

Marigold School PAC 6:30-8:00pm June 8, 2016

Minutes

Attendance: Sheryl Roodenburg, Malia Allan, Tina Tulloch, Tiffany Webb, Jayne Butcher, Emily Nagelbach, Cindy Ihlen, Laurie Cairns, Lois Bender, Andrew Bond, Konrad Thiele, Chad Thiessen, Christine Smith.

1. Welcome and Call to Order: 6:35pm Sheryl called the meeting to order.
 - 1.1. Special welcome and introduction to Marigold –Lois introduced next year’s VP Laurie Cairns. Laurie is coming from Margaret Jenkins School and she has a background in teaching French immersion from K-10, sciences and special education.
2. Bouquets:
 - 2.1. A huge thank you to the administrators, teachers and parents involved with the Marigold track meets.
 - 2.2. To all involved in this year’s Country Carnival. Incredible compliments have been made regarding this year’s event. Everything appeared to run smoothly, great weather, lots of fun and an awesome fundraiser. Special thanks to Nat and Roy for helping with the extra set-up and clean up. Also a thank you to the teachers and their support in completing the theme baskets for the raffle.
 - 2.3. To Tina, Malia, Lois & Mr. Hendy for the organizing and huge success of the Walk-to-Play.
 - 2.4. Thanks to Malia & Pixcel for updating the PAC website so it reflects the current PAC activities and fundraisers.
 - 2.5. Thanks to Emily for designing and ordering the new Playground fundraiser banner that is displayed on the fence in front of the school.
 - 2.6. Thanks to Christine for her many years of help with PAC activities; this is her last PAC meeting at Marigold and we wish her lots of luck as her children move on to middle school.
3. May 2016 Minutes: Tiffany made a motion to approve the May Minutes. Seconded by Emily.
4. Teacher’s Report: Andrew Bond reported that the teachers are excited about the year-end events planned. Many classes have field trips planned including some to Witty’s Lagoon. Wednesday, June 15th will be the School’s Fun Day in the afternoon with activities planned for the kids.
5. Administrator’s Report:
 - Great team work on the Walk-to-Play and it went very smoothly with an amazing financial response.
 - Accolades to Karen Whyte who does an incredible job of teaching the grade 5 Strings Orchestra who had their finale May 19.
 - Kindergarten Orientation was held the end of May. Two sessions and there are three kindergarten classes next year (2 French, 1 English) total of up to 66 students. Tina and Sheryl attended the orientation as PAC representatives.
 - Track Season has ended. This year each teacher from grades 3-5 attended a training session with Mrs. Keenan. It was then up to each individual teacher to arrange for practices in their

- class. The children that were the fastest from each class then competed in “run offs” to earn a place at the track meet. This is one of the first real competitive activities the elementary students experience. Approximately 50 students from grades 3, 4 & 5 attended the Zone D and city-wide track meet. Marigold saw 8 students advance to the city finals. Great job!!
- Lois Bender spoke about the fabulous day the teachers had during the last Pro-D day. They went on a bus trip around Victoria with speaker Mark Albany who led them through a series of discussions and explorations. The focus was on “Experiential learning” which ties in with the new curriculum. There was also focus on Aboriginal traditional practices. A main theme from the day was how to draw children in through experiential learning rather than lecture style teaching.
 - There will be a Parent Appreciation Morning on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 7:15-8:45am. Coffee and treats will be served to parents.

Special Guest Speaker: Saanich Police Inspector Gary Schenk and Sgt. Robert Warren spoke to the PAC about the development of a Saanich Police Department Strategic Plan for 2017-2021. Saanich Police want to engage with the community and gather information to assist them in developing this strategy. It would be very appreciated if members of the PAC, Marigold staff and parents or community members could participate in the online survey. This can be found at www.saanichpolice.ca . They passed on the message that “no call is too small” and the police are very willing to serve our community in many different ways. Chad thanked them for the involvement they had in the country carnival and spoke of the officer’s enthusiasm and interaction with the children.

6. Treasurer’s Report: (Konrad Thiele)

- Operating account has a balance of \$23.3k. This includes the \$5k the school district will be holding in trust for us as they will issue the tax receipts for walk to play. All in the walk to play event generated \$10.5k to for the playground fund.
- Note that we have \$1k in other income and misc expense due to the bottle drive. This was just an in and out as the cheque was made out to the PAC in error so I deposited and wrote another cheque back to the school.
- The playground fund has \$38.5k in it right now that does not include any transfers yet from our Walk-to-Play event (money is still in general account).
- Our casino account has \$9.7k with a few cheques that I wrote that still need to be cashed. I have also applied for our grant for next year which we should hear back on at the end of summer.
- We also had our first deposit from our smile card program of \$26.
- I am also depositing the first of our funds from the Spring Fling. First deposit has food and wrist band sale and came to \$5.9k

6.1. PAC Books Audited- a discussion was held around the PAC bylaws and if there has ever been an audit of the books. There are mixed feelings around this as it may generate considerable cost.

