



**PAC Meeting Minutes  
September 23, 2021, on Zoom Video Conference**

**PAC Committee Members in Attendance**

<b>Chair</b>	Catharine M & Katie C
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	
<b>Past Chair</b>	Cynthia S
<b>Secretary</b>	Cynthia S
<b>Treasurer(s)</b>	
<b>Communication Rep</b>	Elisabeth S
<b>Class Parent Coordinator</b>	Tracy M
<b>DPAC &amp; CPF Rep</b>	Julie E
<b>Members-at-Large</b>	Tracy M, Sophia L

**Total of 19 Members present at meeting including our Principal, Mme Niro**

Minutes recorded by Cynthia Springate, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 9:36am

**Welcome & Introduction**

Catharine M called the meeting to order at 9:36am. Catharine welcomed everybody and introduced the PAC executive members in attendance. The meeting was opened with the acknowledgement that our school, where we work, play, and learn, is on the shared, unceded traditional territory of the Katzie, Semiahmoo, Kwantlen and other Coast Salish Peoples.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was moved by Cynthia and seconded by Katie. All in favor, motion passed.

**Review and Approval of Minutes from September 2021**

Motion to approve the minutes as presented was moved by Catharine and seconded by Tracy. All in favour, motion passed.

**Principal's Report -Mme Niro**

Things are moving along nicely, feels almost kind of back to normal. Intramural volleyball is going on right now with many parents and teachers sponsoring. Mme Niro is taking the girls and Mme Boudreau is taking the boys to the games. Theatre de la Seizieme is booked to bring drama presentations to the school next week. Cost of this is about \$1500, thank-you PAC.

There are many students who seem dysregulated since beginning of pandemic; disrupted, fidgeting, can't follow lessons, stressed. Kids are not being very respectful to the supervisors. Mme Carter, our school counsellor is working with Mme Niro. They are planning to have the Gr 3-7 students complete a

survey to get a better understanding of what is going on. In January, they plan to run a program called Second Step, to work on this. Teachers will receive all the lesson plans, 20 weeks, once a week. Parents, if you have any tips, insights, please share with teachers and admin to better understand what is going on.

Grade 7 Leadership students are planning some activities – reading with little buddies, introducing and playing new games. They will also get some feedback on their leadership skills.

We had an amazing Remembrance Day ceremony. Thanks to Katie for introducing the speaker to Mme Niro. The kids really enjoyed his presentation. Maybe book two people next year or do two presentations. Photos, readings, drawings were shared from all classes. It was a really special assembly.

Mme Niro has tried to book body health with Saleema Noon, they don't have a presenter available. We are now waiting on new dates. Growing Up game plan, not sure if they are going to be ready for the spring. Resources for teachers, more of a family at home program. School program might be ready in January but doesn't sound like a presentation type program. Sabrina has three pdfs she can share with families if they want it. May need to seek other programs. Teachers will teach the body health if necessary as it is curriculum. We are on the cancellation list for Saleema Noon's body health.

Playground #1 is flooded again; work trucks are on site today working on it. Looking into the cause of the flooding.

Book fair was successful, all the kids really enjoyed it. Not sure how parents thought it worked. Kids kept good care of their money.

Questions for Mme Niro

Parking lot, drop off lane, pick up line all the way down Laronde. Many parents need a reminder about how the pick-up/drop off lane is supposed to work. Parents should not be parking in the drop off lane or on the ramp, this blocks traffic for everyone and causes chaos in the neighbourhood. A teacher should be out front every morning. K/1 parents need reminders that they can't park in the drop off lane and leave their vehicle to escort their child to the door. They must park in a parking spot or on the street in a legal parking area.

Question about the students being dysregulated: Is this Laronde specific or is it happening elsewhere? Quite a few other principals are seeing the same things at other schools. Very unusual to Laronde. Hope to get some answers through the survey. Discussion around mental health, misbehavior, mask mandates, Fraser Health requirements.

Christmas concert? It will be virtual again this year.

Any grade 7 band performances? Sabrina doesn't think so, no parents can come in to view at this time. Schools are starting to restrict spectators at sports. Maybe an outdoor performance outside in the spring. We could videotape a performance but then we need to check video permissions.

