



École Intermédiaire
LANSDOWNE
Middle School



**PARENTS
ADVISORY**
COUNCIL

AGENDA

23 April 2025

18:00 – 19:00

South Campus Library

- Territorial Acknowledgement and check-in
- Presentation : **First Lego League**
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of 27 November Minutes (attached)
- Approval of 22 January Minutes (attached)
- Approval of 26 February Minutes (attached)

- Reports
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
 - LMPA Liaison
 - VCPAC Liaison
 - Lansdowne administration

- LPAC FB Page
- Parent Education Ideas
- Next meeting AGM 28 May (North)
- Adjournment

Attendees: Gillian Braun (Principal), Micha Seaberg (Vice Principal) Bijan Ahmadi (President and Chair), Rosemary McCutcheon (Treasurer), Laura Siberry (LMPA Liaison), Hilary Hope (Secretary), Ann Valikoski, Kristy Domineck, Nicole Spencer, Kristy Domineck,

Regrets: Sarah Hostettler, Sahara Tamarin

6: 04 pm meeting called to order and territorial acknowledgement delivered

- Approval of agenda with one addition - Laura will start off the meeting with her statement/question:
- Laura asked Admin how we can support LGBTQ2+ within the school, library, in light of recent discriminations happening in US. Gillian spoke about how Lansdowne libraries are open spaces, available to all. Libraries are kept relevant and up to date. Biggest concern is helping youth discern truth from propaganda on social media, applying critical thinking.

Chair report

- Nothing to report

Treasurer report

- there are still many club & teacher requests that haven't been fulfilled (money hasn't been claimed).

LMPA Liaison report

- Musical Desserts was last Friday. It was a great success, super fun night, fabulous community building, great fundraising opportunity - raised almost \$11,000.
- Spring concert next Thursday March 6th. The plan is to have Grade 6 families 6 - 6:45pm and Grade 7/8 families 7:30-9pm. PAC would like to have a table at the concert again.

VCPAC Liaison report :

- no update, no one present

Administration report

- Feb focus on Black History month
- DEI committee formed recently, meet once per month, at staff meetings, and discuss whole school initiatives
- Book Club
- Leadership class: looking to put on Spring Dance, taking on the yearbook with Ms Tait.
- Smaller grade 6 group anticipated for next year
- Pink Shirt day - trying to turn it into Compassion Week
- 48 students went to Quebec
- March 2nd bottle drive for Quebec trip, partly past parents and future parents of Quebec trip students
- What skills do grade 6 students need for the transition to North campus? Talking about it and working with students to get ready to navigate things like hallways and opening locks.

LPAC DRAFT MINUTES 26 FEBRUARY 2025

New Funding Requests:

- Lauren Marcus founded Musical Theatre Club. Next performance: Wizard of Oz in 30 minutes on March 11th at South Campus. Receiving some donations from Willows (costumes, sets). Requesting funds to offset costs for this year and build for next year (Gillian has suggested \$300).
- Still have \$1400 to allocate from donations funds. Gillian looking into past requests that weren't approved (yet) to discuss what to fund.
- \$500 request for game bins & games for upstairs hallway for Grade 8s - to create community between French & English students
- Christina Wilson request for \$500 for gardening club (North)
- Request from Gillian Braun for paint for 4 x Four Square courts: \$500

Motion to approve:
\$400 to musical theatre club
\$500 for game bins
\$500 for four square court paint
unanimously approved.

New Business

- Parent Education Events: no action has been taken. Bijan to bring parent education ideas to the April meeting and we will discuss to inform for next year. Application starts in September. Rosemary recommends having a Parent Education Lead.

Minutes

Tabled minutes from November and January to next meeting.

