



**PAC Meeting Minutes  
February 3, 2022, on Zoom Video Conference**

**PAC Committee Members in Attendance**

<b>Co-Chair</b>	<b>Katie C and Catharine M</b>
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	
<b>Past Chair</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	
<b>Treasurer(s)</b>	<b>Marina H</b>
<b>Communication Rep</b>	
<b>Class Parent Coordinator</b>	
<b>DPAC &amp; CPF Rep</b>	<b>Michele H and Julie E</b>
<b>Members-at-Large</b>	<b>Tracy M</b>

**Total of 15 Members present at meeting plus our Acting vice Principal, Mme Burden**

**Minutes recorded by Katie C**

Meeting called to order at 9:35 am

**Welcome & Introduction**

1. Catharine M called the meeting to order. She welcomed everybody and thanked them all for attending. She opened the meeting 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.
2. She then introduced the attending members of the executive.

**Approval of Agenda**

3. No new items were added to the agenda.
4. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Tracy M and seconded by Sophia. All in favor, motion passed.

**Review and Approval of Minutes from November 2022**

5. Katie C noted that the date on the top of page 1 of the previous minutes should have read 18 November 2021. No other amendments were added to the minutes.
6. Motion to approve the minutes was moved by Julie E and seconded by Catharine M.

**Principal's Report - presented by Vice Principal Katherine Burden**

7. Mme Burden introduced herself to everyone including mention that she is delighted to temporarily be back in the Vice Principal position.
8. Mme Burden advised that the school celebrated the following events: Black Excellence on 14 Jan, Literacy Night on 27 Jan, Chinese New Year on 1 Feb, and that the school is currently participating in African Fusion Hip Hop. All participants and leader are masked throughout.
9. Future events include:

- a. Black History month- Parents will receive a link with information and topics that will available;
- b. 14 Feb Valentine’s Day/Friendship Day - wear pink, red or purple. Individually wrapped store bought treats will be allowed to be shared at school;
- c. 23 Feb –anti-bullying day to include an assembly – wear pink shirt; and
- d. 7-11 March – La Semaine de la francophonie meant to give students the connection between being a French speaking student with the outside world.

10. Sports. Mme Carvajal and Mme Burden are providing Basketball to grade 6 and 7s. Games will be played in school only, similar to intramural, with Co-Ed games played on Fri (gr 7) and Mon (gr 6).

11. All Divisions are completing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Step Program that the school previously gave notice on and is so far having a positive impact.

12. Covid. The school does have some gargle test kits available to students if needed. It can be requested by parents and picked up at the office and taken to Life Labs once completed. The school does not have rapid tests available to families.

13. Mme. Burden talked briefly about how the current wave of Omicron is affecting our school. She said that for the first three weeks, student attendance was down, but this week her class’s attendance has returned to near normal. Staff had observed a wave like pattern in attendance for those first three weeks, where it would rise and then fall again (some of these absences do not reflect being sick as some of these parents were keeping their children home out of precaution). Staff attendance has been fairly steady. She reported staff is working very hard as a team, when absences occur to keep the classrooms covered. Kids have been working very well to stay masked and distanced. Parents have been very careful to keep their kids home when sick. Mme. Burden expressed great appreciation to the Laronde community for their continued efforts to keep the school safe

14. Body Health. Saleema Noon will be providing the program again this year. Students will watch a pre-recorded video in their own classroom on 20/21 April and will then participate in a live Q&A virtual session. The parent session will be held 12 April and will be a virtual zoom event starting at 6:30 pm. More information will come from the school. The overall cost of the program is \$1,575.

15. The iGirl/iGuy program has been replaced with a Pilot program called “Growing up Game Plan” and is offered by Saleema Noon at no cost as it is a Pilot. This will be offered to the grade 4 & 5 only. It will be a virtual program and the school will provide the date when known.

16. Teachers have been reminded about the PAC support available to them for classroom supplies and science enrichment programs.

17. The planning for the 22/23 school year has commenced and it looks like there will be 20 Divisions again. Some teacher movement is expected as per normal.

