

Alexander Park Elementary School PAC

Meeting Date: Sept 16, 2024

Meeting called to order 3:30

Approval of Agenda and meeting minutes.

Meeting Attendees: Adrianna Ratzlaff, Linda Poon, Nicole Carter, Carolin Aldinger, Shawna Shannon, Bob Wilson, Cassandra Campbell, Chloe Johnson, Iana Pedrajas, Shea Archibald, Megan Goudie, Carrie LeBlanc, Michelle Volkart, Sherri Kindrachuk, Emelie Simpao, Ryan Nikita, Amy Armstrong

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. What is PAC?

- Reviewed purpose of PACS from two documents (RMSD 6 District Practice Policy 9000 Parent Advisory Council; "Purpose of PACS" - BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils)

3. Planning

a. Where have we been?

- Reviewed past activities done by PAC:
 - Activities for students (skating, swimming lessons, mindfulness, yoga)
 - Events for families (family dance, movie night)
 - Contributions to school (teachers' allowance, school calendar fridge magnets, class photos, school yard paintings)
 - Hot lunch Program

b. Where are we now?

- *Financial Report: (Treasurer):*
 - Two sources of income for PAC:
 - 1) Gaming grant - has to be extracurricular activities and has to benefit the whole school. \$1500 left in current funds from previous years.
 - 2) Fundraising, hot lunch money.
- *Principal's Report (Bob Wilson):*
 - Thanks for all the support. New 100's chart is great.
 - Summary on what the Student Plan for Success is. Looking toward regaining community engagement.
 - Plan has a few big goals - learning stories strategy - back and forth communication with parents. Tying in what they are learning in school and what they are learning at home. This year focussing on a learning outcome in Math.

- Survey will be going home - what special skills parents have that they can contribute in the classroom.
- There is a new after school program at Mountain Child.
- Breakfast program will be starting up again soon.
- Meeting Minutes can be posted to the school website. Must be sent by PDF.
- *Teacher's Report (Linda Poon):*
 - Scholastic book fair Oct 21st and 22nd. Some parental help would be great.
 - Last spring Linda applied for and has received a grant for Drum circle. Rhythm by Nature out of Invermere. Asking for \$800 from PAC to help fund the rest. **ACTION: Funding request to be discussed at October 7th PAC meeting.**
- *Hot Lunch:*
 - Ordering is open now. Hot lunch actually made a lot of money last year.
 - SignUpGenius is a great tool to use for hot lunch volunteering, signing up for baking, etc.

c. Where do want to go?

- Group participated in visioning exercise to generate ideas what a healthy and thriving school community looks, feels and sounds like.
- See attached document for summary of brainstormed ideas.
- **ACTION: At next meeting, begin prioritizing and formalizing a workplan based on brainstormed ideas for 2024/2025 school year.**

4. General Discussion

- **Teacher's Allowance:**
 - Group discussed providing a teacher's allowance for each classroom again this year.
 - Shea made a motion to put forth \$200 to each classroom for teachers allowance.
 - Chloe Seconded the motion.
 - All in favor, carried.
- **Ways to participate in PAC:**
 - Discussed that participation in PAC doesn't have to mean only volunteering at events; there are many different ways to get involved (helping with fundraising, hot lunch, baking for events, attending meetings and providing feedback/ideas)

5. Wrap up

- Next meeting – October 7th, 2024 @ 3:30 pm
- Meeting adjourned – 4:45 pm.

PAC Visioning Exercise - Summary of Ideas Sept 16, 2024

Comprehensive School Health is an internationally recognized framework for supporting improvements in students' educational outcomes, while addressing school health in a planned, integrated and holistic way.

It is not just about what happens in the classroom. Rather, it encompasses the whole school environment with actions addressing four distinct but inter-related pillars that provide a strong foundation for comprehensive school health:

Social and Physical Environment:

The social environment is:

- The quality of the relationships among and between staff and students in the school
- The emotional well-being of students
- Influenced by relationships with families and the wider community

The physical environment includes:

- The buildings, grounds, play space and equipment in and around the school
- Basic amenities such as sanitation and air cleanliness

Our ideas to address this pillar:

- Support for equal access opportunity for all kids
- Winter outdoor activities (e.g. at recess)
- Kids artwork on display for parents to see
- Multicultural potluck
- Outdoor education opportunities (e.g. an outdoor classroom for getting outside, ability to run around move before sitting and learning)
- Education recreation after school, free time (opportunities for making friends)
- Welcome mural at front entrance (to replace where tree used to be; making it more personal to the school as it is now)

- Kids playing with one another, no matter the age they are what country they are from
- promoting/supporting learning outside
- Art at the school entrance
- Entrance art piece
- Kids getting to connect with nature (is this an opportunity for partnerships?)
- Classroom discussion on how to collaborate as a community
- School-wide art projects
- Colourful
- Opportunities to recognize and contributions for those who may not receive it (e.g. custodians, trades, etc.)

Teaching and Learning:

- Resources, activities and provincial curriculum where students gain age-appropriate knowledge and experiences, helping to build the skills to improve their health and well-being

Our ideas to address this pillar:

- Music and art programs
- More gym equipment out at lunch (easy to use, e.g. jump ropes, bubbles; could be something grade 3s are responsible for taking out/bringing in each recess)
- Diverse experiences (e.g. cultural, different professions, exposure to difference)
- Dance
- Share experiences/field trips
- More hands-on STEAM activities
- Music class
- Garden (food or colour)
- Art programs
- Support teachers - money or food!
- Gym climbing equipment
- Music in the classroom
- Kids are more engaged and participating inside the class, and with each other (e.g. having a school ambassador to help increase engagement between kids)
- Track and field equipment/opportunity
- Vegetable or flower garden
- Kids performance (parents attend to watch)
- Recess/lunch programs inside and outside (organized)

Healthy School Policy

- Management practices, decision-making processes, rules, procedures and policies at all levels that promote health and well-being, and shape a respectful and caring school environment
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Our ideas to address this pillar:

- Maintaining cleanliness and discipline
- Sports programs (more organized sports at recess)
- Lunch for kids who need it (e.g. funding hot lunch)

Partnerships and Services

Partnerships are:

- The connections between school and students' families
- Supportive working relationships within schools (staff and students), between schools, and between schools and other community organizations and representative groups.
- Health, education and other sectors working together to advance school health.

Services are:

- Community and school based services that support and promote student and staff health and well-being.
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Our ideas to address this pillar:

- Everyone has access to food - fruit, veg and protein
- Fresh produce and local food
- Community gardens (giving back)
- Welcome to Kindergarten event (e.g. tea) held by PAC
- After school programs
- Multicultural activities (e.g. potluck representing different cultures)
- Breakfast club, before school hang out