



**Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2018**

Welcome and Acknowledgement

Judy acknowledged that the land in which we gather is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

Intention

Judy began by setting an intention: this PAC meeting is being held with respect, inclusiveness, and the understanding of others. We are gathered to create and share ideas that will enrich the education of our children through community based learning.

January 2018 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve January 2018 minutes: Julia. Seconded: Vanessa. Approved.

Chair Report - Judy

Hip Hop. Hip hop classes for the children were once again a success! Thanks to all parents for only watching your own child(ren) and for respecting the request to not record the event. Judy and Mr. Peeters confirmed that the request was for safety reasons, to respect privacy, and to model responsible use of technology. Media consent has not been given for all students. We discussed possible ways of having performances shared on a secure channel, but students without consent would have to be removed from the images. The discussion was tabled to a future meeting. The VSB is currently reviewing their policies on this issue now, so Mr. Peeters will report back with ideas from VSB and other schools.

School Website. The current school website is at: <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/livingstone/Pages/default.aspx>. This should be the first place parents go for school information and events. Mr. Peeters reviewed the links for school announcements (info on events at Livingstone and Tupper) and student info (such as sports schedules). Teachers should also be communicating events like field trips directly to families. A new version of the website should be live soon. There will also be a school app. Livingstone will then use standardized apps and tools that are supported by the District.

Sexual Health and Abuse Prevention Speakers. PAC has allocated funds to bring in speakers on sexual health and abuse prevention. These topics are in the curriculum, so speakers are intended to complement what the teachers are doing. Mr. Peeters has been considering the

group Options for Sexual Health (www.optionsforsexualhealth.org), which already conducts a lot of teacher training. OSH is more in line with the new BC curriculum and keeps children in their classroom groups with their teachers. Our past speaker, Saleema Noon, bundles kids into grade groups to be cost-conscious.

The Safe Teen program is violence prevention for grade 7s. Mr. Peeters supports Safe Teen as long as teachers are allowed in the session.

We discussed whether all teachers are comfortable teaching the body science topics. OSH supports teachers in a direct way by teaching within the classroom, which builds capacity of the teachers. Mr. Peeters confirmed that all teachers have to teach these topics as part of the curriculum, and he will bring it to teachers to choose between Saleema Noon and OSH. PAC has allocated \$2200 for Saleema Noon already. We will vote on any additional funds required at the March meeting.

Funding Idea Example: Backpack Buddies. At the April meeting, parents and guardians are invited to bring proposals for PAC funding for the 2018/2019 school year. Jo Anne presented "Backpack Buddies" as an example of what information to include in a proposal:

- Idea/Program
- Funds Required
- Timeframe
- Who it Will Benefit
- Whether School Funding is Available
- Teacher/Staff Support Person
- Student Involvement

This information should be brought to the PAC executive prior to the April meeting.

Jo Anne briefly introduced Backpack Buddies (www.backpackbuddies.ca). At many PAC meetings, parents have expressed a desire to give back, by assisting other schools or the community at large. Backpack Buddies is one way to do this; it is a program that supports children who get free breakfast and lunch by giving them a backpack full of healthy food for the weekend. Every Friday from September to June, Livingstone students would come to the library to help fill backpacks with healthy food. Ms. Geri is the teacher support. The program would be fully funded by the PAC.

A fuller discussion of Backpack Buddies will take place at the April meeting.

Passage Adventures. Judy has booked the Passage Adventures women to come to Livingstone May 2 from 9:15-9:45am. More information is available in their video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMzPvhgCyHk.

Stream of Dreams. Judy has submitted a grant application to support Stream of Dreams at Livingstone (www.streamofdreams.org) in fall 2018. Judy will present in April with more details.

Passport Reading Project. Ms. Geri gives a BIG thank you to PAC regarding the \$500 in support of her passport reading project with the children (for thank yous to speakers/presenters). Geri will let us know if more funding is needed for honorariums.

Sporting Equipment Room: Mr. Peeters, Ms. Cassie, and Ms. Wilson cleaned the equipment room, and a lot of new sports equipment has been purchased, such as hockey sticks, balls, and scoops. Staff may request parent volunteers for future cleaning days!

Staff has requested a new digital score clock for games. Livingstone currently has a decades-old flip-over scoreboard. A new score clock is \$1,325 (plus tax and delivery). PAC already approved \$750 from the direct drive to purchase sports equipment. Mr. Peeters was able to buy the balls etc. with other funding, so that \$750 is available to put towards the score clock.

Motion to approve an additional \$750 for a sports clock: Julia. Seconded: Alisa. Approved.

Calls for Volunteers:

Car Free Day June 17. Need one or two volunteers to own Car Free Day.

- Register Livingstone
- Organize and set-up/take down tents/tables/activity (8am - 5-6 pm)
- Organize volunteer sign-up
- Jo Anne will pass over details/templates of what we've done in the past

Walk-a-thon May 25.

- 4 Parents to organize/run a station on the course
- 4 Parents to help with set-up
- A Google sign-up sheet for event helpers (food station, lap counting) will be sent out to all parents at the end of April.

