



ÉCOLE ST. GERMAIN PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

PAC Meeting minutes – September 15, 2021

Attended: Cam Johnson, Paulette Sabourin, Jamie Care, April Peterson, Shauna Lussier, Meghan Care, Karin Holmes, Leah Macdonald, Amanda Smeets, Janelle Chambers, Lisa Holmes, Crissy Ranellucci, Oluwaseyi Dairo, Mandy Falk, Marcia McKenzie, Krysta Richard, Lindsay Woollard, Kim Dunford, Charlene Allard, Kimberley Adair-Gagnon, Tao Huang, Rachelle Kroetsch, Jose Corominas, Toyin George, Mathew Awang, Bonnie Lee, Leanne Pekrul

Absent: Nicole Hacault, Kevin Raitt, Colleen Letkeman, Krista Pickering, Kim Sawatzky, Danielle McRae, Alanna Brown, Apryl Nadeau, Cathleen Hues, Cathy Robert-Swain, Darya Prokapalo, Eva Trachtenberg, Karen Adam, Matthew Wiebe

Meeting called to order 7:00 p.m.

Motion to approve the agenda Karin Holmes and 2nd by Kim Dunford

Motion to approve June minutes approved by Shauna Lussier and 2nd by Amanda Smeets

Welcome to all members and guests

Names added to the chat for attendance

Quick introduction of all members in attendance at the meeting

Treasurer's Report

- Almost all the Munch a Lunch cheques were cashed this spring. Approximately \$5,000 was reimbursed to families who had paid for hot lunches from March 2020-June 2020. 17 cheques that totalled approximately \$460 have not been cashed.
- Grade 5 grad costs went through from June 2021

- Remaining funds in account have been ear-marked for other projects or future commitments. Projects are not set in stone and money can be used for other things.

Administrator's Report

- Cam Johnson introduced himself and let parents know his background in education and the community.
- It has been a good start to the year.
- Three ideas that staff discussed as the guiding principles.
 1. People before purpose
 2. "Yes, and" instead of "Yes, but" (Realizing that there may be limitations, but being optimistic to make changes to accomplish tasks, goals, etc.)
 3. Teaching versus learning
- Current enrollment is 476 students (including kindergarten). All students are at ESG this year and the school will not be using outdoor classrooms, tents or the Church this year unless 2m distancing is mandated.
- Pandemic continues to be a challenge, but there are a lot of opportunities. Classroom teachers are working hard to get the 1 meter plus distancing.
- Organization has been key for a successful start to the year.
- Changes will be made based on cohort sizing if the restrictions allow for it. Increasing the cohort size so that there can be grade groupings is not a possibility under the current restrictions, but once the school is able to create larger groups then they will try to get all students in each grade back together at recess.
- Routines are working well, and students are doing extremely well with procedures.
- Library is available this year in grade level cohorts.
- Kindergarten assessments will be happening shortly.
- Music room and gymnasium are operational this year. Gymnasium equipment sanitizing is still an issue so equipment is limited right now.

Questions to the Administrative team

- Bullying question from parent – What process is in place for reporting and handling bullying if it occurs? Answer: It should be brought to the attention of the classroom teacher first, but Cam and Paulette are also always available to receive a call or email to discuss as well.

Bill 64 update

- All bills are paused at this time due to the election of a new Premier in October.

Landscaping update

- Rocks at the front of the school were removed this summer as there were safety issues with the buses.
- A landscaper that works for the division came out to see the space and offer suggestions. The front of the school does need an upgrade. Grass does not grow well in some areas at the front of the school. Natural grasses, sodding and plants discussed, as well as using crushed rock in heavy traffic areas such as pathways and bike rack area. A quote for various ideas has not been prepared.
- PAC had offered in the 2020-21 school year to help pay for the front of the school project.
- The hill was put in by PAC and is enjoyed by the students, but the cracks are big in the spring and summer and the hill becomes an ice block and is dangerous in the winter months. Planting clover has been discussed, but has not been done.
- Other schools with hills require students to bring their own helmet and wear it. Maybe an idea to explore to be able to use the hill in the winter

Munch-a-lunch

- The hot lunch program will not be offered at this point due to complications with visitors to the school, as well as separate lunch times.

Fundraisers

- Discussed how they need to be meaningful for the school year so that students that are at the school benefit during that school year
- Peak of the Market is not an option as a school space is needed to organize the vegetables
- Gift Card fundraiser would be ideal for the fall. Lacoste Gift card fundraiser in May 2020 was successful and PAC members delivered the cards to homes.
- Book fair is now organized by the school with PAC helping to run it

- Last year PAC brought in an individual lunch for each staff member at the school for staff appreciation
- Fundraising money is used for the grade 5 grad expenses, CJS Bursary, student leadership recognition, and festival du voyageur activities

Virtual Open House

- In the past there has been an open house at a PAC meeting and parents are able to learn about what PAC does for ESG. If interested in a virtual meeting, then reach out to the PAC email address.

PAC Contact information

- PAC email is esgpac@gmail.com
- PAC website is <https://esgpac.ca>. All past meeting minutes and PAC information is posted here.
- PAC Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month

New Business

- Receptacles for masks
 - There are 2 indoor bins for the students to put their dirty masks in. The goal is to have one of these bins at every door
 - Question from parent: Is there an outdoor bin as there are masks all over the school yard? Answer: The plan will be to have the bins near the doors so that students can discard their masks as they exit the school.

Next Meeting: October 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 p.m.