

# **Baker Drive PAC Meeting**

September 19, 2023, 7 PM Zoom Call

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Corinee moved, Colleen seconded

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM June 13**

Michelle Chan moved, Keller seconded

## **INTRODUCTIONS - Corinne Hansen**

- Welcome all to the meeting - Land Acknowledgment
- Introduction by Corinee and update on what are PAC activities
- Introduction given by PAC executive members

## **PRINCIPAL UPDATE - Joe Jamieson**

- Welcome to the first PAC meeting of the year. Thank you, Corinne, for explaining the PAC, and thanks to everyone for contributing to the PAC.
- Enrollment has increased this year to 236 students, pushing class sizes. In addition to size considerations, there's a composition rule we must adhere to when designating students to classes. Our staff is professional and employs a strength-based approach. Teachers put in significant effort to assign classes. A new division was added, and the staff worked hard over the summer to plan for this school year. As a result of all their efforts, we now have a better structure in place at our school, ready to accommodate even more students if necessary.
- Our Montessori program remains stable. It's a program of choice, and parents must apply. We don't anticipate an increase in Montessori enrollment. The school year has started on a challenging yet positive note. We've welcomed two great teachers. Additionally, we added a new Division 11, with Elli Jo joining the community. She's already familiar with the community from previous work.
- Next week, we'll be celebrating Terry Fox on September 28th. Volunteers are needed, and a note has already been sent out. It promises to be a unique experience for the students.
- This Friday is our first professional development day, so there won't be any school sessions. The focus of the pro-day will be on social and emotional goals.
- At the end of the last year, we onboarded a district STEM teacher. Starting in October and continuing throughout the month, we'll be welcoming Brian to initiate new programs. We will discuss the theme for this on Friday.
- There will be a very informal open house at 5:30 PM this Thursday (21st September). After the introduction, parents can visit classrooms.
- Last year, we introduced the Student Affordability Fund. Its primary aim is to financially support families, covering not just nutritious food but also field trips and school supplies. This program has been expanded this year. Our policy stands firm: no child should go

unfed. If families need support, please reach out to Jamieson. All communications will remain confidential.

- Lastly, we will plan a Recognition Assembly with the staff to be held monthly. Each teacher will nominate a student based on various criteria, and certificates will be awarded.

## **PAC Updates - Corinne Hansen**

- Home Room Parent Roles - All home room parent positions have already been filled.
- **Events**
- Our events can be categorized into fundraisers and community-building activities.
- **Fundraisers Planned for This Year:**
  - Hot Lunch: This is an ongoing fundraiser.
  - Trivia Night: Scheduled for November. Colleen mentioned that we have booked the "trivia guy," who comes highly recommended.
  - Read-a-thon: Slated for February/March. This event encourages kids to read while also raising funds.
  - Purdys Chocolates Sale: Planned for December. We're deliberating on its continuation since no one seemed particularly attached to it.
  - Spring Flower Sale: We're reviewing whether this event is still necessary.
- Christie inquired about tax receipts for PAC donations. Colleen clarified that while receipts can be obtained from the school website, mostly PAC donations aren't considered charitable for tax purposes.
- **Community-Building Events:**
- Bear Wear: Every Friday, students unofficially wear Baker Drive shirts/hoodies. We're seeking volunteers for this initiative. In response to Christie's query about including themes like Pink Shirt Day, Truth and Reconciliation Day, etc., Colleen stated that due to limited orders, it'll be simplified to just Bear Wear. Keller proposed a "swap" idea, which aligns with eco-friendly initiatives.
- Halloween Dance: Currently, we don't have a lead for this event and are looking for volunteers.
- Fireworks: We've secured some sponsorship/grants. The fire department has given us preliminary clearance, so we should receive the necessary permit.
- Holiday Market: Scheduled for December, the kids' holiday market is where everyone donates unwanted items. These items are then priced so students can buy presents for family members. Jennifer is leading this event, but we still need volunteers for gift-wrapping.
- Block Party: A grand celebration slated for June. Last year we had a BBQ. Please note that cotton candy won't be available this time. We're seeking a lead for this event.
- **Other Updates:**
- DPAC: Offers comprehensive training to better understand district-level activities.
- Communication: We've created a community WhatsApp group. Additionally, you can stay updated via email, Facebook, and Instagram.

## **Vote - Budget for 2023/2024 - Chair**

### **Unfinished Funding**

- Proposal to increase the budget for 2023/24.
- Current bank account balance stands at \$47,000.
- The reason for the proposed budget increase is the rise in student numbers this year.
- This topic will be revisited next month due to inaccuracies in the student data.

### **Budget Overruns**

The block party exceeded its budget by \$411.33. Colleen O'Connor and Micheele Chan voted to pass the motion.

### **New Member Voting**

The position for Executive Communication on Instagram/Facebook was proposed for Copper Heibloom. Copper accepted the role. The motion was passed with voting of Rajesh Kumar and Terri Besworth.

### **Banking Signing Authorities**

Designated individuals include Corrinee, Cooper, Dragana, and Colleen. The motion was passed with voting of Rajesh Kumar and Darlene Johnson.

## **Grade 5 and Other Updates - Terri**

- Hoodies need to be ordered. The first meeting regarding this will take place in October.
- **Hot Lunch Update (by Kim)**
  - Instead of setting up for 3 months at once, hot lunches will now be organized on a monthly basis.
  - The cut-off for ordering each month is the 20th of the previous month. For October, the cut-off is September 20th.
  - Orders for hot lunch must be placed monthly.
  - If a child is absent on a hot lunch day, the lunch can either be picked up or donated.
- **After-School Program (by Michelle Chan)**
  - Everyone should have received information via email.
  - The first program, focusing on basketball, begins this Thursday.
  - Sufficient registrations are required for the program to proceed.

## **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn Colleen moved and Cooper seconded

### **Attendees:**

Rajesh Kumar, Colleen O'Connor, Joe Jamieson, Terri Besworth, Corinne Hansen, Darlene Johnson, Dragana Pavlica, Michelle Chan, Cooper Heibloom, Tamara D, Anghelescu, Kelsey Flagel, Chirsty Dirks, Kelsey Keller, Thais Espeschit, Dim, Kim, Brendan Reid, Carli Hillis, Christie Nelson, Pantea, Betty Siu

### **Board Members:**

Corinne Hansen Chair | Colleen O'Connor, Past Chair | Dragana Pavlica, Treasurer and Assistant | Rajesh Kumar, Secretary | Gill Tempest/ Cooper Heibloom Communications | Betty

Wang, Kimberley McCarthy - Hot Lunch | Christie Nelson, DPAC Representative | Michelle Chan -  
After School Program Lead | | Gerry Besworth, Milk/Fruit and Veggie | Joe Jamieson, Principal