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### TPAC Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2021

**\*\*Meeting conducted via Zoom\*\***

**Attendance: no in-person attendance.** Meeting conducted via Zoom. Moderated by PAC executive members (Teresa Bubela, president, Tiffanie Hanoski, vice-president, Caren Morris, treasurer, Tuire Tammilehto, secretary). 15 members present.

**Call to Order** at 7:01pm by Teresa.

Adoption of meeting agenda by Tiffanie and seconded by Caren.

**Opening Remarks:** Happy New Year and Welcome to the first meeting of 2021. Introductions of PAC Executive members.

### **Standing Items**

#### **Communications Update**

- Welcome aboard! Introducing Stacey Fraser, our new *Communication Liaison*. Thank you for stepping up.
- Her role will be to communicate on Facebook and with the school administration for the weekly updates.
- PAC Reps: The roles have been filled for all classes except two. Div 3/4 teachers have been contacted to offer communication help. Please reach out as needed.
- The hybrid class will opt out of utilizing a PAC Rep with the teacher to facilitate communication.
- If you are a PAC Rep and have any questions, please let us know at [communications@torquaypac.ca](mailto:communications@torquaypac.ca).
- PAC Reps are now listed on the website, [www.torquaypac.ca](http://www.torquaypac.ca). Thank you so much to all our PAC Reps!
- Earthquake Kits: Sarah Elford followed up with Vanessa and Jacob (former PAC executives) for expiry dates of granola bars, however expiry dates is still unknown. Sarah states that the emergency kiosk is well equipped but the food was not easily excess-able to check the dates. She will go through it in due course. Ideally a month before expiry, the bars should donated to the food bank. \$800 available to replace stock , if needed.
- Grade 5 Celebration Committee: Parents are connecting to share ideas for year end celebrations of students leaving Torquay this year. Due to the current limitations, brainstorming is required and coordination with teachers is underway. **Meeting: Wednesday Jan 20th or Jan 27th via Zoom.** For more information or to attend, please contact Caren at [communications@torquaypac.ca](mailto:communications@torquaypac.ca)
- Committee to facilitate a Purdy's Easter Sale with proceeds going to the grade 5 year end celebrations.
- Lois mentions the two grade 5 classes are cohorts, which may make planning easier.
- She likes the idea of hoodies and a Zoom farewell.
- Hoodies are being researched for pricing and possible PAC Sponsorship. Julena has the designs ready and will be working with the committee. Tentatively Hoodies \$29/each, T-shirts \$14/each.

- **PAC Call for a Volunteer:** Are you are comfortable with “Word Press”? We want you! Any parents with website experience please consider contacting the PAC. Discussions are in progress about the future of the PAC website. If you can help in any capacity, please reach out at [communications@torquaypac.ca](mailto:communications@torquaypac.ca)

### **Financial Update**

- Caren shares the funding that has come in since last meeting. The Donation Drive funds are being held at the school and total \$3895.00. Profits from fun lunches \$1714.15 and the gaming grant, \$6420 has come in.
- \$300/ classroom has begun being distributed and will be followed for the next few months.
- Budget funds for Art/theatre performances yet to be used. Lois mentions that teachers are considering bringing in a dance instructor that would teach each class individually.
- Aquarium expenses: In the past few years the PAC has allocated \$500/year for maintenance of the two school fish tanks (one located by the office, the other in Mr. Masini’s Class). The children from Mr. Masini’s class help to clean the tanks and call themselves *Bubble Buddies*. The PAC would like to open discussions to expand this to a “*Bubble Buddies Club*”. Opening this activity school wide would allow for more funding options.
- Tiffanie puts forward a motion to allocate \$500 in funding to the aquariums. Seconded by Caren.
- Motion is approved by the membership.
- Fun Lunches: Now open for ordering for the remainder of the school year. Many parents have been asking about additional fun lunch dates, perhaps weekly. This is under discussions and will be announced after Spring Break.

### **Fundraiser Update**

- \$1300 collectively raised from Purdy’s and Nature Bee fundraisers!

-A reminder that parents can request a Thrifty’s or Fairway’s card at [communications@torquaypac.ca](mailto:communications@torquaypac.ca)  
Then continue to reload your cards for infinite donations to the PAC.

*\*\*Please note, this fundraiser is halted during July/August.*

-Call for other fundraising items for the remainder of the school year. We hear that parent may have low energy for this kind of thing. Passive fundraisers are best, such as the Bottle Depot. Our aim is to bring in funds with very little effort. Connect with us via email at [communications@torquaypac.ca](mailto:communications@torquaypac.ca)

### **Event Update**

- Spirit Wear: Julena reports the website will go live Friday! There will be hoodies, t-shirts, and pink shirts for children and adults. Please allow for a 2 week turn around after ordering. Items distributed through the school. Order/Payment is online at [torquayschool.secure-decoration.com](http://torquayschool.secure-decoration.com).
- There is a very small profit margin that will go into the Torquay PayPal account.
- A huge thank you to Julena for organizing this. It’s been a year in the making!
- First round **order deadline is January 31st.**
- Sheepdog Protection course update: PAC is collaborating with Kris, the presenter, and Lois for possible dates in the spring. Stay tuned.

### **Parent Ed Nights**

- Lots of virtual opportunities throughout the district. We will continue to share any that come our way. Recently: *How to Raise an Anti-Racist Child*, and *Social Media Awareness*. (January 20)

### **Administration Report**

#### **Lois Bender, principal**

- Lois starts by recalling the amazing participation in the winter concert. There was great feedback from parents. Extended family joined in from across the country and the world. The event totalled 1000 participants.
- Assessment of grade 4’s underway (with additionally assessments in grade’s 7 and 10). The focus is learning about learning. The types of assessment:
  - 1. Assessment for learning: What should I teach next? What can I teach better?

- 2. Student reflections.
- 3. Assessment for learning in students of similar age groups.
- 4. Student learning survey (formally known as Satisfaction Survey): about student opinions and thoughts to better meet their needs. Includes questions about lifestyle, social emotional learning, sports and activities, safety and belonging, nutrition.
- These are completed by all grade 4's across the province. Assesses foundation skills in literacy and numeracy in relation to age group. Letter from Shelly Green was sent home about this provincial assessment.
- Middle Years Development Index: to assess social-emotional learning. Happens every few years.
- PEARLs Assessment: Torquay was chosen at random to participate with schools from over 50 countries. Looks for knowledge in reading. Only Div 3 to participate is this additional assessment .
- Tells the district about how we are learning in the age group, factors contributing to learning, data of what is meaningful to the children's learning.
- Kindergarten registration is almost here. Will be done online through the school district 61 website.
- Ready, Set, Learn is unknown at this time.

Sarah Elford, vice-principal

- Health and safety committee has been meeting monthly to go over COVID-19 Guidelines.
- Lock down drill planned for Tuesday, January 19 @ 2 15pm. The school police liaison will be on site to speak with students in primary grades. Teachers of Intermediate grades will connect with their students.
- The purpose is to be organized and in control during an actual event.
- Drill will be announced over the PA. Children will move to a designated safe area in their class and remain silent until further instructions arise. Any student not in a classroom needs to stay-in-place, in silence.
- The constable will complete a walkthrough of the school. Lois to then declares the drill over.
- You know your child. If you feel they need additional comfort about the drill, please reinforce this same message.

**Town Hall/New Business:**

- Teresa sends a thank you to the admin for speaking freely and passing on valuable information.
- Greg Strong brings forth a fundraiser suggestion of an online auction. We would love to have this if there are parents to organize. Please let us know if there is a group willing to take it on!
- Parents have commented to Teresa about the construction at the crosswalk by the school. Work now looks to be completed.
- Torquay Lake: District is looking into solving this problem. It's more complex than anticipated. We have not been forgotten but it will take time.
- A parent ask: What does the transition to middle school look like? What can parents expect?
- Lois says normally the children automatically transfer to Gordon Head Middle school. If you are not in the catchment area for Torquay, you will be placed into your middle school catchment and would need to apply for a transfer.
- Orientation day in May. Students run through activities and meet the teachers.
- A group of Torquay staff and Gordon Head staff meet to discuss each student. Parents have an opportunity to submit a request for classroom placement and speak about friendships, and student learning styles.

\*Next Meeting FEBRUARY 10th, See you there!

**Meeting adjourned:** at 8:19pm by Teresa