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## TPAC Minutes for November 9, 2022

**Attendance:** Julena Lovegrove, Nancy Hodgson, Sharon Rai. PAC executive members: Danielle Parandeh (President), Ada Bello (Vice-President), Anna Olson (Treasurer), Tuire Tammilehto (Secretary), Stacey Fraser (Communications).

**Call to Order** at 7:06pm by Danielle.

Land Acknowledgement

Adoption of meeting agenda by Julena, seconded by Ada.

### Standing Items

#### Communications Update

- **Indigenous Art:** Sarah Morales and Tuire Tammilehto are collaborating to acquire a piece of Indigenous Art for our school. This initiative began through a funding request from Sarah Elford last year. One Metis piece has been purchased so far and hangs in the office. The budget approved was for \$500 from SD61 with an additional \$1000 for the PAC for a total of \$1500. An artist named Sarah Jim is a local WASANEC artist. Sarah and Tuire will reach out in hopes of purchasing one of her pieces or to organize a mural painting. Check out Sarah Jim's work at: <https://www.sarahjimstudio.com/>
- Emma shares that at previous schools they organized an artisan resident to paint a mural with students. There may be grants available to help with the cost of a mural.
- **Halloween Howl Update:** We raised \$4000 and had so much fun! Thank you to everyone who volunteered!
- Feedback has been positive. Some things to consider for next year would be to reduce to cost of the glow bar from \$5 to \$4 to aid in a family's cost; when ordering online, include an option to purchase single food tickets; have a "soft start" for our younger children; sweet spot for duration of howl seems to be 2.5hrs.
- Sharon would love to see some of the Howl profits given back to our students as soon as possible.
- Since the PAC is not working towards a larger initiative at this time, she suggests giving extra funds to each classroom.
- Anna motions to allocate \$150/division (14 divisions) for a total of \$2100. Seconded by Julena.
- **VOTE: Approved funding.**
- The PAC hopes the funds can be used in December for a winter activity/craft or field trip.
- Emma is thrilled for the extra funds for her classroom and shares her appreciation to the PAC.

#### Financial Update

- **Recent Survey Result:** Our survey to send 6 divisions to the Royal Theatre to experience the Naden band was approved. Thank you for your participation and input in this time sensitive matter.
- **Treasurer's Update:** Chequing account: \$32,572. Gaming account: \$10,652. PayPal Account: \$23,094.52.
- \*Halloween Howl profits and funds held in the district account from donation drive are NOT reflected here.
- **Funding Request:** Our swim team would like to purchase Team Torquay swim caps. Families pay for participation so it would be nice to give these children this "swag".

- Proposed purchase of 50 caps for best value per cap. \$10.90/swim cap, \$545 total. Our team consists of 20 members, with 2 students on a waitlist. Surplus caps could be used next year.
- The children have 4 swim meets coming up and would also use their caps at practices.
- Anna puts forward this motion; Julena seconds.
- **VOTE: Approved funding.**
- **Funding Request:** Mrs. Boulton and Ms. Garat's classes would like to attend the Owl Program at the Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary. Cost is \$165 per class, \$450 total including bus transportation.
- Anna motions to put forward this funding request; Julena seconds.
- **VOTE: Approved funding.**
- **Traffic Signs:** Julena and Liz mention that the traffic signs for in front of the school need upgrading.
- Julena proposes to re-print 4 signs with stakes. Cost \$102.
- Anna motions to vote on this item, Julena seconds.
- **VOTE: Approved funding.**
- A BIG Thank You to Liz for dedicating her time to help enforce traffic safety.
- Parents, please remember to consider our children's safety at drop off's/pick up's by NOT parking in front of the school, for even a moment. Please continue to reframe from making U-turns. Thank you so much!