Hot Chocolate Day. A hot chocolate day will be held before March break! PAC will give free hot chocolate to all students.

New Ideas. All submissions, presentations, and new business ideas for the school year of 2018/2019 need to be brought to PAC chair/executives before the April PAC meeting. Please email to Judy in advance. The April PAC meeting will be dedicated to the process of voting on and setting forward these plans for the next school year.

Treasurer's Report

Judy reviewed the Treasurer's report dated February 2018. The balance in the general account was \$30,089.81. The Gaming Grant balance was \$6,579.88, although these funds are largely allocated already.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Vanessa. Seconded: Julia.

Jo Anne presented the updated PAC budget. The projected expenses for the remainder of this year are approx. \$17,000, which will leave roughly \$12,900 in the general account.

Another projected \$20,000 will be added by end of year (from Fun Lunch, Walk-a-Thon etc.). After issuing 2018/2019 teacher allocations, we expect approximately \$20,000 to be available to spend in September. Proposals to spend these funds will be discussed in April.

Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Soiree. Julia reported that the soiree was successful and a ton of fun. Conservatively, the committee believes that each school will receive approximately \$11,700.

Principal's Report – Mr. Peeters

Traffic Safety. A Livingstone student was involved in a minor accident when walking to school. Mr. Peeters and the student's parent have contacted the "School Active Travel Planning" branch of the City to discuss student safety. Parents are reminded to drive carefully around the school, and students should cross only at corners. To reduce congestion in front of the school, drivers are encouraged to park further away from the front doors (e.g. on Prince Edward St) and allow their children to walk to the front door. City police will be increasing parking enforcement before and after school.

We discussed the parking restrictions in front of the school on 23rd Avenue. The area is designated No Parking, but stopping is OK. Fun lunch volunteers can park there with flashers to deliver food. We also discussed the possibilities of walking school bus programs, Bike to School Week, and crossing guard programs. Crossing guards are only possible in painted crosswalks, but parents can help students cross the street informally.

Mr. Peeters will continue to follow up with Cail Smith at the School Active Travel Planning branch of the City Engineering department.

Student Learning Grant. The student learning grant from the Province has been spent on teaching resources, PE equipment, and computers for non-enrolling staff.

Basketball. The basketball season is almost done. The two boys' teams will be meshed together for competitive tournaments next week. Girls will not be doing the tournament, but worked hard during the season.

Kindergarten Registration. There were 44 applications for 40 kindergarten spaces at Livingstone for next year. Draws for the spots were not done at school sites this year. Emails went out to families yesterday; the office should have responses by tomorrow.

Tents. Mr. Peeters showed us the design for the two event tents that PAC has funded. They will be purchased shortly; each will be \$795. Parents supported the design.

School Plan. The teachers are going into the planning months for their School Plan. As this was the first year of a 3 year plan, evaluation of the results will get more sophisticated in future years. The plan focuses on self-regulation, valuing diversity, and building relationships.

Communicating Student Learning. Student, parent, and teacher feedback sessions have been organized to give feedback on the pilot programs for communicating student learning (i.e. those

classes doing Fresh Grade or some other alternative to traditional report cards). A parent feedback session is tentatively scheduled for March 8 (possibly at Killarney). Livingstone will need parent volunteers to attend. Parents who cannot attend can give feedback to parents who are going or to teachers.

PAC Meeting Time. Mr. Peeters mentioned that some schools vary the time that PAC meetings are held. This can allow other groups of parents to attend and may enable teachers to attend. Meetings could rotate between three times: morning (8:45/9am), end of day (2pm), and evening. We discussed ways to ask parents if they would attend those different times.

Tech Plan. Mr. Peeters has completed a tech inventory. Some iPads are very old. Mr. Peeters and staff hope to redistribute the existing iPads and buy more to create classroom sets. They are also looking at creating a lab of actual Macbooks. Parents asked about security (Spare Time had a break-in recently). The school is more secure.

In School Finances. Mr. Peeters is hoping to bring on a new financial system for the school, which would allow families to pay school fees electronically. Parents were very supportive of this idea.

Balanced Calendar. The District has a committee exploring at the “balanced calendar” which has 3-month school sessions followed by a month off, throughout the year. Advantages of these systems include teacher morale, and keeping students engaged. The District is not planning a District wide change at this point, although some schools have done it on their own.

Office 365. All children have access to Word, Powerpoint, Excel and other Office 365 programs for the duration of their school career. These programs can be downloaded at home. Students also have access to cloud storage. Parents can talk to the teacher for help accessing these resources.

Seismic. Mr. Peeters is still waiting to hear back from Kathy Sullivan, the District person in charge of seismic upgrades. Livingstone is on the list but not scheduled for the near term.

Teachers On Call. There is a shortage of Teachers on Call (substitutes) in Vancouver. Livingstone is in good shape compared to other schools, because we have non-enrolling staff with too many hours. When we don't have a TOC, we ask a resource teacher (e.g. Ms. Geri or Ms. Paris) to fill in. The district is hiring to address teacher shortage and fill positions for next year; they have hired 600 people in the last few months.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

The next PAC meeting will be March 14, 2018 at 7pm in the library.