



Highland PAC Meeting Minutes October 16, 2023

In Attendance: Laura Roberts (Principal), Melissa Preston (Vice Chair), Jennifer Vaino (Secretary), Brooke Finlayson, Vivian Vaillant, Brenda Cairncross, Lee Gallagher, Jim Wright

Online attendance: Spring Halasz (Treasurer), Susan Leslie (Trustee),

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

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

Welcome & Introductions

Approval of previous minutes (September 2023) – Motioned by Melissa Preston; seconded by Spring Halasz. All in favour. Motion carried.

Approval of agenda – Motioned by Vivian Vaillant; seconded by Brooke Finlayson. All in favour. Motion carried.

Correspondence

- nil

REPORTS:

Trustee Report

- Jeremy Morrow, new Superintendent, new offices should be finished September 2024
- here is a link to the board newsletter <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/newsletter/>
- priority is on the strategic plan, expired in June, consultation with parents, staff & students needed, looking at putting an interim one in affect for 1 year while consultations are ongoing
- \$5.95 million surplus
- Early years – childcare, before & after school care thriving
- In September, the schools had consent week, the District distributed a letter in support of the LGBTQ+ community, the last week of September was about Truth & Reconciliation – more education needed, there are still gaps
- the trustee have attended a couple of workshops to further educate themselves on their position
- A Welcome was extended to Laura

Chair Report

- nil

Treasurer Report (Spring)

- As of October 1st, 2023:

- Gaming account \$19345.60 – grant money of \$13820.00 was deposited before Thanksgiving
- General account \$1,137.55
- \$1.79 in the Grad Account (2020) this account was closed and showing a \$0 balance. Spring is going to look into this.
- Spring is still working with Deanna & James (Germany Exchange) in regards to a lottery license, a special application still needs to be submitted for use of funds outside of BC. The license will be open from Nov 1 – Feb 14
- Vivian Vaillant put a motion forward to reimburse Spring the \$25 for the lottery license, Brooke Finlayson seconded it, all in favour.

DPAC Report

- New Superintendent touring schools, wants feedback from students about strategic plan
- our BCCPAC is up for renewal – this had been renewed from the inservice trust account
- BCCPAC conference Nov 17-18, there is money available to help with costs
- DPAC gets gaming grants too, their money is spent on speakers, here is a link to the sign up button to receive emails about upcoming speakers <https://www.sd71dpac.com/>
- Upcoming speaker, Nov 9th about bike safety, talking about his learning experience after being hit by a car
- What kind of information, training/education do we as parents want?
- DPAC is looking into providing a FoodSafe course free to parents, would this benefit Highland? contact DPAC or Vivian
- DPAC minutes for the last meeting held on October 3, 2023 can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/uthyfuq9fg4bb6j/AACQetRD-7bYknFwZpH3hDjSa?dl=0&preview=MINUTES+2023-10-03+SD71+DPAC.pdf>

Principal's Report (Laura)

- Student Learning Week – October 16-20, instead of interviews, teachers will be reaching out if necessary to discuss your student's progress
- new reporting timeline, November will be a Written Learning Update and January will be a Summary of Learning, both discussing core competencies, these will replace the traditional report card
- Terry Fox Run raised over \$4000
- A **shoutout** to parents who are volunteering to drive **WOW** and thank you
- Grad 2024, Nov 30th Dessert Night – fundraiser & mingle, same event as last year. Spring will start the process but needs more information from Stephanie Baker
- Oct 25th at 6:30 is a TEAMS meeting about what to expect for Grade 12 and Graduation
- Laura was approached about a parent sponsored Prom supported by school not sponsored
- Outdoor Adventure Club has been camping
- Robotics has started and a teacher has volunteered to offer an Introduction to Robotics

Old Business

- Nil

New Business

- Meeting Dates will be November 20, January 15, February 26, April 15 & May 27

- meetings aren't typically held in December, March & June. Vivian would like to host events at her place in December (18th) to make floral arrangements for staff and one in June (date to be determined) for Staff Appreciation

Elections

Melissa Preston nominated Jennifer Vaino for the position of Chair, Vivian Vaillant seconded. All in favour. Jennifer accepted.

Spring Halasz nominated Melissa Preston for the position of Vice-Chair, Brooke Finlayson seconded. All in favour. Melissa accepted.

Melissa Preston nominated Spring Halasz for the position of Treasurer, Vivian Vaillant seconded. All in favour. Spring accepted.

At this time there is no one in the Secretary position, but the position will be offered at all meetings. Jennifer will continue taking the minutes in the meantime.

Vivian Vaillant & Brooke Finlayson offered to be the DPAC reps. All in favour.

Funds Requests

Total in Gaming Account \$19345.60

Melissa Preston motioned that we should keep \$2500 in reserve for 2nd semester. Seconded by Spring. All in favour.

Laura Roberts can cover 50% of the cost of the Grade 8 & 9 team building event, transportation to the UN conference and the document camera.

Jim Wright expressed his concern about the inequality of the asks compared to the number of students, it was decided for future requests this information would be asked for and added to the request form. For this year Laura gave us a best guess estimate and informed us about who has been doing fundraising. Classroom teachers aren't expected to fundraise.

Vivian said an event big or small for 1 student or many students can be life changing.

Vivian Vaillant will cover the entire cost (\$300) of the UN conference transportation, she will liaise with the teacher directly.

Lee Gallagher will cover the entire cost (\$263.20) of the document camera, she will bring a cheque to Debbie in the office.

A suggestion was made to set a % for a number of categories and then stick to that number. For example 40% to sports, 20% to drama/music, 10% to field trips and 30% to other clubs.

Vivian V motioned up to \$375 for the Grade 9 team building activity, seconded by Melissa P. All in favour.

Melissa P motioned up to \$375 for the Grade 8 team building activity, seconded by Brooke F. All in favour.

Vivian V motioned up to \$1800 for the Outdoor Adventure Club transportation costs to Cape Scott, seconded by Brooke F. All in favour.

Brenda C motioned up to \$2500 for the Drama department transportation to festivals & venues, seconded by Jim W. All in favour.

Vivian V motioned up to \$1000 for the QSA club for swag & guest speakers, seconded by Brooke F. All in favour.

Brooke F motioned up to \$400 for the Life Science 11 transportation costs to the Deep Bay Marine Station, seconded by Melissa P. All in favour.

Brooke F motioned up to \$ 1000 for the 2 Earth Science 11 classes transportation costs to Horne Lake Caves, seconded by Melissa P. All in favour.

Vivian V motioned up to \$2300 for the Rugby team jersey purchase, seconded by Brooke F. All in favour.

Brooke F motioned up to \$400 for the Economics 12 transportation costs to a seminar, seconded by Jim W. All in favour.

Brooke F motioned up to \$1200 for the Music Department transportation to festivals & venues, seconded by Vivian V.

Brooke F motioned up to \$5000 for the Athletics Department, seconded by Melissa P. All in favour.

All motions were passed.

Next Meeting – November 20, 2023

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm