

Livingstone PAC
September 14, 2016

Meeting Highlights: *The meeting included a review of our activities and expenditures last year; our financial position; calls for volunteers at our various events; reminders to register for BBQ, popcorn, and Fun Lunch; the Principal's report on current goings-on; and an emphasis on contacting the PAC at livingstonePAC@gmail.com if you have questions or ideas.*

Welcome

Round of introductions.

June 2016 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve June 2016 minutes: Maggie. Seconded: Makeesha. Approved.

Co-Chair report - Judy and Andrew

The PAC executive were introduced: Judy and Andrew (co-chairs), Lennie (treasurer), and Jodie (secretary). Please let the PAC know if you'd like to join the executive or if you have ideas for events/fundraising/other issues. The PAC is parent-driven; anyone with ideas and energy can make things happen.

Andrew reviewed last year's activities and achievements:

- Advocated for public education
- Worked with staff and admin to coordinate new programs and events
- Worked with admin to make changes to lunch schedule
(there was a discussion about logistics; admin is working out the issues and letting things get settled)
- Fall fund drive
- Fun lunch
- Walk-a-thon
- Gift cards
- Sports day
- Popcorn days
- Recycling
- Pancake breakfast
- Movie night
- Car free day

Canadians game
Welcome back coffee
Back to school BBQ
Parent socials

We expect the list of activities to look similar this year. There may not be a need for gift cards. If someone wants to take on a new project, let the PAC know.

About \$40,000 was raised last year, plus a provincial grant. This was spent as follows:

Technology Upgrades \$3540 (chromebook computers)
Learning Commons Upgrades \$6000 (furniture)
Arts, Culture and Physical Education \$3280 (e.g. Hip Hop and Martial Arts)
Literacy Enrichment \$2430 (primary home reading books)
STEAM supplies \$1750 (science, tech, engineering, arts, math)
Main Hall Mural Project \$10,000
Direct Teacher and Staff Support \$6510
New Team Jerseys \$2500
School Garden \$500
Tupper Wellness Centre support \$800
Sports Day (free snacks and treats for all students)

Treasurer's Report - Helena

Lennie presented the financial report dated September 2016. The general account balance on August 25 was \$40,318. Approximately \$30K of that is already committed for items that were approved last school year.

The gaming grant balance on August 25 was \$2298. The gaming grant is funding from the Province, at \$15 per student. These funds can only be used for extracurricular items (not things that school is supposed to provide from its own budget).

Money that we raise in our general account can be spent as we see fit; we vote at PAC meetings on our expenditures. We have a budget of proposed expenditures for this year. Mr. Mitzel is working with staff to communicate their needs and requests. Please contact the PAC if you want more details or are interested in helping.

Lennie would appreciate help or an apprentice. If you have time and skills to share, please contact the PAC.

Motion to approve treasurer's report: Stephanie. Seconded: Makeesha. Approved.

Committee Info

- Fun Lunch – Vanessa

Fun Lunch will be every Tuesday, and ordering is now open. This is a volunteer program, so please consider volunteering (there's a link at the top of the Munch a Lunch page). This is one of the easiest ways to support the PAC; the program raised about \$10,000 last year. The Munch a Lunch website is also used for other events, so please sign up even if you don't plan to buy lunches.

- Recycling – Caroline

Livingstone has a long time recycling program. Please bring refundables to the recycling room next to the gym or the blue barrels in the school. Volunteers also pick up from the Fish Counter and Five Point. We are looking for a few new people to join sorting team, including another driver to pick up from those businesses on Sunday evenings once per week. Recycling raised approx. \$4000 last year.

- Garden - Leah

The school garden and orchards are mostly managed by students and teachers. Families help with summer maintenance, mowing, and can help teachers when their students are working in garden. This fall we'll be replacing a couple of fruit trees.

- Back to School BBQ

Open house, BBQ and bingo night. Please sign up to volunteer (e.g. grilling), and purchase tickets (deadline is Monday Sept. 19).

- Popcorn

Another longstanding tradition. Ordering is online this year (deadline is Sept. 19).

Principal's Report - Darren Mitzel

Darren thanked the PAC for our support of the teachers and their ideas, allowing them to provide the best experiences to our children. Darren's primary role is to keep kids safe, but also inspire and support teachers.

Livingstone is a full school, although there are a few spaces in older classrooms. This size of school (approximately 340) provides many opportunities (e.g. sports teams) without being overwhelmingly large.

Darren described new staff, including Mr. Yuen, Mr. Philips, Miss Hall, and Miss Brown.

The STEAM room downstairs contains supplies for STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) projects. This will help teachers implement BC's new curriculum. Ms. Geri will be holding genius hours and makerspace in the library commons. The PAC paid for new furniture in the library last year.

The new lunch schedule has been implemented. Staff and admin are working out the logistics, but it seems to be going well: children are really eating their lunch, have enough time to eat, and the lunchroom is really quiet. Student volunteers from grades 5/6/7 are helping the primaries. Some logistics will be tweaked and improved but very positive so far.

Hip-hop is booked for after spring break. Darren hopes that PAC will support a portion of the cost again this year. There will also be opportunities for other programs; anyone with ideas should contact the PAC.

There was support for having the pumpkin patch again.

Sports teams this year may include cross country, girls soccer, volleyball, and basketball. All teams need a teacher sponsor that is present during practices and games.

There are no changes to the music program this year except band.

PAC Plans for 2016-2017 - Judy and Andrew

- Mural and hallway project

In October, the artists who designed the mural at Tupper will be coming to do a mural in the front hallway. The mural will be on 8 sheets of plywood that can be relocated for a seismic upgrade. The artists will work with Livingstone students to design the mural. The project will also include new hallway furniture.

- Priorities for the year

Meeting participants were asked to write down two or three ideas that they would like the PAC to pursue this year. At the October PAC meeting, we'll discuss the list and decide upon our priorities for the year.