



Courtenay Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes  
November 9th 2020

**Board Members** Renee Chapman [reneegaudette@hotmail.com](mailto:reneegaudette@hotmail.com) - Chair  
Stacey Baulne [staceybaulne@hotmail.com](mailto:staceybaulne@hotmail.com) - Co-Chair  
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Christine Bergen [christinebergenphotography@gmail.com](mailto:christinebergenphotography@gmail.com) - Secretary  
Shawn Thir [Shawn.thir@gmail.com](mailto:Shawn.thir@gmail.com) - DPAC rep

**Present**

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Trish Hart           | 9. Christine Bergen    |
| 2. Marjorie Hendrickson | 10. Cynthia Sklarchuk  |
| 3. Shawn Thir           | 11. Alicia Fairweather |
| 4. Christine Pritchard  | 12. Renee Chapman      |
| 5. Andrew Ferneyhough   | 13. Spring Halasz      |
| 6. Stuart Chapman       | 14. Ceilidh Iwanson    |
| 7. Catherine Manson     | 15. Stacey Baulne      |
| 8. Theresa              | 16. Jeff Baulne        |

**Meeting called to order 6:32pm**

**Indigenous Acknowledgement -**

We would like to Acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of the K'omoks First Nations. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on the land and the gift of working with their children.

**Introductions**

**Approval of November minutes** - approved by Christine Pritchard

**School Board Report - Kat Hawksby** Absent

**Office Report - Catherine Manson**

**Bouquets** Once again for the PAC parents helping with hot lunches. It helps bring a sense of normalcy to the school.

The Halloween Crew. Halloween went over very well and the couple of contests you put on were really appreciated by the kids. Thanks to Shawn for taking the bits Andrew and I took and putting it together to make sense

Poncho's - a few kids have used them.

**Remembrance day** in class assembly - mostly on PA system. We'll use taped versions of some music, a song the kids have all learned, a poem Mrs. Hart's class has taped and the poppy presentation will be live streamed into classes.

**Playground** - We've moved Ms. Larson's class into cohort #3 on the playground. The primary side was very crowded. We're hoping that this will not only give this class more peers to play with but also help us manage behaviors.

**Staff** - one more EA coming our way for k/1 very soon and a Youth and Family worker. We're just waiting for the hiring to happen for that one. The position will help us help families in and outside of school. Working directly with our SBT and Counsellor.

**COVID** - School District holding the line on adults/parents in the buildings. Only those with appointments and our hot lunch crew are allowed in the building. This policy will probably continue for this year at least. If parents need to pick up a student, they can phone or come to the front door and knock on the window. All parent teacher conferences will be distant - Zoom, Teams, phone call.

We really prefer that when parents are dropping off and picking up, they stay distant from the classes. Please wear a mask if you want to talk to staff.

**PBIS**- positive behavior instructional support

- New rubric- attached- that we have developed and will teach too
- ORCA- Own it, Resourceful, Caring, Aspire
- Voice Volume meter to use- attached. It's a lesson on where/when/ volume to use

**Christmas** - We are having our Rotary Christmas Lunch on Dec. 17 in classrooms. Using a grant to buy 200 plates so we don't need to use disposable plates.

There are hampers happening and we have been approached by a private sponsor that is creating hampers for some of our families. Please give me names if you know of any families in need.

**CRAZY SOCK DAY** tomorrow Nov 10th and Every 2nd Tuesday!

## **Montessori School - Spring Halasz**

If anyone has questions Spring can bring back to the board. Encourage any pac members who want to know more about the montessori program please email the board.

Everyone is welcome to be added to the CVMS (Comox Valley Montessori Society) mailing list, to attend Zoom meetings, or find out more about the program. Anyone can become a member at large. Our e-mail is: [cvmontessori@gmail.com](mailto:cvmontessori@gmail.com)

The Montessori Students are welcome to be included in everything we do. They are looking for online and covid friendly ideas for fundraisers.

The Montessori program is planning to add a grade level in Courtenay EI every year.

## Community School Report - Shawn Thir

### Old business

- Community School managed to secure 150 pumpkins for Courtenay EI. They were generously donated by Sieffert Farms. The pumpkin patch event on Oct. 30 went off without a hitch in beautiful weather. Published a video of the event: <https://youtu.be/r6keC3i0T1Y>
- Published video of Halloween parade: <https://youtu.be/r5KCkGW-u3M>

### New business

- Community school received its normal amount of funding for the year.
- Originally reported coffee in the morning every Monday, but will coordinate with StrongStart and shift to Fridays. StrongStart intends to be outside on Fridays, even during the winter, so having coffee on those days will be nice for parents who decide to brave the weather.
- Meeting with StrongStart ELL families on Tuesdays for English conversation and to build community. Have started to do lessons in small groups of 4 or fewer in the kitchen.
- Currently planning to do after school sports but have to coordinate with EAs and do in cohorts to ensure small groups. Feedback from Reps regarding Mental Health and the needs of their school community At Courtenay EI there used to be lots of after school programs and now with cohorts and covid it is a struggle. Families are really missing them and the connections that were created.
- Tom Demeo - Secondary athletics and clubs are just starting up. Direction is coming from the health officer. As we get direction we are opening up cautiously. What are the next steps, introducing sport and clubs and staying safe with cohorts mixing? Over the next while we will start to bring in those normal activities.
- The superintendent mentioned Robb Rd. is doing after school volleyball in cohorts.
- Community school intends to sponsor after school activities and have EAs supervise activities such as sports or art club.
- Community School is loaning tables and tent to Sunday Station, a non-profit group that gives out food, toiletries, and clothing to the needy every second Sunday of the month. Shawn was recently awarded a \$500 Responsive Neighbourhood Small Grant to create and distribute at least 24 winter care packages (mitts, toque, socks, toiletries, etc.) with Sunday Station. No word on when will be received.

### DPAC News

- BCCPAC looking for memberships. Courtenay EI not currently a member. Membership is \$75/yr. PAC's should join and can use their In-Service account from the District to pay for the membership
- DPAC in the process of restarting its speaker series. 1 Hour presentation via Zoom with Amy Kelly - Mindful Kids: Finding steadiness in the storm of anxieties.
- Brenda Hooker, our new Secretary/Treasurer for the District has joined the staff.
- Covid legacy/Outdoor learning spaces - 6 schools are receiving an outdoor structure this year but would like all schools to eventually have one.
- Clubs, Sports, Hot lunch are all slowing starting up.
- Bottom line numbers 9500 full time equivalent students in the District. 11400 if you include students who take 1 or 2 courses through Nides/Navigate. 413 students left brick and mortar schools, 244 went to Nides and the rest other institutions. There have been a tickle back of students who went to Nides but have come back to their

neighbourhood school. Chilliwack and Richmond school districts are recommending NIDES to their families who are pulling their kids.

### **New Business**

- Hot Lunch Facebook group - SD71 Hot Lunch Programs (searchable group in Facebook) Please make sure anyone who helps with Hot Lunch is part of this group.
- Next dpac dec 7th 6:30 - zoom

### **Budget Report - Ceilidh Iwanson**

- Need receipt for pizza party for Mr F's class
- General \$7,289.61
- Ponchos \$759.94 Daryl Robbins covered \$750
- Gaming \$6,860.32
- Received gaming grant \$3700

### **Chair Report - Renee Chapman**

**Pac meeting connection** - Looking for suggestions on how we create more of a connection since PAC meetings can not be in person, video meetings lack that community feeling. Leaving the Zoom meeting open before and after for chatting. One idea Andrew has seen is students join the meeting with teachers to share ideas.

**Emergency Container** – Batteries are dead. Catherine is going to get some

**Communication** – Parents are hoping communication with the school and parents would include events they are able to be part of if there are any. Also hoping pictures or videos from inside the school can be shared with parents.

Parents are missing knowing what is going on inside the school - they can look in their child's e portfolio to see what the students are up to.

PAC newsletter once a month has been suggested, great idea if there is anyone who would like to volunteer to take this on please let us know.

**Bulletin board** - We'd like to know if we can have this built for us rather than buying as after research, we feel this could save us money - Catherine can find out if we tell her what we are thinking

### **Committee updates**

Hot lunch

- Weather is changing, outdoor system of ordering hot dogs/pizza might not work over winter. Suggestions for how to do this. Could teachers take order in the mornings? Open to ideas, but don't want to put more on teachers in the mornings.
- Pita pit will be Thursday - PLEASE NO LATE ORDERS on hot lunches

Purdy's Fundraiser - Cynthia

- Posted FAQ on PAC fb page
- Already sold \$650!!

## Fundraisers

- Mr Ferneyhough's class won the Ghost hunt and received a pizza party as their prize
- Aiden Mackenzie won with the Guessing jar with a correct guess of 78 bars
- If any parents have ideas of fundraisers we'd love to hear your suggestions and let some new volunteers take the lead.

Teacher request - Ms Mcfarlane would like to purchase yoga mats for her class. Need something soft for her class since rugs are gone. Will be approx \$15 per mat. 17 kids in her class. She can send PAC an email with the details. Someone suggested to check the dollar store in Driftwood Mall for \$4 ones

Tricia Hart - Idea for a dirt bike pump park put in. She will gather information and keep us in the loop. Could the gaming grant be used for this?

**Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm**

**Next meeting is Monday, December at 6:30pm on zoom**