Grade 7 hoodies, who is looking after that? The hoodies have been ordered; they should arrive soon.

Grade 7 activities? Teachers have planned three separate all day field trips in lieu of camp, ski day, outdoor day camp, day of kayaking. Just waiting on final approval from the district.

Comment about mental health, maybe more fun events/outings might be helpful.

Parent volunteers in the school? Some schools do accept parent volunteers. This is a school-by-school policy, Laronde would prefer to keep less mixing of adults in the school right now. District wants every school to take things slow, so everyone is comfortable. A few more parent volunteers will be invited to help with hot lunch.

A parent made a suggestion to include information in the next school newsletter about the dysregulation about kids. We all need to be more patient and gentler, especially with masks on. Important to work on developing relationships between teachers and students.

### **Chair Report – Catharine M & Katie C**

Good morning. Thank you for taking the time to be here this morning. Your input and involvement in our school community is greatly appreciated. We ask that you hold all questions and comments until the end of our report. We will be happy to answer all questions then and welcome any discussion that might arise. Your feedback is valuable to us.

First item on our report is the new upgrade to our parking lot that was completed over the summer. Many of you may have noticed our beautiful new sidewalk down the centre and the expanded drop off zone. These upgrades are the direct result of your involvement in our community. As many of you may recall, the district's original plan for our parking lot was quite different and involved the removal of several trees from our Laronde Forest. Many of you may have attended the May 2019 PAC meeting when we met with the district and voiced our opposition to that plan. The final plan arose from several of the ideas that were voiced at that meeting. We will close the loop more fully on this subject later in the meeting.

Although COVID precautions continue, we are happy to report that October marked the return of several popular events in our school community. This included the in-person Book Fair (for students only) hosted by our librarian Mme. Montgomery and of course the ever popular, very much missed Hot Lunch. Other events in October included our annual Direct Donation Campaign and the Warm Clothing Drive for our sister school Forsythe.

Returning events in November will include first aid training for our grade 7 lunch monitors and a live French theatre performance. As well, our annual Christmas hamper drive will begin next week. Unfortunately, due to COVID, other regular events at this time, such as our fall craft fair and our Pancake Breakfast will remain on hold again this year.

We regret to report that the installation of Playground #2 will be delayed. Installation was scheduled to begin this week, however due to the heavy rains, our playground is stuck in shipping somewhere between here and Calgary. We will have more on this during our playground update.

We will continue to take reopening very slowly. As always, we want to support our teachers and students in their curriculum needs, while being very mindful of everyone's safety. We will continue to be in close contact with Mme. Niro to learn how we may best do this.

**Direct Donation Campaign:** Thank you to everyone who contributed. The final total is still being calculated; however early estimates look to be around the \$17,000 mark. We greatly appreciate all your

donations. For anyone who would still like to contribute, donation information will remain on our homepage and all donations over \$20 made before the end of the year will be eligible for a tax receipt.

**Hot Lunch:** Thank you to Angela L. for her work to get the lunch program back up and running. As you may have noticed, hot lunch looked quite different in its return to maximize student safety. We had no parent volunteers in the classrooms and lunch was distributed by the lunch monitors with the help of the classroom teachers. There also was no concession to avoid congestion in the hallways. Hot lunch will continue on a biweekly basis through the fall so that we may gauge our safety measures in place. This may continue throughout January as we continue to monitor the program based on feedback from teachers and parents.

Another change you may notice about the hot lunch ordering this year, is that it is now broken down into a 3-semester ordering system, rather than the previous two. This will allow for a better management of the program.

The kids were excited to have hot lunch return

**Warm Clothing Drive:** Thank you to Krista A and Jennifer W. for a highly successful warm clothing drive. Thank you to our Laronde community for their very generous donations. More on that during our Outreach updates.

**Book Fair:** Thank you to Mme Montgomery for organizing a successful book fair. PAC provided each division with \$25 so that classroom teachers were able to choose some new books for their class.

**Update from Book Exchange 2020:** One of the last PAC events we held before Spring Break 2020 was our book exchange. This event is always planned to help generate extra books to donate to an inner-city school, to help with their literacy programs. The plan was to donate the leftover books from this event after we returned from Spring Break that year. However, as we well know, covid changed that. We are happy to report that after 18 months of sitting in our storage, 8 boxes of books have been delivered to Cindrigh Elementary. The principal of Cindrigh is our former Vice Principal Mme. Maharaj. Thank you to Mme. Niro for transporting the books to Cindrigh.

**Fall sports** We are happy to see sport returning to our schools. Volleyball is currently underway. Thank you to our teacher sponsors and parent volunteers for making this possible.

Thank you.

### **Committee Reports**

**Playground Update (Cynthia)** After a few weather-related delays, our playground was finally scheduled to be installed on Friday, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, the equipment is now stuck in Calgary due to the highway closures. We will keep you updated on the rescheduled installation date once the equipment can be delivered.

**Yearbook (Tracy M)** – Just a reminder to all parents to keep taking photos and be ready to share them in the spring.

**Outreach (Warm Clothing Drive); Christmas Hampers (Krista and Jen)** – the clothing drive was a success thank you to all who donated. Information on Christmas Hampers will be coming very soon. There was discussion about the purchase of packing boxes. Laura purchased boxes at a personal cost of \$100-\$150

last year and the district found the uniform size of these boxes to be extremely helpful. Mme Niro will put something in the newsletter asking for parent donations of new packing boxes. Anyone with a packing box connection is asked to contact either Mme Niro or send an email to [outreach@larondepac.ca](mailto:outreach@larondepac.ca)

Class parents are responsible for overseeing the donations through the collection period but are not required to sort the boxes on the final collection day. This will be done by a small group of volunteers this year. The plan for packing up the Christmas hampers this year is to use the gym and ask for 5-6 parents volunteers.

**Lost & found** – Mme Niro would like to remind parents to label all coats and hoodies, lunch containers and water bottles. Many clothing items never get reunited with their owners and end up being donated to charity. The school will take on the coordination of the Lost & Found again this year. Please check Mme Niro’s newsletter for photos of the lost & found items.

**CPF** – Julie E. is now the VP of the Surrey Chapter of Canadian Parents for French. CPF is working on how to re-start the CPF movie day for all French Immersion students. She also mentioned that the late immersion program at Jessie Lee is at risk of being eliminated due to lack of interest in that community. There may be a new early immersion program coming to South Surrey.

**Grad Class 2020** (Katie C)

Reporting on behalf of Ted Les. Class 2020 is reporting they have \$987.49 remaining in PAC accounts plus \$200 deposit held with Jordan Wiebe for a DJ. The Grad Class 2020 has asked that the remaining funds be transferred to Grad 2022 and spent on an end of year celebration including deposit with DJ. Any money remaining after June 2022 will be donated to charity.

**Treasurer’s Report** – documents presented are of the time period up to November 4<sup>th</sup>. No major highlights or concerns at this time.

**Old Business** – Parking lot update – the recent renovation of the Laronde parking lot was made possible by a \$150,000 donation, to address safety concerns from the opening up of Laronde Drive to 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, from the developer of the Laronde Woods housing development. Thank you to all parents who have shared their concerns over the past few years with the various plans to redevelop the parking lot.

**New Business** – COVID Rapid Testing program - A survey went out last month to gauge interest in a voluntary COVID antigen testing program at Laronde. 79 families responded with 60 in favour of participating. Noa, the parent who is spearheading this initiative, has so far been in contact with Surrey DPAC and Fraser Health. We will keep you posted on any developments.

BCMEA Award - A Laronde parent would like to submit a nomination for Mme Ziolkowski for the BC Music Educators Association’s “Outstanding Professional Educators Award”. This nomination would have a greater chance of being successful with letters of support from other Laronde parents and students. Should you wish to assist in this effort, please send any letters to [chair@larondepac.ca](mailto:chair@larondepac.ca) . More information can be found at <http://www.bcmusiced.ca/professional-awards.html>

**Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Sophia and seconded by Tracy, all in favour.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54am. The next PAC Meeting is on February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30am.