

# MEETING MINUTES

## Whiteside Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

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Date: Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 2021

Location: Zoom

Time: 6:00pm

### Attendees:

Rachel Corneil ( **Principal** ) , Sarah Grant (**Vice principal**) , Erin Mah (**acting Chair for today's meeting**) , Chris Ho ( **Social media coordinator**), Linda Li (**Secretary**) , Jaylene Sandhar (**Treasurer**), Karen Au, Jennifer Wood, Brenda G, Ekaterina Lu (Katia), Puneet Jain, CC Chang, Johnny Ahmed, Eddy Liu , Marshalla Loland

**Regrets:** Sandeep Bhullar (Chair)

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1. **Welcome** – Erin (Acting Chair for Sandeep)

2. **Introductions** – Erin

3. **Review and approval of June Minutes -**

- **Motion:** approval of the June minutes

Moved: (Puneet), seconded: (CC). **Motion carried**

4. **School Administrators' Report -** Rachael Corneil, Principal; Sarah Grant, Vice Principal

- If you have any questions related to seismic upgrades (further to Mike's presentation), please let me know.
- Parent Teacher Conferences were this week over Zoom and they went well.
- Five students are attending the district cross country run. Volleyball is starting as well, but will be limited to within school for safety. There will be team captains and teams will play each other and we will end with a final. We are starting to have normalcy in the school.
- We are working with staff on school story. We want to meet kids where they are at now. How we can support kids emotional growth. You will hear more from us about this.
- Rachael: We are looking for PAC volunteers to help package candies for halloween. Rachel will send more details out with dates.

### 5. PAC Exec Reports

**Chair** (Erin for Sandeep):

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Fundraising position still vacant, please contact PAC if anyone interested.

Class parent system is done, and each class has a class parent identified now. Parents should be receiving PAC emails from the Class Parent. Anyone who has not received any emails can contact the PAC to be added to the list.

### 6. **Treasurer** (Jaylene):

See attached treasure's report, summary

**Motion:** To approve budget as presented.

Moved: Erin. Seconded: Puneet. **Motion carried.**

### 7. **Fundraising** - Erin (for Sandeep)

- **Wolf Wear :** Orders closed last weekend. The fundraiser was very successful. It looks like we may have nearly \$900 in profits less expenses.
- **Earthquake kit –** Erin reached out to the company we used in the past and they are amenable to running the fundraiser for us. It would be run through the PAC with a small percentage of sales coming back to us. After discussions with PAC Exec it was decided that we will run it in the Spring as there are too many other fundraisers and events going on before Christmas.
- **Gift Cards / Purdy's Chocolates:** We will run this fundraiser in November with pick-up before Christmas. There is an option for Poinsettias but we have run this in the past and it isn't a big seller. It also takes a lot of space to hold items for pick-up. A parent noted that McRoberts will run this fundraiser so we don't need to do it as well.

### 8. **Hot lunch** – Karen - Hot lunch Coordinator

- We were given the go ahead to run hot lunch and are trying to have at least one in November. Karen will be meeting with Rachel to discuss the date and whether we can run one in December as well. We have been contacted by Yummy Slice (formerly Fresh Slice) who we have used in the past. They have individual packaging and nut free options.
- **Parent questions:** Will all the vendors be screened for nuts?  
A: Yes. We will use only vendors who have nut free products.

### 9. **RDPA:** Katia, RDPA Rep

- The meeting mostly covered COVID and protocols.

### 6. **Other:** Q&A

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### Seismic Upgrade Project

Mike Charlton, District Principal and Richmond Seismic Liaison

- Mr. Charlton provided a presentation about the scope of the project and what parents should expect. The upgrades will be paid for by the Ministry but all the additional “extras” will be paid for by the Richmond School Board. Mr. Charlton noted that as part of the project the structure of the school including piping and HVAC will be upgraded. There will also be improvements to the furniture to ensure it is secured to the walls. The front entry will receive a refresh as will the accessible ramp at the front of the school. Halls, floors and doors will receive a new coat of paint. The office will be renovated to make the space more functional. The first section of the school to be upgraded will be the short hallway. Those classes will move to the portables with the expected completion date of that section to be in February.
- The company doing the project has done a large portion of the schools already upgraded in the district. They will ensure that while it is an active construction zone, the students will stay safe and not be affected by too much noise or dust.
- Anyone wanting to see a copy of the presentation can contact Rachael who will reach out to Mr. Charlton.

- Project \$14 million

Start Oct 2021, estimated complete March 2023

Q1 (Katia Lu)

So only one bathroom will be gender neutral? Will the school still have separate boys and girls washrooms?

A: Yes, the two washrooms in the short hallway will be combined into one larger gender neutral washroom. The stalls will be private with floor to ceiling doors. The sinks will be closer to the front and easier to monitor by the teachers. There will be an accessible stall at the back. The two other washrooms will remain as they are.

Q2 How long will the construction take? Why was it not started in the summer so there is less disruption to the school?

A: The project should be completed by March 2023, but the timeline can vary depending on what they find as they open up floors and walls. The company has done 9 schools already for this project and they work closely with school and administration. The scope the project was only approved in the spring of 2021 and it takes a long time to get permits and schedule things. They are at the mercy of the approval process and could only start once it was approved. As it is they will work throughout next summer and hope to be finished on time. Maple Lane was completed recently and ended up being done early. All noisy work will be done after hours to avoid disrupting classes.

Q. (Brenda): Will the gym be useable at the end of June for possible grade celebration in 2022?

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A: We make sure work with the school to ensure special activity would still happen. Typical common learning areas are done during summer breaks. The gym only needs a gap placed between it and the rest of the school which they hope to complete during a break at the school.

Q: Does our plan show the addition of outside doors for more classrooms than what we currently have?

A: We work with first responders department to make sure school is safe

Q: (Ken) Is there any asbestos that will need to be dealt with?

A: Professionals will be brought in to determine whether that is needed. They will follow all the work safe requirements if they encounter anything unsafe such as asbestos. But they won't know until they open the walls what is there.

Q: (Erin): Are the water filling stations that we have in the school (paid for by grad classes and PAC) going to be reinstalled and will the new plumbing make the water potable for students?

A: Mike: Yes all water filling stations will be reinstalled and on occasion the district approves the installation of more of them. There will also be significant improvement to plumbing.

Q: (Erin): Will we be able to keep the portables after the work is done and get rid of our old ones?

A: Unfortunately they are actually owned by Richmond project team, therefore they travel to each new project with them. There are still many other schools left in the district to do after Whiteside so the portables will go when the project is done.

Q: (Ken) Can this presentation be shared?

A: Yes, presentation will be sent to Rachael, anyone interested, please contact Rachel.

Q: (Brenda): Does the school need volunteers to help teachers to move?

A: No, in the past the district oversupplied TTOCs to help pack but it turned out to be more trouble for teachers. They often had trouble finding things and expressed to the administration team that they prefer not to have so many people assisting.

<p><u>Next PAC Meeting:</u> Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 2021</p>
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