

A.R. MacNeill Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

MINUTES

Present:

Executive: Borg Chan (Chairperson), Evelina Rubinchik (Secretary and Dry Grad Representative), Tom Wells (Incentive representative).

Administrator: Mr. Lee Banta and Mr. Herjeet Ghaug – Vice Principal.

Parents: Dale March, Yokin Tsui, Wendy, Marlyn Balicanta, Phoebe Xie, Bonnie Chu, Peter Zhu, Amy, Grace Duan, Judy Yip, Kasha, Zuher Manj.

The meeting started with Mr. Irani presentation on the A.R. MacNeill Advance Placement (AP) program from 7:00 to 7:35pm.

1. The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm.
2. Approval of November 22, 2016 meeting minutes: Motioned by Dale. Seconded by Yokin.
3. Approval of agenda for January 17, 2017 meeting: Motioned by Tom. Seconded by Dale.
4. Administration Report – Mr. Banta
 - A new Vice Principle (Mr. Merjeet Ghaug) will start in February to replace Mr. Lester Leung.
 - Dec 2 was Senior's Christmas Breakfast organized by the Leadership group. More than 120 seniors participated. This event was free; students cooked and served food as well as provided musical and dancing entertainment.
 - Breakfast with Santa was organized by the Student Council. Donations of food and money were collected for Richmond Food Bank.
 - A grant is received for a LED lighting upgrade. This upgrade project is ongoing for the whole school. The school library already has LED lights in place; the light upgrade for the classrooms will be next. This will help the energy and cost savings.
 - Jan 26 is Open House with various presentations and food prepared by students. Incentive Outdoor Academy Program will also be hosting presentations about their program.
 - Program planning for the next year is ongoing. Information night will be hosted for parents of Grade 8-11 students on Feb 8th at 7 pm.
 - MacNeill Idol competition is ongoing, semi-finals to be held this week and the winner will be determined next week and joined the District competition in the future.
5. Chairpersons Report – Borg Chan
 - Borg and Dale attended RDPA meeting in Jan 10, 2017. New School trustees were elected. A movie license for the whole district was discussed (MacNeill currently has its own license).
 - PAC101 training workshops for PAC Chairs, Fundraisers and Treasurers were attended by Borg, Dale and Yokin in Nov 2016.
 - Presentation on new curriculum for parents will take place on Feb 8, 5-7 pm (Cambie school).
 - Borg attended City of Richmond's Traffic Safety Committee meeting as the RDPA's representative. Mr. Banta commented that there are no major traffic issues at MacNeill.

- Next RDPA meeting is scheduled on Feb. 7. Dale is planning to attend the meeting.
 - Learning and the Brain Conference is scheduled for Sat, April 1, 2017 at MacNeill.
 - Dale was questioning the reason of school ground and parking lot areas not being cleaned during the snow storm. The parking lot was very icy. Mr. Banta responded that complains have been already made to school district authorities.
6. Treasurers Report – As the Treasurer is still vacant, Borg presented the latest bank statement (updated to amounts shown in end Dec 2016 statement):
 General account: \$280.45
 Gaming account: \$21,594.66 (sufficient funds for the approved budget)
 Dry Grad account: \$2,616.91
7. Incentive Representative – A cardboard boat competition took place in Dec and funds were raised for the Children’s Hospital (\$1,600 were collected). Cross country and downhill skiing are ongoing. A musical show (Beauty and the Beast) is planned for April. Movie productions are also ongoing. A French-class trip was organized to a local French café where students learned to make macaroons. Incentive parents are fundraising for new computers. Science fair is upcoming soon.
8. Dry Grad Representative – Evelina Rubinchik
- 3rd meeting took place in Dec 2016 and only 3 parents attended.
 - Fundraising activities are ongoing: Movie ticket sales (164 sold out of proposed 300) and the popcorn and plant sales are planning.
 - It was suggested that a reminder note should be sent to all Grade 12 and 11 parents that parent participation is needed by Feb; otherwise, the Dry Grad event may be cancelled.
9. Nominations: Phoebe Xie was nominated as Treasurer and Yokin Tsui was nominated as co-secretary. All in favor. Phoebe Xie will be one of the signing officers for the MacNeill School Account.
10. Dates of 2016-2017 Monthly PAC meetings
- The 2017 PAC meetings: February 21, April 18 and May 16 (AGM).
 - Meetings will generally be held in the school library and start at 7 pm. The presentation (if available) will also start at 7 pm and the monthly meeting will follow afterwards.
11. Meeting adjourned 8:24 pm

Secretary: Evelina Rubinchik
Reviewed by: Yokin Tsui and Borg Chan