

Lansdowne Middle School

PAC Meeting Minutes

South Campus - Oct 26, 2022

Present: Whitney Y (Treasurer), Craig H (Chair/President), Carter G (Principal), Emma M, Gareth R, Irene P, Carlene N, Cait I, Bijan A

Kick off

Territorial acknowledgement

Call to order: 6:03 pm

Round table of introductions, starting with President and Treasurer – presented the LPAC's need for other parents to fill empty PAC positions. Other parents introduced themselves plus how many kids they have in each grade.

Sign up sheet circulated to record attendees + email addresses.

Pre –Discussion

Questions about the financial statement and the planned spending amounts: Where do the numbers come from, and what is the purpose of the spending? - These amounts are a standard and repeated part of the LPAC year, and are included in the proposed budget for the school year created in June and Sept. LPAC provides all classes \$15 per student to support field trips or other activities, and we allocate an amount (\$7000 this year) that is used to complete faculty/club/student led initiatives; these are applied for through the administration and vetted/voted on by the LPAC members in Nov meeting. Unspent amounts will remain available for later in the year if additional requests come up.

Reports

Chair

Posed a question for thought and later discussion – 'What do we want the PAC to accomplish?'

FB site – Current PAC members have acquired the admin rights on LPAC site from 2016-2017 - <https://www.facebook.com/LansdownePAC/>

It looks like the settings and security are fit for our purposes, and this is great bc now we don't have to set up a new one. What we need are some priorities and rules around the site, ideas for what content we want to post for Lansdowne parents.

Ideas

- Notification of sports tryouts and other school activities. Todd Schroeder is sports lead at the school and could be a key contact for this.

- Should we reproduce daily school announcements? Perhaps the school business should remain on the school site, and the FB site is for PAC business. Since the FB site can easily publish links perhaps using links to the Lansdowne site is a better approach than copying content.
- Should we invite the LMPA to post information and updates as well? Compare to the weekly announcements that go out to parents of kids in music, there is already a lot of info going out. But parents of kids not in music don't see the announcements, so the FB site could offer a new perspective.

Agreed that we need to formally define the site purpose and plans for use. For example, a statement that we will always post something new to the site at least every 2 weeks. Action – Craig, Irene and Carlene to meet and discuss further.

Treasurer

Gaming Grant is deposited, the \$15 per student classroom funding comes from this account.

Our current parent donations total is \$3000, down from last year's \$4000. Although LPAC will get a little more, typically most of the donations are received by Oct 31.

\$204 extra credited back, from a double charge last year.

Question – about defined line items on budget. Reiterate that the \$15 per head is established LPAC culture, and that the PAC allocates \$5-7000 for faculty spending requests (\$7000 this year).

Question about how could the PAC allocate/deliver funds to classes/teachers to help w/fieldtrips (eg buses)? LPAC has additional funds but the issues would be timing, priority, equitability. Since there exists a deficit of funding to English classes in particular, how could the PAC provide balance? Could we allocate funds and give on demand? Agreed to hold discussion to support teacher requests as they are made. Revisit in Nov and get school admin advice.

Administration

Carter had 2 funding applications, we decided to discuss these before admin report.

Faculty Funding Request 1 – Eco-Education garden

Chelsea Mason, Lorraine Powell – Chelsea attended the meeting to present and answer questions.

Lansdowne has an outdoor indigenous garden project at S campus, started by indigenous program. SatinFlower was the source of the planted native plants. Plants are in ground as of this week. The site was just tarps over the summer.

Students in Eco-system program plant species and develop outdoor life skills. Need is for a nature scape in the outside class area at N campus. Student Garden club already removed invasive species. Now students want to plant trees as protection from sun and rain.

Also need support for general clean up and bench repairs (sanding, staining). There is also the S campus court yard which has herb gardens and planters.

Spending - Input from horticulturist (sd61) on type of tree, mulch and dirt, stain for benches, handheld tools.

History of the bench repair – bad stain job tho it was protected. Sd61 will groundskeep and keep grounds free of weeds, can tear out older projects that have become overgrown.

Can we get free mulch from city?

Action – Chelsea can define a list of needs. Asking for \$1000 ongoing. PAC could help fundraise?

Ongoing need for parent support, what could we do? Summer care? Call outs to parents? Fencing coordination at S campus?

Faculty Funding Request 2 – Outdoor area maintenance

Mark deLeeuw - Covered area over at N campus outdoor stage. School has some money allocated from previous year (15000), and is reviewing what to do with it. S vs N – split it? Other requests in the pipeline, or could bank it against larger purchase in future years?

Dangers that it would be abused/ damaged. Homeless shelter? Don't want to bring in problems.

20x20 area, split log on wood foundation. Lots of decision making taking place, Carter is reviewing best approach. SD61 outdoor learning spaces – could be source of additional funding? Could be retractable shade that can be stored?

PAC could help fund raise? GG money – can it be used for this?

Administration report – Carter

- Projected number predictions have been thrown off by COVID so numbers are difficult to project. Long term planning was completed years ago and is in a state of flux.

General PAC discussion

Need snacks at future meetings? Who?

Emergency prep – review given, invitation

Parent education, Events – Cait I proposes we organize a screening of Screenagers, meant for both parents and students. This film showing is facilitated with materials from producer.

<https://www.screenagersmovie.com/find-a-screening>

Could cohost with other PACs, OBHigh? \$950 US / \$650 US for 2 / 1 titles. Opportunity to use the auditorium at OBHigh? If it is a PAC led event vs Lansdowne school led event would this impact cost for auditorium rental?

Timing - December is busy with holiday planning, but Jan and Feb have LPAC meetings and would be a good time get organized and hold an event before spring break in March.

Action – Craig will discuss with OBHigh PAC on Nov 7, LPAC committee to discuss further and attempt to promote.

Fund raising – there are no long term funding initiatives For Lansdowne at this time.

Next steps

Facebook – Irene and Carlene

Events Committee – meet and discuss

Emergency Prep – meet and plan next action

LPAC Secretary – Pending interested party

LPAC Vice President – Pending interested party

Wrap up

Call to finish: 7:20 pm

Next meeting

Will be 6 pm Wednesday Nov 23, in north campus library.