



PAC MEETING MINUTES – November 17, 2022
Laronde Staff Room

PAC EXECUTIVE 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

Catharine called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Meeting had a delayed start due to technical issues connecting to Teams for the parents attending virtually. We had 12 parents attending in person and 5 parents attend virtually for a total of 17 members present. This includes the following PAC executive members who were present in person – Marina, Corrine, Mallory, Erin, Tracy, and Catharine.

Catharine chaired the meeting on behalf of Cynthia who is unfortunately ill today.

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 Catharine: Welcome everyone to the PAC Meeting and thank-you to the parents for attending. 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 participate in the voting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Tracy to accept as presented, seconded by Jennifer. All in favour, motion carries.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes from September 27, 2022

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

4. Principal's Report

School Enrolment. We're happy to have 460 students now! We had dipped low for Laronde Enrollment, but numbers are up and the program is continuing to thrive.

Student and Family Affordability Fund (SFAF). Many families in B.C. are feeling the effects of global inflation on daily costs, including groceries, gas, school supplies and other expenses. Through SFAF, the province has allocated funds to school districts to assist families that are struggling financially. Any parent can apply for assistance. If not enough families come forward, we will donate to families in need at other schools (more information to come on this program).

Field Trips. We've had a lot of field trips so far this year! For example, children had the opportunity to attend the pumpkin patch, the Surrey Museum and the Gulf of Georgia Cannery in Richmond.

Body Health Presentations. Presentations will be in April and will be online. More information to come.

Sports. Cross country was a great success this year! We had a big turnout and the kids had a lot of fun. The volleyball season is off to a good start. Thank-you to all the coaches and volunteers!

Award for Mme. Ziolkoski. Mme. Ziolkoski received a well-deserved award for "Outstanding Professional Music Educator" by the BC Music Educators Association. We are so lucky to have Mme. Ziolkoski and such an amazing music program at Lardone. Congratulations Mme. Ziolkoski and thank-you for everything you do for our kids!

Craft Fair. The Craft Fair is scheduled for November 25. We have a lot of kids participating and they are very excited. Thank-you to Catharine Macrander for taking on organizing this fun event.

Deck the Boards. This annual event will be on the afternoon of Friday, Dec.2. The kids will decorate the boards outside their classroom for the holidays. This is a very festive event with music in the halls. In lieu of hot chocolate, the PAC will supply candy canes. This will coincide with hamper packing in the morning. Everyone is invited to wear red & green on this day. The following Friday, December 9, will be ugly/funny/winter sweater day.

Grade 7 Breakfast fundraiser. In previous years, we have had the annual pancake breakfast around Christmas. It can be a bit challenging to make pancakes for so many people. It likely won't be pancakes this year but will be something festive. Tickets will be available through school cash online. Stay tuned!

Zumba. We are planning to have Zumba dance for the kids the week of January 9-13.

Report cards. Report cards go home December 15. There may be paper reports and some teachers are using Spaces (replaced FreshGrade). For Spaces, there have been some district wide technical issues that need to be worked out.

Diversity and Community Unity. There have been more incidents recently with respect to students name-calling and using racist slurs. There have also been incidents around the school grounds with parents fighting and/or behaving inappropriately. All students need to feel safe and respected in our school community. During the PAC Meeting, we had a discussion on how best to address these concerning behaviours and celebrate diversity at Laronde. This is a discussion that needs to continue in our school community. Please reach out to Mme. Niro with any questions, concerns or ideas.

Questions from parents:

Q: Has there been any comparison of Spaces v. Paper report cards?

A: In the past, teachers didn't have a choice (had to be paper) but for the last 10 years, teachers have had more options. Please talk to your child's teacher anytime

if you have concerns. You can also call or email me/come see me and I'm happy to help.

Q: Concern raised about parking/drop off at the back of the school. Some parents are stopping and getting out of their cars (no parking zone) and blocking the cross walk. Parking at the front also continues to be challenging.

A: Mme. Niro noted that since we are a choice school and many families come from out of area to attend, traffic will continue to be heavy. She will put out reminders to the community to be mindful of safety and parking signs. The school is monitoring the situation and there will be more information in the next newsletter.

Q: Are we doing a Christmas concert?

A: There may not be a full Christmas concert this year. It may be separated into primary and intermediate. We are still working on this event.

5. Chair Report – Catharine on behalf of Cynthia

Direct Donation Campaign. Our Direct Donation campaign is ongoing. We hope to wrap it up by the end of the month. Our goal this year is \$15,000 and so far, we have raised approximately \$6,400. If you have not yet had a chance to make your donation, we will happily take your donation anytime. Please click [here](#) to donate or send an e-transfer to donations@larondepac.ca. For those families who have already donated, thank-you. Please be sure to fill out the tax receipt form if you want a tax receipt.

Return of Craft Fair. We have the return of the Laronde Student Craft Fair on Friday, November 25th. Thank you to our team of PAC executive members working together to bring this very popular event back.

Deck the Halls. PAC will be supporting the Deck the Boards activity on Dec 2 with candy canes for all students.

Babysitting Course. A Reminder that the Babysitting Course, Stay Safe (Home Alone) and My Safe Life courses are available through firstaidhero.com. Use the code Laronde and the PAC gets \$5 for every registration.

Spring Fair. We are still hoping to re-start our Spring Fair in May 2023. In order to do this, we need one or two people to step up and volunteer as our Spring Fair

Coordinators. We also previously 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. If you are interested in helping with this event, please email Cynthia at chair@larondepac.ca or talk to any executive PAC member.

6. Treasurer's Report- Marina

Welcome Jacqueline as my co-treasurer.

Please see attached budget.

Hot lunch Revenue. Financial Report indicates revenue for this year so far is \$12,000 but it is closer to \$8,000.

Ocean Park Cobbs. Whenever you are making a purchase at the Ocean Park Cobbs, please let them know you are from Laronde and they will give a donation to the PAC.

Gaming Grant. We are currently working on this application. We can apply every year for this grant and it is around \$9,000.

- Motion to give 1/8 of the Gaming Grant funds to the grade 7 class to support their year end activities. Motion by Tracy, seconded by Erin, all in favour. Motion passed.

Bambora. Moving from Paypal to Bambora for payment on the Laronde PAC website. More information to come.

Some items not showing in the financial report:

- Kindergarten shirts (already ordered)
- Zuma classes in January
- Science for grade 4

7. Committee Reports

Hot Lunch. Update from Jennifer. The program is going well. Parents are staying to help more with waste and more packages are recyclable. For the next term (January-March), we're looking at including returning vendors and some new vendors. We're going to try Pizza Hut instead of Panago because they have personal size pizzas.

Logo Wear. Catharine on behalf of Julie. Spirit Wear will be ordered mid January and we're looking at spirit wear for Pink Shirt Day (bilingual shirts). We are organizing a skating event for December 29 (more info to come) and a movie for the kids at the French film festival at the Caprice Theatre. Mme Niro confirmed that the film festival would likely be a field trip during school hours.

Outreach. Update from Mallory on behalf of Krista. The winter clothing drive was a huge success! We are again supporting our sister school, Forsythe Elementary, with our Christmas Hampers program. Collections for the Christmas hampers start on November 21 and the deadline is December 2. Thank-you in advance for your generosity and kindness!

Craft Fair. Update from Catharine. The kids are very excited and have great ideas for their crafts. We are encouraging a return to a traditional craft fair. Baking/candy is fine as long as it is incorporated into the craft. We're looking forward to a good event! On the morning of November 25, we will need about 7-8 parents to help set up the event.

8. New Business

Q: How is our school doing with illnesses?

A: Mme Niro advised that we were hit hard about 2 weeks ago with the cold/flu season but we're doing better now (attendance is up). There were not many reports of RSV or COVID.

9. Old Business

None

10. Conclusion.

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