



**PAC MEETING MINUTES – September 27, 2022
Laronde Staff Room**

PAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair	Cynthia Springate
Vicechair	Catharine Macrander
Communications	Erin Martin
Treasurer	Marina Heidt and Jacqueline Choo
Class Parent Coordinator	Maha Saraf
CPF Representative	Julie Elliot
Secretary	Corrine Proctor
DPAC Representative	Sarah Johnny
Grade 7 Parent Representative	Kelly Dumont
Members-at-Large	Tracy Merry, Sophia Lou, Krista Acheson, Stephanie Albanese, Mallory Sandhu, Sarah Johnny and Caroline Thindal

1. Welcome, Introduction and First Nations Land Acknowledgement

Cynthia called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. 14 parents were present including the following PAC executive members – Cynthia, Catharine, Stephanie, Erin, Krista, Julie and Corrine. Unfortunately, we had technical/internet connection issues so parents could not attend via Zoom.

Land Acknowledgement - The meeting opened with the acknowledgement that our school, where we work, play and learn is on the shared, unceded territory of the Katzie, Semiahmoo, Kwantlen and other Coast Salish Peoples.

Welcome from Cynthia, PAC Chair: Welcome everyone to the 2022-2023 school year! We are pleased to see you all at this meeting. As Laronde parents/caregivers, you are all officially members of the PAC. During the meeting when we ask for people to vote on various motions, we ask that you do participate in the voting. Introduction of new PAC executive (see above table).

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Julie to accept as presented, seconded by Erin. All in favour, motion carries.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes from June 10, 2022

Highlights from the last PAC meeting on June 10, 2022 (minutes circulated via email prior to today’s meeting):

- This was our budget and elections meeting. The 2022/2023 budget was presented and approved at the meeting. We are hopeful that we will be able to return to most of our typical activities this year so many of the budget categories were returned to near pre-COVID levels.
- We elected the new executive as introduced previously.

Motion by Catharine and seconded by Erin. All in favour, motion carries.

4. Principal's Report

Welcome back! We're happy to have 456 students this year which allowed us to keep the full 20 divisions/classes in our school.

We welcomed new staff this year: Mme Lamothe (Grade 7), Mme Bascombe (Grade 7) and Mme Gertz (Grade 3). We have some job shares this year: Mme Macpherson and Mme Alvernaz (Grade 2), Mme Alvernaz and Mme Shakur (Grade 4). We are happy to have Mr. Fleming back. He is filling in for Mme Shakur in Grade 4 until she returns from maternity leave in November. Mme Iarkov is also helping in Grade 2 (with Mme Macpherson and Mme Alvernaz). Mme Shirley is filling in for Mme Hardiman on a full-time basis until December. When Mme Hardiman returns in January, she will job share with Mme Shirley.

Our returning counsellor is Mme Carter and the returning Youth Care Worker is Mme Hollowinko. Mme Hollowinko and Mme Carter will continue to support with the Second Step Program this year. Laronde has provided this program to students for many years and this is the second year it will be provided school-wide. It involves about 15-20 minutes per week of class time. The students learn about concepts such as having a growth mindset, solving problems with peers, recognizing emotions and goal setting.

Important Dates/Highlights for September/October:

Terry Fox Run was successful. Rain held out this year!

First Peoples in Residence - Last week we had our First Peoples in Residence. The students learned about respecting the environment and respecting each other. Students also learned about the history of Canada's residential schools, the experiences of students and the effects of the residential schools. One participant in the program teaches traditional Cree dancing and is open to coming back to teach students some dancing and drumming.

Meet the teacher night – September 28. We are very fortunate to have exceptional teachers at Laronde who really care about our kids and who want them to do well academically, emotionally, and socially. There is a lot of communication between the teachers, and they often work in groups together to plan events such as field trips.

Orange shirt day – September 29. Assembly at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday – Everyone welcome!

National Truth and Reconciliation Day – September 30. School closed.

Cross-Country. The first Cross-Country meet will be held on September 27 (subsequent meets on October 4, 11, 18 and 25). Practices on Wednesday and Friday afternoons 2:45-3:05. Grades 3-7 are welcome to join. This program is a great way for the kids to challenge themselves, have fun and build endurance in running.

Photo Day. October 5 for all grades.

Halloween Parade - October 31. Kids love this event and parents are welcome to attend (and to dress up!). Starts around 9:00 a.m. in the school gym.