18. Mme Burden reported that the kids are loving the new playground and there is a schedule to rotate all grades through playground 2 to give the opportunity for all to enjoy. Still waiting for the netting and when it arrives the fence will be put back while the work is done to install and inspect. Discussion with PAC about a formal opening ceremony is taking place.

19. Emergency Preparedness. The district came to look at the sea-container that contains our emergency preparedness supplies and to address concerns raised by the PAC about moisture. The District suggested the water containers were possibly causing the moisture and that we could remove those, or invest in DRI-Z containers and/or they could look at enlarging the vents. The District commented that they have provided the required amounts of emergency supplies and that we may have too much stored in our container. Katie C recommended that a small group on the PAC review the requirements and the past/present supplies with a view to assess actual requirement, responsibility and possibly reduce what is stored. The PAC Executive will meet to discuss further and liaise with Mme Niro.

**Chair Report – Provided by Catharine M**

20. We’ve had a couple of very busy months here at Laronde, since our last meeting in November, with many successful PAC led events and initiatives. The most exciting of these is the opening of Playground #2, with the first phase being finished early last week. We will have more on that during our Playground update later in the meeting, but we just want to say thank you to Cynthia S and the rest of the Playground committee for all the time and effort they have devoted to this project.

21. November saw the return of live theatre to our school, with a presentation by the French theatre group "La Troupe de Seizieme" which was greatly enjoyed by students and staff. December was a very busy month, which started with another very successful Hamper Drive. Thank you to the Laronde Community for their very generous donations and thank you to Jen and Krista for coordinating. The students also participated in the annual Deck the Boards event which the PAC supplied candy canes for the students to enjoy. This was done at the request of the teachers in lieu of our usual hot chocolate event. Currently, the students are enjoying a week of Hip Hop combined with Afro Fusion Dance, which is being led by AJay from Sound Kreations. AJay us a few times and has always been very popular with the kids.

22. Lunch monitors have received their first aid training. Our grade 7 lunch monitors were trained in November and our grade 6 monitors received their training in January.

23. Upcoming events will include Pink Shirt/Anti Bullying Day coming up later this month. Just a heads up that pink shirts do tend to sell out early in anticipation of this day, so if you need one, it's a good idea to start looking now. We are also looking forward to Le Semaine de Francophone early in March. School activities to be announced. Future events will of course be dependent on the current safety measures in place.

24. Thank you to Mme. Zilkowski for another outstanding Holiday Concert and thanks to the staff for filming so that we could all enjoy this event virtually.

25. We are happy to report a final Direct Donation Campaign total of \$17,186. (Total after pay pal fees removed) Thank you very much for all your generous donations. For those of you who requested a tax receipt, these should arrive by email in early Feb. If you do not receive yours, please contact [treasurers@larondepac.ca](mailto:treasurers@larondepac.ca)

26. As we know our return to school in January was greatly influenced by the current wave of Omicron that we are experiencing. Prior to the school reopening, we met with Mme. Niro to discuss how we might best support the school's safety plan. We invited the community to share questions and concerns that they might have. Many of the comments indicated a desire to be able share information about possible covid exposures in their classroom. In response to this, we created a simple method for families to anonymously self-report if their child became ill. Families were invited to send an anonymous email to our chair email and we would notify the appropriate division. This is completely voluntary. Some families have chosen to use this option, others have chosen to share this information directly with their class. We know everyone in our community is working very hard to keep our school safe and we want to thank each and every family for their continued commitment to our school's safety.

27. If you have comments, or suggestions about events you would like to see happen at our school, please let us know. You may email us at [chair@larondepac.ca](mailto:chair@larondepac.ca)

### **Committee Reports**

28. Emergency Preparedness. Nothing further to add.

29. Hot Lunch. The HL on 7 Jan was cancelled due to the change in the return to school date. All families who ordered did receive a credit on their account. There was a technical glitch where 3 families' order on 21 Jan was cancelled however everyone received a meal that day. All accounts have been verified as being corrected and up to date. Angela is looking to add a vendor option to the sushi day for those who do not like sushi.

