

# Lansdowne Middle School

## PAC Meeting Minutes

### North Campus – Nov 23, 2022

**Present:** Whitney Y (Treasurer), Craig H (Chair/President), Jeni C (Vice-Principal), Nicole K, Irene P, Carlene N, Cait I, Bijan A, Leila D (school counsellor)

#### **Kick off**

Territorial acknowledgement

Call to order: 6:02 pm

Round table of introductions, including President and Treasurer – parents introduced themselves plus how many kids they have in each grade.

Sign up sheet circulated to record attendees + email addresses.

Welcomed Jeni and Leila with thanks for attending the meeting.

#### **Admin report – Jeni C**

##### Sports

Basketball season has been popular and is just wrapping up. There were 8 teams and over 100 kids playing.

Volleyball season is starting next week.

##### Events

Students are busy organizing the Winter-Dance, for G7 and G8 students. It will be held at North campus as an evening event, and they need to sell at least 200 tickets to have it go forward – 80 tickets were sold on the first day, so success is looking likely. Students are doing all the planning, it is great to see a student led event.

South campus will have an event during the day for the G6 students.

##### School goals / Student Voice

Carter has been busy generating goals w/faculty and staff, and now is switching to meeting with students. Student Voice is a chance for classes to present input on goals. There are 2 reps from each class who gather the input from their class and then meet with Carter. All the G6 south campus classes have had their meeting, now moving onto north campus classes. Some of the students said they are proud to be part of Student Council! 😊 This is a new Council Lansdowne-style.

##### Garden

The south campus garden has its tarps removed, and the battle is on with the crows. These hungry birds are now digging the garden up and pulling out plants by the roots. Probably hunting grubs that are

populating now on the roots? Staff are trying to drive off the birds but the garden is taking a lot of damage. Need a scarecrow set up? Hopefully the season will progress and the grubs life cycle will cease.

## **Presentation by Student Counselor**

Leila D is the counsellor from south campus and shared with us a proposal to host a workshop at Lansdowne. This event would focus on student screen use and social media related issues, under the auspices of Gambling Support BC. Initial plans are that this is for the G6 students only. There is no cost to Lansdowne and 3 main topics:

- Digital citizenship - behaviour online can impact face2face and change the way students interact
- Online safety – hazards and precautions
- Gaming – effects and issues stemming from

The workshops will take place in class time as part of PE and Health, and would be facilitated separately in each class. A follow up event could be held for parents to attend, and wider involvement including G7 and G8 students is a possibility, but would need a lot of further planning for facilitation, and may not be possible given the timelines needed to visit every G7-8 class.

### **Discussion**

Parents shared opinions and experiences of parenting kids, conflict over limiting tech and gaming hours. Overall the reaction to the proposed workshops was quite positive, and the parent session is welcome.

Timing could be early Feb? North campus gym is busy but could be used, would we use bleachers or small group tables or both? Need to know the facilitator/presenter vision. South campus gym capacity not known, but could hold a small parent event, with group work a possibility. Lots of details still unknown and Leila will pursue these and share with the PAC.

### **What is the counselling role at Lansdowne?**

A lot of conflict resolution. 1 on 1 discussions with students, but also some group intervention as needed. Focus on mindfulness and regular interaction with students. Lansdowne south is a diverse single age group, there are children from many backgrounds and family situations due to the large cachement area. It is interesting and a little different working with the single grade, compared to previous campuses with many grades.

## **Campus Funding requests**

We reviewed and approved a request that came to the PAC from two teachers: Chelsea Mason and Lorraine Powell: \$1000 towards the upkeep and improvement of the North and South campus outdoor learning spaces. We also acknowledge that given the value these spaces represent to the students that we will add this as a recurring line item to the PAC budget for next year, recommending that this be ongoing.

### **Discussion**

Point raised that for this funding to come from the Gaming Grant requires a full audit trail, with receipts for full amounts spent. The PAC has more flexibility funding from the Donation account, so that is a second option. In general, what is the PAC approach wrt receipts? Are receipts always required for all

funding? Decision made to request an annual review/report from the involved faculty, to be provided for the PAC meeting in May.

Noted that this initiative certainly supports extra-curricular activity, but because it is learning support then it may not meet Gaming Grant requirements. Suggested that we review Gaming Grant guidelines, especially wrt if receipts must be provided for all expenditures or not. **Action** – *Whitney to discuss further with Melody Stark, including case of unused amounts rolling year to year.*

See <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/sports-recreation-arts-and-culture/gambling/grants/guide-pac.pdf> for Gaming Grant guidelines.

## **PAC Budget discussion**

Does the PAC save across years for a longer term goal? We could but have no such defined goals at this time.

The PAC provides \$15 per student to every classroom teacher, to support activities and field trips. Is all this money always used? How much of the field trip money is on account with the school, unspent from previous years? **Action** – *Whitney to discuss with Melody Stark*

In pursuit of equity between student programs (for example between English and French classes), how can faculty ask for additional field trip money? PAC doesn't have process for faculty to request. **Action** – *Craig to inquire with school administration regarding future process details. We will strive to establish PAC policy to vote in the Jan meeting.*

No kid left behind, means the class will take all the kids (even the ones that don't/can't pay). This is already done by teachers thru whatever funding is available.

## **Next steps**

*Facebook – with Irene and Carlene, probable launch of the site targeting Dec 2 bulletin*

*Events Committee – planning possible screening of movie Screenagers with OBHigh Pac*

*Emergency Prep – need to meet and plan next action*

*LPAC Secretary – Pending interested party*

*LPAC Vice President – Pending interested party*

## **Wrap up**

Call to finish: 7:25 pm

## **Next meeting**

Will be 6 pm Wednesday Jan 25, in south campus library.

