Baker Drive PAC Meeting

September 29, 2026, 7:00 PM, Zoom and in-person

Call to Order – Heba Elsonbaty (Co-Chair)

- Heba Elsonbaty read the Land Acknowledgement and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Mariana Perez-Garcia, voted to approve the meeting minutes from March, and Laura Cang seconded.

Principal Update – Renee Mazzucco (Principal)

- The start of the school year has gone well.
- We have a strong community of teachers who have helped each other with logistics of getting the school year started.
- Ms. Mazzucco has 25 years of secondary school experience, so elementary is a new change.
- October looks like a busy month. This Thursday is the first big presentation in preparation for the Terry Fox run. Next Thursday will be the Terry Fox run, and volunteers are needed.
- FSA's are also coming up, which are foundation skill assessments for Grade Four students.
- There are some plans for Grade Four and Five students to go to the planetarium.
- Grade Five families have started talking about field trips, and a decision will need to be made about where this should be, and whether the Cultas Lake waterslide tradition will start again after Bridal Falls happened in lieu of it last year. The Grade Five families are also talking about graduation sweaters.
- The Halloween dance is upcoming as well.
- The September focus was the bear essentials, which involves guidelines like team behavior. The October focus will be gratitude, and there will be classroom activities.
- There is a strong desire to do more school-wide activities that get students together.
- There will be monthly newsletters emailed out, as well as other methods of communication.

Treasurer's Report - Mariana Perez-Garcia (Treasurer)

- We typically fundraise for the year ahead, so the funds being spent right now were raised last year. We try to fundraise around $30,000 dollars, which covers a lot of things like fieldtrips, hip hop dance, tennis lessons, and classroom supplies. Our biggest fundraiser is our hot lunch program. There are also fundraisers like the readathon, community values books, and a mix of other fundraisers. We also have a holiday market which is not a fundraiser, since we donate the profits.

- We have a component of the budget for a playground fund, and we have not come to a decision yet about replacing the piece of the playground that was removed last year.
- We get a gaming grant from the province every year that is about $4,000 dollars, and we need to use this money to benefit the whole school.

PAC Update – Rachael Sproston (Co-Chair)

- There are many volunteer opportunities. The first category is activities that are already going forward, like hot lunch volunteers. We'll also need Halloween dance and holiday market volunteers. The second category is roles that are filled right now that will potentially be empty next year. This is a great opportunity to shadow a role to step in later. Next year we will need new co-chairs and a hot lunch organizer, among other things. The third category is new activities that are not yet in progress. This is for parents who can come forward with new ideas.
- There will be a DJ and photo booth at the Halloween dance like in previous years. Usually, one parent and siblings are welcome, and if you would like an additional ticket for a family member, you can volunteer. Volunteers are needed to take tickets, sell pizza and other food, and set up and take down.
- Out current fundraiser is the community values books, and in October it is Neufeld's foods. In November we will have the holiday market, and a fundraiser with Gabi and Jules.

DPAC Update – Laura Cang (DPAC Representative)

- Laura is the District PAC representative. The district PAC communicates to all the schools. At the meeting this month, there were two presentations.
- One presentation was a representative for Build a Biz kids. This is an information session for kids to learn how to become entrepreneurs. The school can apply for a grant if we want to run those courses, or we can sell them to people. We have until March 12, 2027 to apply for the grant.
- Carol Todd did a presentation about digital literacy as well. She is advocating for removing devices in schools. She also has a long list of resources for how to teach our children to be Internet safe.

Grade Five Update – Christie Nelson (Grade Five Representative)

- Grade Five families will decide if they will do their own fundraising.
- There is talk of doing a Grade Five Friday night swim.
- The Grade Five hoodie is organized, and a link will be sent out soon.

Adjourn

Heba Elsonbaty called to adjourn. Corinne Hansen seconded.

Attendees:

Heba Elsonbaty, Rachael Sproston, Corinne Hansen, Mariana Perez-Garcia, Christy Dirks, Christie Nelson, Laura Cang, Renee Mazzucco,

Board Members:

Heba Elsonbaty, Co-Chair | Rachael Sproston, Co-Chair | Corinne Hansen, Past Chair | Mariana Perez-Garcia, Treasurer | Christy Dirks, Secretary | Cooper Heibloem, Communications and After School Programs | Kimberley McCarthy - Hot Lunch | Christie Nelson, Grade Five Representative | Laura Cang, DPAC Representative | Renee Mazzucco, Principal.