Questions from Parents:

Q: Will there be class photos this year? A: Yes! Later in the year in April (like we did last year).

Q: In the minutes from June, you mentioned a presentation on gangs? Is there anyone available to do a presentation on drugs/vaping/gummies? A: Within the gang presentation for the Grade 6/7 classes, there is a section on drugs. We have also contacted presenters for internet safety, body health and first aid.

Any other questions? Feel free to email me at niro_s@surreyschools.ca or call our office at [604-536-1626](tel:604-536-1626)

5. Chair Report – Cynthia

I'm thrilled that we were able to host our PAC Welcome Back Coffee finally after a two-year hiatus. I'd like to thank everyone who helped to make that a success, including Ocean Park Starbucks who generously donated some of the coffee provided.

We sent out our Welcome newsletter last week with details on how to register on our website, which is the place where you order hot lunch, and it is also the communication portal for all things PAC! If you didn't receive the newsletter, please check your junk folder for an email from Cheryl Herd. She is the Head Secretary at Laronde, so you want to be sure you are receiving her e-mails.

Hot Lunch Program. We will be continuing our hot lunch program this year, every two weeks. Our first hot lunch of the year will be on October 14th. Please be sure to register on our website and get your hot lunch orders in. The first order deadline is Oct 7th at 11pm. You are able to make changes to any order up to 7 days prior to the lunch date. We will be asking class parents to coordinate 1-2 parents in each division to help distribute hot lunch in the classroom. Please stay tuned for that opportunity.

Class Parents. We are currently seeking a class parent for most of our divisions. Class parents are a very important part of how we all communicate together. We need a class parent in all divisions. Some of the activities a Class Parent may be involved with include:

1. Attend Parent Advisory Council meetings (or send designate).
2. Assist the teacher in organizing volunteers for field trips/class events or other activities as required.
3. Forward information about class-specific events such as the Christmas Hamper program. Any school-wide PAC emails are sent directly to all families registered on the www.larondepac.ca website.
4. Organize classroom volunteers for special school-wide PAC events such as the Bi-annual Spring Fair.
5. Organize their teacher appreciation acknowledgment/gift, usually done at Christmas and in June.

If you are interested in becoming a class parent this year or if you have further questions about this role, please email Maha at classparent@larondepac.ca

Direct Donation Campaign. Our biggest fundraiser of the year will again be our Direct Donation Campaign. The Direct Donation campaign is simple and win/win for all involved; it allows the PAC **to keep 100% of the money raised**, and we provide tax receipts for all donations over \$20. The campaign is designed to provide parents with the ease of writing one annual cheque which saves them valuable time and energy: no baking cupcakes, or pressuring friends and family into buying cookie dough, coupon books or various other items. Specific details on the cheque writing campaign will be distributed in mid October. We hope all families will contribute whatever amount they are able to.

Kindergarten t-shirts. Welcome to our Kindergarten families! I am pleased to report that we voted in June to continue our tradition of gifting each new Kindergarten student a Laronde Lynx T-shirt. Kindergarten shirts are ordered and we should have them very soon. PAC paid \$932 for all shirts.

Babysitting course fundraiser. Programs including babysitting courses and stay safe program for kids ages 9-13 and my safe life for children ages 7-10 (\$65 per student). If you use the code Laronde when you register, the PAC will receive \$5. Flyer is attached at the end of the minutes.

Upcoming passive fundraisers (noted in our newsletter). Emily Press Labels, Cobs Bread Ocean Park (If you tell Cobbs you are a Laronde parent/caregiver, they will give a portion to the Laronde PAC).

Spring Fair. We are looking to restart this community event this year! We had to take a break over the last couple of years due to COVID. The spring fair will need a coordinator. If you have talents in running large events run by volunteers, we need you!

Art night. We also have not had an art night in recent years. We discussed the option of having the Grade 7s create collaborative art pieces for silent auction at the spring fair to raise money for their grad activities.

Questions:

Q: Why are we doing hot lunch every second week instead of every week? A: Hot lunch tends to be a very messy event and it creates a lot of garbage. The students also tend to get very excited on hot lunch days (it can be challenging for teachers to calm them down in the afternoon!). Every second week seems to be a good balance for now, but we can always re-evaluate.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns going forward, please do not hesitate to email them at chair@larondepac.ca

6. Treasurer's Report (Cynthia on behalf of Marina and Jacqueline)

Please see attached budget. As mentioned previously, we approved a budget for this year in June.

