

Minutes of Whiteside Elementary School PAC

Wednesday, May 20th, 2020 via ZOOM

Attendees: Pam Essex (Principal), Sarah Grant (Vice-Principal), Erin Mah (Co-Chair), Diana Redman (Co-Chair, Hot Lunch Coordinator), CC Chang (Fundraising Coordinator), Puneet Jain (Secretary), Brenda Geib, Johnny Ahmed, Priya Nigam, Sandeep Bhullar.

Regrets: Brandi Snow (Treasurer), Anne-Marie Olmstead-Wilcox (RDPA Rep)

1. Welcome—Erin

2. Review and approval of April Minutes—Erin

- **Motion:** approve April 2020 minutes as presented.

Moved: Erin

Seconded: Diana. **Motion carried. No one opposed.**

3. School Administrators' Report— Pam Essex (Principal) Sarah Grant, Vice-Principal

- The school administration is preparing to roll out phase 2 and school reopening and figuring out what that might look like. There will be another staff meeting on Friday, the province is still meeting all the stakeholders and making changes. We will update and make you all aware once the final changes are communicated to us. For any students not coming back there will be a plan put in place to come gather all belongings.
- The survey is available until Thursday at 4pm. All parents are encouraged to return it so that the school board has all the numbers for students returning. It is the parent's decision whether to continue with the online learning or prefer on-site learning.
- Grade K- 5 will be 2 days a week. Much of the learning will be outside and social distancing will be enforced.
- Grade 6- 12 will be 1 day a week. How will this all look, we don't know at this point as things are still being finalized. There are enhanced plans to clean the school.
- Children of essential service workers from Grade K – Grade 7 are eligible to attend 5 days a week. Children who have special needs or need different level of support are also entitled to 5 days of school. We are waiting for the survey

information and we will know more. They are waiting for meeting with RTA, District PAC and CUPE to finalize the plan.

- Basketball courts are open for the schools. Playgrounds are not open yet and that's Richmond wide.
- We will have our welcome to Kindergarten package pick-up next Thursday May 28th, 2020. Teachers will welcome the students minding social distancing.
- We have almost 40 new Kindergarten students coming to Whiteside. We look forward to welcoming them.
- Grade 7 leaving ceremony - we are trying to plan for it.
- Erin – Are we expecting to see any teachers leave? Pam – We will remain at 18 divisions, we are a down a division in English and up a division in French: 9 early French; 7 English; and 2 late French.
- Teachers have been working very closely on the school year book. If you have any pictures for the book, please share them with the school admin team.
- From the health and safety perspective, we have sign in process for those coming in and leaving the school premises. They have to indicate which room they will be in, so that cleaning staff can come in and disinfect those rooms. In addition to that we have a questionnaire about COVID -19 and travel history. We have extra staff to sanitize the high touch areas and more distance markings around the school.
- Erin – Can we move the kids who are in the portables grades 4-5 to grades 6-7 classes so that they get access to in class sinks? Sarah – This is under consideration.
- Pam – the school is gleaming clean!!!
- With the grant from TD we got lots of sports equipment. We have been organizing all of that in the gym room. Storage rooms look much more organized. They may need assistance to clean under the stage as some of the items belong to the PAC.

4. PAC Exec Updates

Co Chair (Erin): Mr. McCuaig emailed the PAC offering to DJ a virtual dance for grade 7 graduates. Diana was able to connect Mr. McCuaig with the Grade 7 Grad organizer. As

a PAC we are available to help out, we usually don't partake actively but due to the current circumstances we are willing to do as much as we can for the graduates.

Co Chair Diana : We have about 16 cheques to complete for refunds for hot lunch. We will let the parents know via email about the refunds. Cheques will be signed and left at the office for pick-up. Parents will be asked to contact the school before attending so that the cheque can be made available.

5. Executive and Treasurer Reports - Erin (for Brandi)

- **See attached financial summary. Not a lot of changes. There is a couple of cheques that will be coming out.**
- Closing balances end of April 2020 are in the attachments
- We received the money from the family portrait night, about \$156.21, which is not bad considering the time contribution.
- Brenda asked if we could use the extra money allotted to Spirit Funds to purchase t-shirts for the new Kindergarteners. Sarah mentioned that she has some t-shirts in her office from a previous sale and will let us know how many size small available.
- **MOTION:** Depending on how many t-shirts we need to purchase, we spend some of the spirit fund for Wolf Wear t-shirts for the new Kindergarteners.

Moved: Erin.

Seconded: Brenda and Diana. All in favour, no one opposed. Motion carried.

- Brenda suggested that as we have some extra funds in the account can we use that money for the school for cleaning supplies. The school admin is appreciative of this and will keep the PAC posted.
- AGM – It was previously suggested that we move the AGM to September due to the pandemic. Erin raised the issue again as the AGM is scheduled for June. Erin noted that she would like to hold the AGM in June as planned as it will allow for the PAC to work with newly elected members over the summer. Holding the AGM in September is difficult as the PAC has a lot of activities to run in the fall and it may be difficult to plan those if we are also passing on the roles to new members. Erin opened the floor for other concerns. Others voiced similar support for a June AGM. Erin also reminded all current PAC members and anyone interested in an Exec position that they need to email Ms Essex to

declare their interest so that they can be part of the election process in June.
There is still time!

MOTION: Motion to hold the AGM meeting in June.

Moved: Erin

Diana seconded. No one opposed. Motion carried.

7. RDPA— Erin (for Anne-Marie)

- As nothing came from RDPA about the RDPA representatives Erin sent an email to RDPA letting them know that Anne -Marie will be our representative for the RDPA AGM. The RDPA replied that they are likely going to postpone the AGM until September. They had already cancelled their May meeting.

8. Fund raising—CC and Sandeep.

- Sandeep will drop off the printed raffle tickets at the school to be shredded. No other updates.

9. Other – Concession fridge

- The concession fridge has been ordered and paid for by the school administration.
- Parents interested in volunteering for the PAC are asked to email the PAC at whitesidepac@hotmail.com or reach out to any of the PAC parents.

Next PAC Meeting:
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, June 17th, 2020 @ 6:30pm