30. Playground. As previously mentioned, the playground is still waiting for the net to arrive and once done, there will be an opening celebration of some sort. Nothing further to add.

31. Year Book. Tracy M advised that she is starting to work on the year book and is looking for all the teachers to provide at least 2 photos of their class in lieu of the classroom photo. There will be an upload option for parents who had the opportunity to take photos and information will be sent out on that separately.

32. Logo wear. Julie E announced that the online store is now available and will remain open until 20 Feb 2022. Ordered items will arrive before Spring Break.

33. Outreach and Christmas Hampers. Catharine M reported on behalf of Krista and Jen that the warm clothing drive and Hampers were well received by the Forsyth Elementary families. There was an abundance of donations, including many large items. Thirteen families received hampers over Christmas. The Laronde community really shone this year and we thank everyone again for their kind generosity.

34. Throughout both programs, the team kept track of everything that went well, and things they could improve on. They will meet sometime over Spring Break and begin preparing for the 2022-23 programs. Some goals include the improved organization of donations and recruiting more volunteers for the Warm Clothing Drive (donations far exceeded expectations and they felt that two volunteers per shift would be appropriate). Hampers will see updated food items and streamlined templates for SignUpGenius. Given the scope of and reliance on these programs, the idea of a formal "volunteer on call" was also floated. This would be someone with knowledge of the two programs and access to the pertinent files, but who would only need to step in in an emergency situation (ie, one of the main coordinators becomes quite ill or has a personal emergency etc).

35. DPAC. Michelle advised that DPAC provided a presentation at the last DPAC meeting on the FSA, more information will be available soon. DPAC spoke about diverse learners and how families may be eligible for tax credits if they have a diverse learner. Information may be found at [info@surreydpac.ca](mailto:info@surreydpac.ca). School Trustee Sean Wilson provided an update on additional funding for school upgrades, rapid testing for students which is apparently coming. Trustee Wilson spoke about the new French immersion program coming to Pacific Heights in 22/23. He also spoke about challenges they are looking at with the before and after school care programs, changes for the Surrey Schools website to improve navigation and how they are trying to determine overall absences from schools. The next DPAC meeting will be held on 23 Feb at 7pm. All parents are welcome to join, however must register prior to attending.

36. Canadian Parents for French (CPF). Julie E provided information on a contest for a scholarship in grade 12. Julie advised that if our school would like assistance with the La semaine de la francophonie for any kind of activities, they can request reimbursement of expenses.

37. Lost & Found. The school is looking after the display and removal of lost and found. There are a number of brand new articles of clothing that have been left there. Mme Burden reminded everyone that putting a name inside the clothing will help find its rightful owner. Marina H reminded everyone that the Laronde PAC has a passive fundraiser with Emily Press Labels and would be a good idea of label your child's(ren) clothing.

38. Spring Fair. Katie C mentioned that there won't be a traditional Spring Fair this year but that the PAC is hoping to have some sort of celebration in the Spring, covid rules allowing, possibly coinciding with the grand opening of the new playground. If anyone is interested in taking the lead for the possible event, please reach out to [chair@larondepac.ca](mailto:chair@larondepac.ca).

### **Treasurer Report**

39. The Treasurer report was provided. Nothing significant to add about the report. The charitable donation receipts were distributed on 2 Feb. It was difficult for the Treasurers to match up the payments with the intended recipient of the receipts as some names did not match so the Treasurers will look for an alternate method next year. If you did not receive your receipt and have requested one, reach out to [treasurer@larondepac.ca](mailto:treasurer@larondepac.ca).

### **Old Business**

40. There was no old business.

### **New Business**

41. There was no new business.

### **Adjournment**

42. End of Meeting. Prior to adjournment, Mme Burden expressed her appreciation for everything that the PAC and parents do for the school and for the Laronde Community in general.

43. Sophia motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tracy M seconded the motion, All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:31 am.