We are in the process of transitioning our online payment provider from PayPal to Bambora or Worldline as they are now called. We will continue with PayPal for the first term of hot lunch but will switch for Term 2. We will be sending more information about this out near the end of Term 1.

Our new playground last year was funded 100% by the generous donations of current and former Laronde parents. We have healthy bank balances in the PAC bank account, we should continue to put money aside for future technology and playground purchases. We will likely have to replace will be playground 3 in the next 10-15 years, at an estimated cost of \$150,000. PAC also supports technology purchases (iPads, laptops and other apple products). We are very fortunate to be able to support programs and upgrades in the school with the continued support of Laronde parents.

7. Committee Reports

Logo wear – Update from Julie. We are currently looking at different options and looking to do Laronde spirit wear (t-shirts/sweaters) in the Fall instead of Spring this year. We're also looking at adding options for Pink Shirt Day (this year) and Orange Shirt Day (starting next year).

Emergency Preparedness – Update from Cynthia. We have shipping containers near Playground 1 which contain emergency supplies. The challenge is that some of the supplies expire so we need to clean out the containers every couple of years. We are hoping to clean out the containers this year and refresh all the grab and go bins in the classroom. If you are able to help, please email Cynthia at chair@larondepac.ca.

Outreach - Update from Krista. We are looking at the week of October 11 for the collection of winter clothing for Forsythe Elementary. We want to get warm clothing to children in need before the cold weather arrives. We will need parent volunteers. Krista will send out a Signup Genius link shortly.

Craft Fair. In previous years, this event was held on the last Friday of November. It's a fun event and a great opportunity to showcase all the creativity and entrepreneurship in our school community. We are looking to bring it back again this year but need a parent coordinator (to organize tables, registrations and generally oversee the event). You don't have to be crafty yourself! Please contact Cynthia at chair@larondepac.ca if you are interested.

Book Exchange. We are also looking to bring this event back this year. In previous years, it has been held in February. We are again looking for a parent coordinator for this event as well.

Grade 7 report. The Grade 7 class puts on a few fundraisers to support year end activities and graduation program. They are hoping to restart the pancake breakfast this year (usually the last day of school). They will also likely plan some after school movies (held on Fridays). More information to come.

8. New Business

Q: Concern expressed about the new School Links app and not receiving all notifications.

A: This is a district wide decision to use the School Links app. Sabrina offered to email and inquire about how to get technical support if parents are having trouble with the app.

Ongoing Vandalism. Sadly, there has been ongoing vandalism at the school since last October (including damage to our new playground). If you live around the school, please keep your eyes open!

9. Old Business

None

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jen, seconded by Catharine. Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.



BABYSITTING, STAY SAFE & MY SAFE LIFE COURSES

Enter code **laronde** for your school to earn

\$5

BABYSITTING COURSE

✓ ages 11 – 15

Students learn how to care for younger children and how to prevent and respond to emergencies.

Covered in this course:

- exploring the business of babysitting
- creating safe environments
- safely caring for ages 0-12
- first aid skills

Each student receives a babysitters manual, and certificate.

\$65/STUDENT

STAY SAFE! (Home Alone)

✓ ages 9 – 13

Helps prepare students to be on their own at home or in the community.

Covered in this course:

- healthy choices
- my time: scheduled and leisure activities
- expecting the unexpected
- first aid skills

Each student receives a Stay Safe! workbook, and certificate

\$65/STUDENT

MY SAFE LIFE

✓ ages 7 – 10

Students learn life skills that empower them to make safe, caring and respectful decisions in their everyday lives.

Covered in this course:

- bullying prevention
- basic self defence
- online safety
- first Aid

Each student receives a My Safe Life workbook, and certificate

\$65/STUDENT

WHERE: In-person or online courses available

TIME: Varies! Pro-D day, weekend or afternoon sessions available. Visit our website for details!

COURSE SUPPLIES: Are provided to students attending in person courses. For online classes, books are mailed directly to students for an extra fee, or they can be picked up from our office in Surrey.

For online courses, students must have their camera on during the course.

HOW TO SIGN UP:

Online – Visit our website at www.FirstAidHero.com and use promo code **laronde** for your group to earn \$5 from your registration!

ABOUT FIRST AID HERO: Authorized Red Cross Training Partner, First Aid Hero specializes in Babysitting and other recognized First Aid courses for children. All instructors of First Aid Hero are experienced and qualified!