**January 2024 PAC Meeting Minutes**

January 15, 2024

Welcome: Wade Wick

Adopt minutes: 1st: JJ

2nd: Kourtney

Adopt agenda: 1st: Jacky

2nd: Elisa

**Principals report:** Andrew Ferneyhough

* Construction: Molly Proudfoot (Project Coordinator) has offered us $5,000 for shed, boxes ect
* Keltie’s Corner: All is well 🙂
* Middle Years Development Instrument is happening soon with the Grade 5 students.This is voluntary, confidential and no personal information is shared about the student. A follow up reminder email will be sent out to remind parents
* School Dance: Staff is looking at different possibilities for the format. More info to follow
* Movie Night will be February 15th
* New changes to the YFPW role:

-Less food oriented, more time will be spent working with small groups

-Ms. Dee has moved into room 112 with Ms. Kerr

* Dr. Cam (Lead Optometrist at Opto-mization) will be doing a presentation in the Arden gym on Friday January 26th at 630pm
* Break Room “Swing”- Work order in to get ceiling tested for asbestos
* Field Trips: Gr 4 Symphony January 22

Gr 5: Cross Country Skiing February 15th and 21st

* Beginning this month buying ‘Hot Lunch’ for families is transitioning to offering a soup and a side on Thursdays. Goal is to gain a consistent lunch program for students on Thursdays

**Trustee Report**: Sara Jane Howe

**Chair Report**: Dana Orrego

* The president from the Comox Valley Kiwanis Club has reached out to Dana about providing potential fundraising support to Arden. Suggestions that were discussed about what fundraising support could look like included Salad Bar, Sensory Room,and the Garden.
* A representative of Ronna- Rae Leonard has reached out about attending a PAC meeting. To be followed up on

**DPAC report:** JJ Goff

* AGM Meeting was January 8, 2024
* Superintendent: High priority for the district to improve connection and communication with parents
* Working on the next 3 year academic calendar and then in 2 years they will begin working on the next 3 years.
* Feeding Futures: Draft report coming out at Trustee’s Committee meeting January 15th
* Kindergarten Registration is live <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/kindergarten-registration/>
* Parent Speaker Series: Discussions of bringing back the White Hatter presentation. There will also be a bullying speaker series. Speaker series are accessible on the DPAC website
* Concerns around the BC transit strike and the impact on students getting to and from school. DPAC is looking for parents to come forward with their experiences and how it is impacting their families (preferably in a written format). The more information DPAC is provided from personal experiences will help them be able to provide more support in this matter.

**Green Team Report**: Jesse Sheridan

* Benoit, a Highland Secondary student, has created a presentation about bike safety based on his own personal experience of being hit by a vehicle while riding his bike and will be sharing with Arden students.

**Treasurer report:** Jacky Minshall

* Gaming account: $17,424.50
* General:$4,912.39
* Money to be transferred from the general account to the gaming account to make up for a few errors that were made while paying for school costs.
* Swings Budget: $7,000
* Sensory Room Budget: $2500

**Hot Lunch Report:** Nicole Mann

* To date $1202.52 in profit
* $413 in salad bar donations
* Hot dog day (February 29) $234 in profit

-Possibly looking to community grocery stores to potentially donate hot dogs/buns.

* A motion brought forward by Nicole for the purchase of individual hot dog wrappers. 1st by Kourtney, 2nd by Jacky. Nicole will go ahead with the purchase.
* Hot lunch will now operate out of multi purpose room solely

**Fundraising Report**: Jessica Witt

* A coffee fundraiser will begin on the 18th of January. 325g bag/$15 each
* End of February Purdy’s will begin in time to be distributed before spring break.
* Spirit Wear will be available at the beginning of April for purchase.

**Salad Bar Report:** Lesia Wick

* Salad Bar continues to go well with approximately 235 students being served. 20-30 kids away each week. 35 staff are being served. Total of 235-245/250 between students and staff
* Rotary provides the students with chili once a month (3rd Wednesday of each month)
* Money from the Adopt a school will provide funding until the end of February/beginning of March. Still waiting to hear back about whether or not Arden has been chosen again.
* Food waste has continued to decline. In earlier stages of the program it went from 2 to 1 home depot buckets and now a single City of Courtenay compost bucket is used.
* Reminder: Any one who is interested in volunteering is welcome!

- Tuesdays chopping and prepping are done at Lake Trail School between 315-445pm. -Wednesdays are set up and serve between 10-2pm. Volunteers are welcome to do a shift (ie 10-12 for set up/serve or 12-2 for serving/clean up) or stay for all of it.Any help is greatly appreciated.

-Volunteering is not limited to parents. Can be community members, grandparents ect. No foodsafe is required but a criminal record check is necessary.

**New Business:**

* **Sensory Room Update:** JJ Goff
* JJ will be purchasing a Yogibo and a large LED bubble wall for the sensory room with the allocated funding. Possibility of earphones and a nice blanket for purchase as well. Still awaiting final cost of the big swing before additional smaller purchases may be an option such as headphones, blankets ect.
* **Parent Information Night with Dr. Cam Friday January 26 at 630pm**: JJ Goff

- Dr. Cameron McCrodan, lead optometrist at Opto-mization is offering an educational workshop at Arden school that is dedicated to exploring the impact of vision on learning and reading.

-This will be an Interactive hands-on experience for parents and educators, who will have the opportunity to feel what it is like to have some of these vision problems, gaining a deeper understanding and empathy for those who experience them daily.

-Insights on Vision and Learning include ADHD and Eye movement, Reading and Eye Coordination, Improving Eye Movements and Reading, Eye Coordination and ADHD symptoms, Emotional and Behavioural Benefits and Vision Therapy for Learning Disabilities

-As a token of his dedication to spreading the knowledge each attendee will receive a free digital copy of his book to further enrich their understanding of the subject.

**Old Business:**

* continuing ideas of when would work for a movie night or dance?
* new playground equipment purchase
* Penny Carnival committee to be organized in January 2024

**Extra discussion:**

**PAC Parent of the Month:**

* JJ Goff

**Adjourn:** 1st: JJ

2nd: Kourtney

Next Meeting: February 12, 2024