

Lansdowne Middle School

PAC Meeting Minutes

South Campus – Jan 18, 2023

Present: Whitney Y (Treasurer), Craig H (Chair/President), Carter (Principal), Jennie C (Vice-Principal), Gareth R, Cait I, Matthew C, Carlene N, Irene P, Perzia K, Tristan R

Kick off

Call to order: 6:00 pm

Territorial acknowledgement

Round table introductions

Nice to see a few new faces: Matthew and Tristan. And Perzia is attending for the first time as Lansdowne Band PAC liaison. Welcome all!

Admin reports

Chair

The PAC executive is represented by only the 2 current parents and both will grad out of Lansdowne in June. We are seeking parents with whom to transfer executive roles and knowledge over the next few months. There are only 3 more LPAC meetings this school year, and the summer will come quickly.

Treasurer in particular is a larger role because of the online doc repositories, necessary relations with the admin and the wider domain of topics to be aware of. Looking for any parent that has accounting background and/or interest in this key role.

Treasurer

Latest updated financial reports are not available because Whitney could not reach Melody (LMS accounts secretary). Jennie reports that Melody has left us to support another campus. Role taken over for LMS by Nicole Greiner, who works for district 61 and is now acting accounts sec for LMS.

ACTION - Whitney will contact Nicole and get LPAC balances and reports sorted out.

2 Faculty Funding Requests

Lunchtime student clubs in the S Campus library - Game café + Maker club - request of \$1000 for games and materials

Melty beads, needle felting, watercolour painting

Will try to bring in a game consultant from a local game café to suggest age appropriate games and maybe even have a teaching session on campus.

These lunchtime clubs give the G6 students another option at lunch.

Discussion – Is it possible to acquire used games - why don't we ask parents if they have lightly used games around their house that could be donated. Is there interest in DnD? – Yes some kids are playing DnD regularly now. Also, in past years a G6 teacher organized DnD but she has moved on.

Emailed parent comments:

Has there been consideration to include French language games? Several card-style games are available in both languages, and even if the conversation at the table remains in English, immersion students should be able to read and play with cards in either language. If the game is fun enough, like *Exploding Kittens* or *Unstable Unicorns*, it may even not seem like learning at all.

I support maker spaces, but I am concerned about the ecological impact of melt-beads as an art opportunity. In my experience, the products made don't seem to have much life outside of their creation, and are often thrown away rather than displayed.

Mural on wall for Eco-Ed - Request of \$1000-1500 for building supplies

Plexiglass cover, framing, mounting costs, other supplies

Discussion - Installs are not covered by district if they are extra to classes.

Emailed parent comments:

Great opportunity to involve so many students in an art fixture that will represent the value of Eco Ed and highlight student learning. I wonder if they would consider Indigenizing such a mural, highlighting the connections between land and people, plus lauding the value of land stewardship.

Outcome

Motioned, voted and approval of both requests passed.

Question asked about timing of requests wrt the school year. The LPAC asks for requests in the fall, by Nov meeting if possible. Most years we do not allocate all the discretionary fund and have remaining balance that can be allocated later in the year. If requests came in quite late, like May/June, then we would preferably push that to following year because not serving the students of this year. Not a rule, just a general preference.

Question about process, when do requests come in

Appreciation for custodial employees, separate snack or coffee for them.

Parent Education Events

*Proposal – request for funding \$300

Administration told us that Leila – counsellor south campus – is requesting funds to pay for facilitator of a parent education night on topics of online citizenship and web safety. PAC discussed dates and format, requesting additional information. Initially this was to be in week of Feb 21, but this conflicts with the next event. Too much for one week?

*Screenagers movie screening - Next Chapter

Scheduled on Feb 23 in the Oak Bay HS theatre (Dave Dunnett). This is a multi-school event being put on by Oak Bay HS PAC, Lansdowne MS PAC and Monterey MS PAC, for parents and students of all 3 schools.

Discussion

The filmmaker Delaney Ruston offers discussion focussed podcasts plus tech Tuesday mailouts.

Marketing to Lansdowne parents will continue to be email notices sent by the school admin.

Gareth – cannot attend but can help with communications

Tristan – happy to help with graphics as needed

Other

- Definitely include this event in coming Friday notices
- Could have posters around the school
- Could there be child care at OBH during the event?
- Question is how to motivate Lansdowne students to attend the movie, and bring along their parents
- What is the age range of viewing? All topics seem to be kid safe, target audience is middle and high school students.

Facebook update

200% increase in users/traffic. We have shared the link in Friday bulletins and in direct LPAC emails to parents.

School Admin Reports

North

A variety of active clubs give students options on breaks, includes sports. There is a new games group on Fridays at N – lots of uptake.

Spaghetti bridge building -> Camosun

Testing and surveys for all Gs

PCAP – Eng Sci Math combo in Apr to G8s

G7 FSAs, learning survey

G6 – MDI

South

Eco-Ed – invasive species ID and handling (Friends of Bowker Creek)

Bowker creek access for future

Friends of King's Park – grant to plant and support native plants

Coming clubs – DnD, Magic Gathering

Fields are muddy and getting tracked, had to close the back field, grass is being ruined. Watching it to see when we could reopen.

District maintenance? In future month this will happen. Other campuses in town impacted the same way, This has taken longer than in past years. S campus draining has been bad this year (expected 5 days, 1 week). Waiting to see how it dries out.

Details about the successful Breakfast club – 8 am, 5 days a week. N has one too, but with less students

- music, relaxing, toast, cream cheese and bagels
- Some kids come early, want the food (like!)
- Grant from Breakfast to Beethoven - \$500

Volleyball is going fully and has lots of teams and lots of participation

Other

Bus costs are increasing, Gareth said costs have gone up 200-300% for sports team transportation.

Kudos to music program for motivating the students. They learn goal setting + belonging. These skills will carry to HS, + social sensibilities and group work.

Next steps

Emergency Prep – meet and plan next action

LPAC Secretary – Pending interested party

LPAC Vice President – Pending interested party

Wrap up

Call to finish: 7:17 pm

Next meeting

Will be 6 pm Wednesday Feb 22, in north campus library.