

**A.R. MacNeill Parent Advisory Council Minutes**  
**Location: Library**  
**Wednesday September 28, 2022**  
**PAC meeting**  
**6:30 pm**

Present: John Blair (Principal)

Aspi Ustad, PAC Chair  
Catherine Ellens, Secretary  
Angela Ng, Treasurer

Parent attendees:  
Gang-Tzu Chen  
Medhacie Towelde  
Grace Peralta  
Jenny Pan  
Jocelyn Chua  
Kristen Spencer  
Lucia Liu  
Jag Reehal  
Hannah Meng  
Rena Shields  
Corry Dawn  
Scott Falkner  
Wendy Ng

1. Welcome and Introductions.
  2. Call to order 6:40 pm
  3. Approval of the minutes for May 2022 meeting
    - Catherine motioned for approval; Aspi seconded. Minutes were approved
  4. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda.
    - No additions to agenda
  5. Nomination, Elections and Confirmation of the 2022/23 Executive Positions
- Rena Shields - offered to be co-chair and co-treasurer  
Aspi Upstad - chair

Angela Ng - co-treasurer  
Catherine Ellens - co-secretary

Discussed the purpose of the PAC, how to support the students and the school. Emphasis on providing support and helping the students and teachers.

#### 6. Administration Report- Mr. John Blair

- Mr. Blair has created an Instagram account and Twitter account for the school - Keeps people up to date and allows people to connect in a different way.

- New staff additions:

Have hired 5 positions, still missing 0.5 counsellor position.

Coco Wu - Digital Literacy, Law 12, CLE 10, Math 8 teacher

Dallin Akune - Learning Resource and Life skills teacher

Lynette Liang - ELL teacher

Michael Nguyen - Socials and English teacher

Jessica Kirk - Aspen Learning Centre

All of staff hired, except the 0.5 counsellor position

- First two weeks have been a great start to the school year

There have been assemblies

Personal Learning Time (PLT) - PLT has had a slow start - 300 kids using it - some show up but don't sign up

Meet the teacher night was very successful about 300-400 parents showed up. Allows parents to see the classrooms and the school. It was great to see such a large connection to the school and their teenagers.

Grade 11/12 Parent Information Night (in person)- There was a great turnout of parents

Today was Terry Fox Run - it was great. Had about 250 runners. Every single person, students and staff went for a walk.

Athletics has started up - grade 8 and 9 volleyball and senior girls volleyball, but not senior boys volleyball

Cross country has started

Tomorrow is orange shirt day (Sept 29)- encourage student to wear orange to show commitment to truth and reconciliation

Tomorrow is clubs day too (Sept 29)- kids can explore the different clubs available to them.

Oct 5 - Photo Day

Oct 18 - Collaboration Day

Oct 21 - Pro D Day

Oct 31 - Halloween

Oct 31 - Interim Reports Published

Student/family affordability fund available - It is a fund given from the Ministry with hope that families in need would be supported. Have many families in this situation - want to make sure we are here to help them. If it is you or someone you know, please send an email to the school: [macneill@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:macneill@sd38.bc.ca) Your privacy will be protected. There will be a time when the fund runs out.

The school does offer lunch support programs, have always provided funding for kids in need for books, clothes, other things.

Still starting to get to know community and staff - sits in classrooms and all around the school, as it is his responsibility to know what is going on at the school.

Question to Mr Blair from a parent: What is the most positive thing you've seen at the school?  
Mr. Blair's response: The energy in the building - there is a different vibe from the kids - high energy. Good sense of community. Staff are super positive and trying to keep the energy high - today 35 teachers ran in the Terry Fox Run. He has never had that many teachers running before - they usually walk.

#### 6. Chair report - Aspi

Nothing to report at this time as school has just started.

#### 7. Treasurer Report—Angela Ng:

- Have residual money from last year. As of Aug 1, 2022:

Chequing account: \$290.17

Gaming account: \$13,580.06

Dry Grad account: \$4208.18

We should get this year's gaming money Sept 30.

Mr. Blair will speak with the teachers to see what is on their wish list. Will be reviewed at a future meeting.

9. Incentive update - already had field trips and planning more. 42 kids over the three grades (grades 8, 9 10)

Dry Grad - explained what dry grad was. Catherine Ellens and Wendy Ng, parents of Grade 12 students will set up a Dry After Grad (DAG) meeting to start the fundraising process.

BCCPAC membership renewal and electing a representative - table for next meeting

Next meeting Oct 19 at 7pm

Meeting Adjourned 8 pm.