#### **Fundraiser Update**

- **Purdy's:** ordering now open through **November 23**. Pick up will be on Dec 8 from the gym.
- **Spirit Wear:** ordering is now open through **November 20th**. Sample sizes will be in office.  
Place orders here: [torquayschooldown.secure-decoration.com](http://torquayschooldown.secure-decoration.com)
- Discussions had of re-branding Torquay newsletters, Instagram, Facebook, meeting banners, baseball caps, draw-string bags, to promote community inclusiveness.
- Consider offering Spirit Wear sales at Halloween Howl or raffle hoodies.

#### **Event Update**

- **Parent Ed Night: IMPORTANT CHANGE** - Julie-Anne Richards has switched to a VIRTUAL Zoom session on NOVEMBER 29 @ 6:30-8:00pm. Please re-register at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/free-live-presentation-on-childhood-anxiety-by-julie-anne-richards-victoria-tickets-443505285247>
- Presentation is on childhood stress and anxiety-building resilience.  
[Childhood Stress and Anxiety Building Resilience.docx](#)

#### **Administration Report**

##### *Liz McMaster, Principal*

- On our next Pro-D Day, Ms. Garat and Mr. Konning will be looking at where we are at with teaching diversity. There will be a focus on new literature and teachers will all go home with new book. This fits with our school goal of diversity, action and justice in your classroom. Our teachers are working hard to have our classroom be an inclusive and diverse environment.
- Gordy Bear has recently join our district as a drumming instructor/coordinator. The district has approved six Indigenous songs to teach students and have purchased two drums per school. Gordy is looking for 2 stewards (members of staff) who would learn to teach songs and take care of our drums.
- Our staff brainstormed as a group and in February or March we hope to invite our parents to make a drum to donate to our school. Cost \$100 per person; includes hide, cedar, and clasps, with Gordy volunteering his time. Full day of fun: 8:30am-3:00pm. We would love to have 12 or 13 drums donated. Drumming could then be incorporated into our music program, assemblies, and announcements. Look for more details coming soon!
- Student and Family Affordability Funding is here. We received \$22,000 for our community to help offset the impacts of Covid-19. Please watch for a survey coming soon to apply. Funding needs to be used by June 30,

2023. Not to be used for extracurricular activities outside of school time. Brainstorming ideas: morning breakfasts, gift cards, etc.

- Christmas concert coming up on Dec 13 and 15. One of our classes has a field trip happening on Dec 14th, which is why the days are split this year.
- 20 students from Lambrick are coming to organize activities for our students during *Lunch with Lambrick*.

Emma Marley, Vice-Principal

- The Torquay Train is back! Our Sprit Club students are busy fixing up the train and creating one for the upstairs floor. We will be collecting donations over the next three weeks with each week being themed! Week 1: toiletries and hygiene items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, hairbrushes, combs, toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towel, dish soap, laundry detergent, shampoo, band aids, deodorant, hair elastics, diapers, socks and mittens. Week 2: Family dinner items. Week 3: Fun foods and snacks for kids. If you know of a family that could benefit from a hamper, please connect with Emma or Liz.
- Our Multi-purpose Room has been transformed into a student Art Gallery. On December 12-13, it will feature winter art for all our students to walk through to view and enjoy. If timing permits, we hope to have it open for parents as well! Details to follow.
- There has been a shift in the district's student grading for report cards. Grades 4 and 5 will no longer be receiving letter grades. Letter grades will be replaced with the NEW Proficiency Scale. It consists of 4 levels for grading, "Emerging", "Developing", "Proficient" and "Extending". This comes from the government and will be fully implemented in September 2023. It helps the children be accountable for their own learning by creating more understanding of terminology. It has been shown to inspire children to drive themselves to grow and learn, reframing and enriching how our children view their learning journey. Implementation begins with grades K-9 and may well transition to high school. At this time it is unclear how this change will translate to university applications.

**Town Hall/New Business:**

- Stacey conveys that a CRD member was in contact recently. Congratulations Torquay! We won a prize from our Walk and Wheel event held last spring. Potential prize of \$1000 or a bike/scooter rack coming soon!

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:23pm by Danielle.

***Next PAC Meeting is on January 11, 2023 from 7:00pm-8:00pm.***