7:15 pm meeting adjourned

Next meeting: 23 April (South)

LPAC DRAFT MINUTES 22 JANUARY 2025

Attendees: Micha Seaberg (Vice Principal – North), Beth Richardson (vice Principal – South) Bijan Ahmadi (Chair), Rosemary McCutcheon (Treasurer), Hilary Hope (Secretary), Laura Siberry (LMPA Liaison), Carlene Nex (VCPAC Rep), Sarah Hostettler, Sahara Tamarin

6:04pm Bijan called meeting to order / Territorial Acknowledgement

Approval of Agenda

Approval of November 27th Minutes held until next meeting, upon further clarification

clarification: LMPA can apply for community gaming grant, but not PAC gaming grant

Reports

VCPAC Liaison (Carlene):

Update regarding SPLO Issue, Safety Plan requested by Minister of Education from VSB

Trustees submitted 3 safety plans, Minister is reviewing

VCPAC had a meeting last week: very divided on suggestion from Minister that Board trustees be removed if unable to submit adequate safety plan

Discussions with Ministry on Jan 23: 1-3 reps from each PAC requested to attend

VCPAC advised the Ministry they feel the timeline doesn't provide them enough opportunity to consult with school community

Bijan said the PAC did receive this communication from Friday at 6pm from the Minister.

Nissa and Braden (executives from VCPAC) participated in a call with Minister on Jan 20: their feedback:

Given the timeline it's difficult to provide feedback

VCPAC did invite Minister to the AGM

VCPAC having a meeting Jan 29 to speak with PACs review feedback to provide to the Minister and regarding safety (specifically police interviewing students)

Chair:

Our meetings are a way for parents to engage in the process and have their voices heard by the VCPAC.

If parents have concerns about communication, please attend the VCPAC meetings as well.

We recognize as a PAC that we are not promoting any particular policy.

Treasurer:

\$100 donation received. \$417 distributed in past month: \$235 to School Library Outdoor Ed, \$168 to Baking Club and \$14 to Cursive Writing Club

LMPA Liaison:

Musical Desserts planning happening! Less than 1 month away

Some businesses who have donated for MD are interested in connecting with the PAC or administration to promote their businesses through community outreach

Lansdowne administration:

Mica: Lots happened since Nov 27th

Dec 4th: campus cousins Grade 8 engage with Indigenous cousins, held at Victoria Native Friendship Center. The 1st time the district has facilitated something like this.

Thinking about upcoming Grade 5 and 8 transitions

Next Weds marks 1/2 way point of the school year

May 15 is Lansdowne's Transition Day

Last week's lockdown drill done really executed by students & staff

Gillian & Mica visiting with different pods at North and discuss behavioural expectations - navigating hallways, what it's like in the bathrooms, behaviour at bus stops, etc.

LPAC DRAFT MINUTES 22 JANUARY 2025

Middle school Pro D this Friday - all middle school teachers meeting at Central for the learning sessions.
Suicide education sessions and information shared with students

Late FRM registration next week

Quebec trip coming up! Mica acknowledged staff who are accompanying students

District transfer process coming up in March, information will be going out to parents soon

Another fire drill Tuesday Feb 11

Family Date Feb 17 (Stat), followed by CC day

Pink Shirt Day Feb 26 - will have some activities at the school

Sexual health sessions upcoming for all grades

Musical/Theatre presentation March 11 - Wizard of Oz in 30 minutes! Will be daytime and afternoon performances

Talking about bringing in practitioners to talk to students about important topics: eg. Vaping and narcotics use. Want to empower kids with knowledge prior to their transition to High School

Times Colonist 10k run: Beth will be heading up the team! Parents are welcome join the school team - better discount

Black Grad in May: available for grade 8 and grade 12 students. Info will be shared with parents as get closer to the date

Huge amount of effort and work goes into organizing hot lunches every day of the week.

Supporting 14 Lansdowne volleyball teams: 8 girls 6 boys and intramural league on Tues for grade 6 students. 200+ kids involved.

After break will see more sport support: field hockey, rugby, badminton, etc.

Scent free zone policy - information sent home to parents. Want to reinforce idea of a shared space

Reinforcing Online Safety: dangers of social media (posting things online). Ensuring topics are relevant, age appropriate and different every year

Mica acknowledges the support of the staff who volunteer their time to help all of the many (lunchtime) clubs. Would like to propose some teacher appreciation. Bijan confirmed PAC wants to show appreciation for teachers who take time out of their day, beyond the school day, near the end of the year. Beth suggested to put a request out to parents of students should they want to donate to support.

Beth: Lego league team won championship at UVic on Jan 22. Heading to the provincial championships!

Open gym also happening at South: bagels and open gym in the mornings. South at 8:20am, North at 8am. Sometimes can't open gym if there's a morning sports practice. Lots of donations from Thrifty's.

Lahal tournament coming up: grade 6, 7, and 8 students are all engaged

Black History month coming up next month - planning for that

New Business

New Funding request: ArtStart grant with artist Ruby Diaz Smith who has a new Book on the 1st black lifeguard in Vancouver. This learning opportunity involves the History of Black Settlers on Salt Spring Island. Art Start funds 70% of the project, school needs to come up with 30% of funds. For transportation on Salt Spring Island: approx \$400. Supports one grade 6 class of 26 students.

Bijan motioned to approve the request; 2nd by Rosemary & Sarah.

Facebook page: what is the purpose of the FB page and why does it exist? Bijan believes better to keep Lansdowne PAC FB group to events coming out of our PAC. Sarah proposed to show how the PAC is financially supporting the school & clubs (eg Lego league). Going to revisit at next PAC meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:25pm

Next meeting February 26th at 6pm at North Campus.

Attendees: Gillian Braun (Principal), Micha Seaberg (Vice Principal) Bijan Ahmadi (President and Chair), Rosemary McCutcheon (Treasurer), Laura Siberry (LMPA Liaison), Sarah Hostettler, Ann Valikoski, Kristy Domineck, Nicole Spencer, Kristy Domineck, Sahara Tamarin

Regrets: Hilary Hope (Secretary)

6: 05 pm meeting called to order and territorial acknowledgement delivered

- November agenda and October meeting minutes moved by unanimous consent
- Roundtable introductions held to welcome new members at large

Chair report

- Bijan shared that Sundance-Bank Elementary School PAC will be hosting a parent education session on supporting children with anxiety. **ACTION:** Bijan to send event info to Gillian to include in an upcoming weekly "This Week at Lansdowne" email to families
- We had a great response to our call for parent-education event suggestions. The funding initially identified for this initiative has dried up, but we can discuss this in January. The VCPAC/BCPAC might be a potential funding source. It could be funded through an honorarium. **ACTION:** Bijan to bring this topic back to the group for discussion at the January 22 PAC meeting.

Treasurer report

- Rosemary shared that the 2024-25 PAC budget was approved in September.
- The PAC noted that First LEGO League is a \$500 standalone item under projected expenses. **ACTION:** Rosemary to ask League volunteer Uschi to submit the LEGO funding request to Wendy in the office so that it can be brought to the PAC for attention. The PAC **carried a motion** to make a change for next year such that the First LEGO League funding request, which has historically had its own budget line item, will be handled the same way that teacher classroom requests for funding are considered for PAC funding.
- Rosemary clarified that PAC Gaming funds are to be used for classroom field trips and non-curricular activities only not music program field trips and non-curricular activities, as the music program receives financial support from the LMPA.
- Gill said that the LMPA would be able to submit its own Community Gaming Grant application.

LMPA Liaison report

- The LMPA is happy to have the PAC set up an info table at the winter music concert on Dec. 12. The lobby would be the best spot. **ACTION:** Bijan to reach out to parent volunteers to see who could work the info table.

Administration report

- Micah gave a great overview of recent school activities and preview of December activities at both campuses, including Gr. 6 immunizations, CC Day, provincial high school volleyball championships hosting, Dec. 19 school assembly and winter closure Dec. 21-Jan. 05. There are 14 active clubs at Lansdowne, thanks to the efforts of staff volunteers. Club meetings are listed in daily announcements. **ACTION:** Gill to include clubs info in school e-newsletter to families.
- Gill spoke to school safety protocols, with administrators and support staff constantly out and about at school to monitor student behaviour, most doors locked during the day (except the

LPAC DRAFT MINUTES 27 NOVEMBER 2024

front door and the door to the band annex), an open line of communication between parents and admin. and a relationship with the police in Victoria and Saanich.

- The issue of School Liaison Officers is one that would need to be addressed with the school board trustees.
- Gill reviewed the 11 teacher-submitted funding requests totalling \$5,100 total. The PAC carried a motion to approve funding for the top seven requests for \$3,100 total. ACTION: The remaining four requests will be brought forward in January.

7:30 pm meeting adjourned

Next meeting: Jan. 22 at South Campus.