule, e.g. Child with special needs, however there are also ways to support both the child with special needs and the other child involved in the issue.
 - e. Older children (Grades 6 and 7) have been informed of new younger students in kindergarten.
 - f. Current program in place in school – buddy system.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM by LB.

Next PAC Meeting

December 19, 2019

6:00PM @ Library

Early start due to Yearend Potluck

Free child minding is available.