

A.R. MacNeill Parent Advisory Council Minutes

Location: Library

Wednesday September 20, 2023 @7pm

Attendees: John Blair (School Principal)
David Yang (Trustee, Board of Education)

Jag Reehal (PAC, Chairman)
Angela Ng (PAC, Treasurer)

Parents:

Julie Huang
Mar Tinsay
Moon Chan
Primi Prayoga
Kelly Kavanagh
Adam Khong
Nillo Miranda
Mariden Miranda
Reza Tavakoli
Elaheh Jamaabi
Ju Yang
Laura Margolin
Xuan Zheng
Mandy Lam
Canny Sin

Meeting started at 7:10 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Held on 3rd Wednesday of the month (@1 hour)
- Dates on School Website

2. Call to Order 7:15 pm

3. Approval of Minutes for May 2023 meeting

- Minutes Uploaded to Website and Instagram Channel

4. Approval and/ or Additions to the Agenda

- Guest Speaker: David Yang - School Board Trustee
 - Previous student of MacNeill Secondary
 - School connections/relationships is part of the fabric of our community

- Inviting parents to reach out to his office with concerns that cannot be addressed at the School Administration level

5. Nomination, Election and Confirmation of the 2023/24 Executive Positions

Returning Executives: Jag Reehal - Chairman, Angela Ng -Treasurer

- Kelly Kavanagh – Co-Secretary
- Mariden Miranda – Co-Secretary
- Rezan Tavakoli – Co-Treasurer

6. Administration Report – Mr. John Blair

- 54 staff, 14 new
 - New Counsellor – Joseph Vernier
 - New Home Economics Teacher - great Kitchen experience – Lenny Victus
 - New Business Teacher – Harrison Brown
 - + Resource /ELL Teachers
 - + English and Science Teachers
- 840 students for 2023/24
 - 46 International Students
 - 49 Incentive Program
 - 8 Aspen Program
- Aspen Program – 8 students with high academic/social/behavioural/emotional needs
 - Allowing for social integration with school population
 - Considering safety needs of students and school population
- Incentive Outdoor Education – a cohort of 49 students across Grade 8 to 10
 - participate in outdoor activities/community service/ growth experiences
 - in addition to their academic requirements of their grade
- Growing School – 811 students enrolled last year in June
 - Will need room to house the increased enrollment

7. Chairperson Report – Mr. Jag Reehal

- Had two members on PAC Executive last year
- Need parents to participate so it can run successfully

8. Treasurer Report – Angela Ng – Financial Report

- General Account = \$189.43 -> via Fundraising
- Gaming Account = \$10,711.05 -> Used previously for Teacher Wish Lists
- Dry Grad Account = \$4,323.13 -> \$2000 PAC funds & Fundraising
- Need co-treasurer as this is Angela's last year

- Need two PAC Executive to sign every cheque
- Waiting for Gaming Application (\$20/ student) to use on Dry Grad/ Extra Curricular Activities/ School Clubs ???
 - deliver Gaming Report to Government of how money was used

9. Updates from:

- **Incentive Representative**

- Volunteers: Kelly Kavanagh
- students get a great personal growth/ academic experience
 - 4 main Teachers get to know each student and have many courses together
 - Grade 10 Outdoor Ed Incentive class counts as credits towards graduation requirements

- **Dry Grad Representative**

- Volunteers:
 - Nilo Miranda
 - Angela Ng
 - Kelly Kavanagh
- Parent run / organized entertainment for Grade 12 graduates in the overnight after the Grade 12 Dinner Dance
- Cannot run without parent volunteers!!!
- Date: June 27th 2023 -until @ 4:30am
- Previous Entertainment Ideas
 - Air Tattoo Artist
 - Inflatables
 - DJ for background music
 - Magician
 - Snacks

10. Other Business:

- Mural (school exterior wall/ facing the public) – on School Name wall
 - Grant submitted for \$30,000 – to pay for an artist to do a Wordel or Menti
 - November Plan to obtain Students/ Staff/Parent? Input on words that best represent the goals /identity of the school community
 - Expected completion in 2024
- Traffic Light Update
 - Applied to city to get turning light installed on Granville Avenue

- City commitment to complete in 2024

11. Other Business

- Considering Inside Wall Mural in School Gym
 - School may ask for PAC Funding -\$30 000
- Principal's plan to encourage positive behaviours and diminish negative behaviours at school
 - Hard Copy of Student Agenda
 - 32 pages about school expectations and P.O.W.E.R. matrix
 - POWER CARDS being distributed by school staff to students for POWER behaviours
 - November Blitz to do give exposure to students, build excitement with prize draws, and encourage Grade Battles between the grades
 - Possibly prize of meal for whole grade that has highest accumulation of POWER Cards
- Change of Grade Reporting for Grade 8 and 9
 - Shift to Proficiency Skills to discourage competition for grades and possible negative impact on self-esteem
- Principal Proposal for Dry Grad -give \$4000 more to Dry Grad so there is less fundraising pressure
 - Instead of \$4000, given \$8000
 - As scholarship money cannot be held over in PAC accounts for future years
 - Need to be careful not to complete with Contracted Kitchen /Cafeteria Services
 - Previous Fundraising events – Samosa Day, Bubble Tea Day
 - NOT X3 per month of Fundraising events in May and June
- Teacher Wish List Plans
 - Principal give Teacher Request to submit Teacher Wish List at Oct 3rd Staff Meeting
 - PAC decide on Wish Lists at Oct 18th 2023 PAC meeting
- MacNeill Merchandise Store
 - Principal considering asking new Business Teacher to be involved to create store
 - Parent suggestion – Each Grade create their own designs for their own hoodies
 - Consider how PAC can help with this

12. Next PAC Meeting will be on October 18, 2022 @ 7:00pm

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm