

Royston Elementary PAC Executive

Meeting Minutes

December 8th 2022

Meeting brought to order at 6:30pm

In attendance: Teresa Cameron, Paul Liebenberg, Jasmin Tufnail, Briana Noot, Stacey Murphy, Danica Prowse, Tara Pietrzak, Annette Yang, Stacey Hoselton, Rosa Maxwell, Natalie Prowse & Chelsea McCannel Keane

1. **Welcome & Introductions**
2. **Agenda review & additions**
3. **Principals Report** – Teresa Cameron. Please see attached report.
4. **Trustee's Report** – Chelsea McCannel Keane. New board. Chelsea just spent 5 days in Vancouver at the new Trustee's academy. Would love to bring more teamwork in to this term with DPAC. Board handling quite a few complex issues in the community, not necessarily with Royston. Over capacity issues in schools in SD71 still a large issue. Chelsea will follow up with Daniel Arbour re transportation issues and Active Travel Plans. Also discussed bussing issues with snow – there will be an app coming in Feb to be able to check in on route issues.
5. **Treasurer Report** – Stacey Murphy. Please see attached report. Special funding requests – all have been invoiced and paid. \$1400 of \$4600 of teacher's expenses have been submitted. \$7000 in gaming acct that will be allocated towards field trips (\$25 per child). Hot lunch income this month due to snow days etc. Donations average about \$50-\$100 per month from parents. Surplus of about \$1500 from last year.
6. **DPAC Report** – Annette Yang. Please see attached report.
7. **Fundraising Report** – Purdys made \$1700. Thursdays school wide hot lunch is organized and ready to go.
8. **New Business**
 - Christmas Concert & Ticket Trade
 - Hot Lunch Update
 - Food Hampers – Still quite empty, teachers need to send reminders to their students. PAC is able to help with donations.. \$400 is planned to send to Food Bank. We will put this \$400 towards hampers then whatever we make at the Cookie Sale we will donate to the Food Bank.
 - Bake Sale for Christmas Concert – Anna will help with Cookie Sale. If someone wants to take on tea and coffee they are welcome too – doesn't look like someone will be doing this. Cookie donation drop off – Teresa will let us know where we want parents to drop their cookie donations. We do still need some volunteers to help sell the cookies during the concert. Cookie sale before and after the concert – parents don't need to be there during the concert necessarily. Will need 4-5 volunteers per show. We will also need 3 or more floats. Stacey will buy water bottles to sell for \$1. Stacey will organize us for floats.
 - Christmas Mingle

- Gunter's – Will likely happen in February and then again in May or June. Briana will be emailing in January to book dates.
- Purdy's Chocolates – Made \$1730. We do need a new volunteer to take this on next year. Purdy's at easter.
- Bottle Drive – this would be for end of year field trip. No storage for bottles at the school. There is a Royston account set up already for parents to donate to and be able to print off their own labels. Paul motioned that all bottle donations go to the grade 6 end of year field trip. Stacey seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Winter Hampers – Danica will put together packages and deliver if needed. This will be for families in need.
- Spirit Wear – Hoping to have a new logo but this hasn't happened yet. Will begin taking orders before Spring Break. We will do shirts at no cost to students in need. Paul and Tara will organize this online. Tote bags possibly also.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

PAC Principal's Report for Thursday, December 8th, 2022
Happenings Since our last meeting around Royston Elementary:

- Yesterday, December 7th we had our Artstarts performance/workshop: "Release the Rhythm". It was a great, highly interactive performance from percussionist Daniel Duggan, with a great message about inclusivity – both students and teachers enjoyed it.
- The Royal LePage Holiday hampers arrived last Wednesday, Nov 30th, and classes immediately got to work filling them. Items and cash donations are still rolling in, and our due date for collection is next Monday, December 12th.
- The EDAS (Every Child Deserves a Smile) campaign is wrapping up at Royston EI. This year, 135 students in 6 classes were able to produce 135 hand-decorated gift bags and gift cards with messages of hope for those living in difficult circumstances.
 - The bags/cards were delivered to Puntledge Elementary yesterday, but we are still raising money to help with this effort.
 - In total, 1300+ gift packages will be created this year.
- On November 22nd the WWEST STEM team came to Royston EI to work with eight of our classes. WWEST (Westcoast Women in Engineering and Technology) is affiliated through SFU. By all accounts, both staff and students had a great time learning about science in these hands-on workshops.
- The results are in for Royston Elementary's grade 4 FSA. Royston had 41 grade 4 students who took part in the FSA, with the following results:

Literacy:

- 7 students were identified as having "emerging" skills
- 32 students were identified as having skills that were "on track"
- 2 students were identified as having skills that were "extending"

*Numeracy:

- 13 students were identified as having "emerging" skills
- 26 students were identified as having skills that were "on track"
- 2 students were identified as having skills that were "extending"

**The numeracy questions were difficult!*

We shared the results with our staff and analyzed the data at our last staff meeting. The assessments are currently with the grade 4 teachers for further examination, and they will be mailed to families next week (a nice little holiday treat 😊).

- Food for thought: Royston students performed much better on the online multiple choice sections than on the written sections.

Looking forward to next week, and the weeks after the Winter ahead at Royston Elementary:

- Next week (December 15th) is our Winter Concert! There will be 2 performances the day of the concert, one at 12:45pm, and one at 6pm. Tickets were sent out today, December 8th with the eldest child from each family. Each family received 2 tickets for the afternoon performance, and 2 tickets for the evening performance.
- Next Thursday is also holiday lunch day! Thanks to the Student Affordability Fund, we were able to secure the services of the Custom Gourmet to produce a hot lunch of turkey pot pie with mashed potatoes and gravy for all students next Thursday.
- Next Friday, December 16th is our December House Competition/Spirit Day: Tacky Christmas Sweater Day. We will also be having a school-wide Celebration of Success assembly that day. The area of focus for this month is communication and literacy.
- Winter break starts early this year: Next Friday, December 16th, but we are back at it early in January (January 3rd).

Other items of note:

- Winter concert concession? Does PAC want to do this? Are plans underway?
- VIP seating raffle for the concert. Tickets to be sold at the concert. Is PAC willing to provide refreshments for this raffle (in addition to the seat)?

DPAC Report for Royston PAC meeting

- DPACs in Lower Mainland wrote a letter with all DPAC chairs' signatures on it to the Province, asking BC to look more closely at urban planning and schools/childcare spaces and making sure everything was accessible to those with disabilities. Currently the letter is being reviewed by our DPAC before adding SD71's support to it.

BCCPAC Summit in Richmond last month

- 2 members attended; a major theme was incorporation of urban planning into strategic planning for schools and other discussion items
 - o community engagement
 - o seismic upgrades
 - o playground funding
 - o provincial framework for meal plans (family affordability fund and universal food programs at schools)
 - o SOGI, creating capacity for diversity, consent and sexual health, FSAs (used as Indigenous assessment), new reporting/grading, aligning housing with school planning
 - o framework for enhanced school learning (data focused); accountability; operational plan aligns with strategic plan – how does SD71 compare with districts with good plans; allows for better decision making
 - o substance use, mental health, resources – do teachers and parents know who these are; SOJI leads in our district – who are these?; anti-racism (teaching is reflecting this so hire more non-white principals and EAs);
 - o “racism of low expectations” – lived experience where Indigenous kids are steered away from high level math course (more academic path) by staff and people
 - o French Immersion gets government funding but nothing for Indigenous focused funds
- AGM in January, call for nominations is open now

Active Travel Plans at each school

- shared feedback, resources (but no funding available to hire consultant to help create plan)
- examples:
 - o neither LT and Courtenay EI have an active travel plan
 - o Arden has a plan - they have a “Green Team” and they are willing to give help and advice - it is detailed and involved because they made it as part of a grant
 - o Brooklyn's map was done by Angela Holmes as part of a pilot program SD71 did pre-covid, involving parents, RCMP, Town of Comox, and parents got a pamphlet about the information and routes; that plan has been up on that wall in Brooklyn for 5 years.
- o Sheila MacDonald (past trustee) would be a good contact - she was the active travel liaison for several years; with regards to rural schools, BCCPAC discussed

a few years ago to highlight the safety of rural routes and getting to schools in Regional Districts - a resolution to BCCPAC to highlight this would be doable.

Reviewing of District Strategic Plan

- new board will discuss
- asking PACs for any items to include

Bussing issues

- communications at schools?
- ongoing conversation

Student Affordability Fund

- SD71 seemed to have done a great job communicating with parents and community partners

Sexual Health Committee

- On behalf of the SHC, thanks to DPAC past-chair now new Trustee for her five years of advocacy - she brought many successful resolutions to BCCPAC and committed to bringing issue of consent education to the Ministry
- Ministry of Education and ChildCare - new consent education and SD71 was given props for their advocacy work
- In early 2023, BC will offer more resources for parents about consent and healthy relationships
 - o ERASE website has added sex-based abuse resources
- Revised Terms of Reference available if anyone is interested
- December 6 was the Day of Remembrance for Violence Against Women (anniversary of Polytech murders)
- welcome new committee members from all PAC, once a month meeting

Speaker Series Committee

- Recently received an email about an opportunity on Feb 16 that the keynote speakers for the Pro-D (K'ómoks Hereditary Chief Wedlidi Speck and archaeologist Dr. Moran) day are offering a Zoom session for parents before presenting to SD71 staff on Feb 17
- In discussions with sexual health educators about consent
- Also potentially climate anxiety speakers and bullying

Update from superintendant Tom Demeo,

- student affordability fund, enrollment projects, website for closure notifications and procedures, peer conflict document on website, vandalism on properties (working with RCMP and Crimestoppers) and ask everyone to help keep eyes open

- other discussion items include snow issues with sidewalks/bussing and communications plans for keeping parents informed (eg. text?), emergency preparedness supplies for schools (look into this) as it varies from school to school
- trustees Susan Leslie (Comox) and Michelle Waite (Area B) – available to join PAC meetings but will need to coordinate requests
- BCSTA Rep is Janice Caton, who put forward a motion to provide more funding to districts to deal with operational issues we're dealing with due to inflation, which passed.

New Committees

- Transportation/Bussing
- Emergency Preparedness/School Safety
- Food Programs (DPAC subcommittee of District committee)
- [all PAC as welcome to join committees](#)