ACTION ITEM: Tina will look into if anyone she knows would be willing to complete an audit pro bono. Malia asked if it would be possible to have more transparency and understanding around each specific fundraiser and the costs and profits. **ACTION ITEM: It was requested that the Treasurer complete a year-end report (as stated in the by-laws) of**

the PAC finances for the next meeting. This will help PAC members better understand the current financial status and years activities. There was also concern expressed from the treasurer that if we move to a more traditional style of financial tracking we may add complexity. Other areas of discussion included the need to update signing rights on the bank accounts.

7. Fundraising Report:

- 7.1. Walk-to-Play – This event was well received. Approximately 50% of the students collected pledges and the total raised was \$10,762.15. A side note the Marigold Choir made a donation of \$100. **ACTION ITEM: Malia will place a star on the donor board to honor this gift.**
- 7.2. Spring Fair – **ACTION ITEM: Chad will arrange a review of the event in coming days as well as thank you notes to be sent to the many donors.** Expenses/Profits will be reviewed but currently it looks like approx. \$6,700 was made from the Country Carnival.
- 7.3. Mabel's Labels – flyers will go out to each class to go home with students. If parents order labels 20% of purchases will come back to the PAC as a fundraiser.
- 7.4. School Supplies – This fundraiser is underway. **ACTION ITEM: Lois will place a reminder in upcoming school newsletters to remind parents to order their school supplies before June 21.**
- 7.5. Ice Cream & Freezie sales are ongoing until the end of the school year. Usually held on Thursdays or hot days. Anyone willing to help with this please contact Sheryl.

8. Old Business:

- 8.1. Playground Update – Deborah LeFrank has been hired as a consultant to design a multi-step plan for the school grounds including the main playground, lower primary playground, nature education areas and Garry Oak meadows. She will help prepare areas of focus of restoration and assist with the blending of both the traditional playground and nature scape outdoor learning areas. As well, she will address restoration of some of the Garry Oak areas and safety concerns of the current playgrounds. The first meeting of Deborah and the playground committee is at noon on Friday, June 10th.
Lois was asked if she knew of any deal already in the works between the school and the McKenzie Interchange project to receive a nature playground. A few parents understood that this may be in discussion after attending the community information night. Lois was not aware of any such deal and will follow up with David Loveridge with the School District. **ACTION ITEM: Lois will also look into signage for the restricted Garry Oak Meadow areas and she will follow up on the requisition for repairs to the soccer posts in the school's back field.** Laurie Cairns spoke of the wonderful addition the new nature playground has been at Margaret Jenkin's School.
- 8.2. McKenzie Interchange –Discussion was held around information gathered by parents at the recent information nights. After speaking with two of the School Trustees it was discussed that the PAC should develop a strategy to work with the District and School Trustees to advocate for improvements during this time of change. It seems unlikely that any funding for a new playground would be a result of the project however; there are many ways to advocate for assistance with costs such as installation or delivery.

The question of how the area of construction behind Marigold will be accessed was raised and Lois has been told the construction will access the site from behind St. Joseph's and Spectrum and there should be no disturbance to traffic on Grange.

- 8.3. Vacant PAC coordinator positions & Canadian Parents for French – French Summer Resource Session for parents will be June 16th. **ACTION ITEM: Sheryl will send the info to Lois to include in the next school newsletter.**

9. New Business:

- 9.1. Marigold PAC Facebook page – Lois expressed her concern with possibly having too many venues for communication and the monitoring of content and potentially negative posts on the Facebook site. She requested the content posted be reserved for topics specific to Marigold only and Sheryl and Cherrie monitor comments.

The following items were tabled until a future meeting:

- 9.2. Review PAC Bylaws
9.3. PAC Meeting Schedule & Meeting Format 2016-2017
9.4. School Agendas & School Calendar of Events 2016-2017
9.5. 2016-2017 PAC Fundraising
9.6. 2016-2017 PAC Goals
9.7. Online Food Order Program

10. Open Forum/Discussion:

- Sheryl asked why there is not a school wide beach day at the end of the year and only some classes have beach field trips. Lois responded that the level of supervision required to ensure the safety of children on school wide trips is very stressful and intense for those supervising and there will not be a school wide beach day. However, individual or small groups of classes may apply to the Principal for what is called a “High Risk Field Trip.” In this case, this would be anywhere children are accessing water in any way (wading, swimming, and paddling.) There are specific criteria that must be fulfilled for these field trips to proceed that ensures safety for children.
- Staff members who are leaving Marigold at the end of the school year may be honored by the PAC at the last day assembly. **ACTION ITEM: Lois will provide this info to Sheryl.** Christine suggested that the feelings of the students be considered as it can be difficult for them to learn their teacher is not returning next year.
- Concerns around the “Green Team” program were discussed and Christine asked how students are selected. Lois explained that a class willing to take on the project each year volunteers and students within that class volunteer. If taken on by a grade 5 class, it is a meaningful project for students not involved in the “strings” program which meets twice per week. **ACTION ITEM: PAC will attempt to find a volunteer coordinator to work with the group next year to assist the students.** Also, it was suggested that grade 4 students could be considered so they could help train the next year's team.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm. Next meeting is Wednesday, September 7th, 6:30pm in the Library.