



**PAC Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2021 on Zoom Video Conference**

**PAC Committee Members in Attendance**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Cynthia S</b>
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	
<b>Past Chair</b>	<b>Catharine M</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Katie C</b>
<b>Treasurer(s)</b>	<b>Caroline T</b>
<b>Communication Rep</b>	<b>Elisabeth S</b>
<b>Class Parent Coordinator</b>	
<b>DPAC &amp; CPF Rep</b>	<b>Michelle H</b>
<b>Members-at-Large</b>	<b>Tracy M</b>

**Total of 22 Members present at meeting plus our Principal, Mme Niro.**

Meeting called to order at 9:17 am.

**Welcome & Introduction**

1. Cynthia S. welcomed everyone to the PAC meeting.

**Approval of Agenda**

2. No new items were added to the agenda.
3. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Elisabeth and seconded by Michelle. All in favour, motion passed.

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

4. Minutes from the 4 February 2021 were reviewed. Cynthia highlighted that the meeting passed a motion to increase the PE budget to \$3,018 to include support for the HipHop activity and the approval to spend up to \$250 per year to purchase accounting software. Elisabeth made a motion to approve the 4 February 2021 minutes and seconded by Tracey. All in favour, motion passed

**Principal's Report**

5. Covid Update. Mme Niro thanked parents for following guidelines and restrictions and wearing masks when and where requested. Laronde has had 6 confirmed cases of Covid (some occurred during Spring Break) and there are some students self-isolating and may be a class also self-isolating. Details of who or what classes will not be provided but Mme Niro does appreciate how the parents are advising the school immediately upon receiving their diagnosis. The school has not had cohorts since 6 April and are working within individual classes only but teachers are working outdoors as much as possible.
6. There are 3 early dismissals planned for the remaining of the year to allow for safety and health meetings. The other early dismissals already planned are for discussing student progress.
7. 2021-2022 School Year. Our school received notice that we will have 20 Divisions again next year. Intermediate classes are expected to have 25-29 students in each Division and Kindergarten will have 30 new students to Laronde and 30 siblings of current students. Parent input for the next school year will be requested sometime in May. The District will be sending a survey to find out who will be considering the Blended program for the next school year. The Blended program will be different in that there will be a full year commitment required with no option to join the in-person learning.
8. A parent asked if students are allowed to eat their lunch outdoors. Mme Niro will suggest that as an option to the teachers.

9. Mme Niro was asked how many classes have Covid and she answered “more than one” but was unable to give further details. She mentioned that so far, parents who are themselves testing positive are keeping their kids home as a precaution. She added that there are strict rules on what and when she is allowed to release information and that she is working closely with the District when there is a confirmed case. Fraser Health determines who must self-isolate after an exposure with input from the school. It has been helpful that most families who have a student who has tested positive have given the school permission to share the information with Fraser Health using a district form. Most students seem to be asymptomatic with a mild headache and a sore throat.

10. A parent asked what action is being taken to address the fact that desks are closer than the recommended 2 m apart, to include reducing classroom sizes. Mme Niro indicated that she has been in discussion with the District since March Break about the reality of the classroom space and that desks are realistically about 50cm apart but spaced as best they can and that all students are facing one direction only.

11. There were follow up questions about timely notification. Mme Niro reminded everyone that Fraser Health is the authority to release the results of a Covid positive student. A number of parents questioned how the information can be relayed sooner to stop the spread and it was suggested that if the parent whose child tested positive gave permission to the Classroom parent to pass on the information then perhaps that would ensure families have the information immediately and can make their own informed decision whether to send their child to school or not, rather than waiting for the information to be released many days later. Mme Niro reminded everyone that she is not allowed to release that information.

12. Adele, a parent who works in a different Surrey school passed on her appreciation to Mme Niro for all the work with protecting our students and children.

13. Karyn suggested that the school send out a notification to parents to let them know what the school does when informed of a positive case so that they understand the process. It may help parents understand why the delay in getting the information and why they do not receive the information from the school. Mme Niro considered that suggestion and also advised that she is pushing to minimize the time between receiving the test results and notification. Receiving the information from the parent immediately does help speed up the process with Fraser Health with notification for self-isolation requirements.

14. A question was asked about how students continue learning while they are self-isolating. Mme Niro advised that teachers prepare learning packages for those who are away from the classroom.

15. Mme Niro advised that the Body Health presentation will be this coming week and that the parent meeting link was provided to teachers to pass to parents.

16. Mme Niro closed by saying that despite all that has happened recently, Spirit around the school is good. Students are happy and are learning and she sees amazing cooperation among staff and students.

### **Chair Report**

17. Cynthia started with giving thanks to Tanya and Kiran for all their work on the Laronde Spirit Wear. The orders should arrive at the school next week and plans for distribution will be communicated in the next week. Spirit Wear is not intended as a major fundraiser however will raise \$367. There will likely be another order in the Fall.

18. Cynthia also thanked Laura Roberts for her commitment to the Outreach program, most notably for running our Christmas hamper program. She is stepping down this year to go back to school. We wish her well and thank her for her service. This means we are in need of someone to join our outreach team this year. If you are interested, please email the Chair at [chair@laronde.ca](mailto:chair@laronde.ca).

19. EMS Scholarship. Every year the Laronde PAC provides one \$500 scholarship to a graduating EMS student. The criteria for this award is “A kind, respectful and responsible learner who is a creative builder of their future. Must be eligible to receive the FRIM diploma and be a former École Laronde student. The option of adding a second scholarship of the same value was presented. Catharine M made a motion to add a second scholarship for a total of two \$500 scholarships to EMS with the same criteria. Caroline seconded the motion and all were in favour.

20. The Laronde PAC will be participating in this year’s BCCPAC meeting. Laronde DPAC representative, Michelle H will be attending and acting as our proxy.

21. Our next PAC meeting will be in June and is our AGM where we discuss and approve the proposed budget and hold PAC electives. We are always looking for new parents to join the executive and encourage anyone who might be interested to reach out to any of our current executive with any questions. A call for nominations will be sent out early June and all are welcome.

#### **Financial Reports**

22. Caroline presented the budget reports. Teacher funds have not been fully expended and will be opened up to all teachers for any additional expenses. The Treasurers will follow up on the remaining \$311 balance owing to the PAC from prior years hot lunch program.

23. The Chair noted the fundraising summary needed to be amended to include that we have 2 sub-accounts including one for the playground and the other for playground and/or technology. Treasurers will amend the report.

#### **Committee Reports**

24. Playground #2 Committee. The Committee has met with 2 suppliers and has 3 designs that are within our budget of around 95k. A 3<sup>rd</sup> supplier has not presented a design within our budget. The Committee is working toward presenting 2 designs to the school community for a vote and plans for a summer 2021 installation.

25. Grade 7 Rep. It does not look like there will be much for an end of year celebration. A meeting will be set up soon to update parents.

26. Emergency Preparedness Committee. The Chair reported for Marina who advised that there is a concern with the condensation within the container and that some items have been spoiled as a result. This is new problem that has not been experienced before. Mme. Niro will advise the district of the problem and will follow up to see if any repairs are needed to the container. Marina is looking for assistance with the replacement of some food, water and other supplies within the container. If you are available to assist the Committee, contact [chair@larondepac.ca](mailto:chair@larondepac.ca).

#### **New Business**

27. No new business.

#### **Adjournment**

28. End of Meeting. Kelly motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Catharine M. Meeting adjourned at 10:11 am.