



AGENDA

Ecole Laronde Parent Advisory Council Meeting
Friday, April 25th @ 9:00 am Laronde Staff Room

2024-2025 Laronde Elementary PAC Executive:

Chair – Megan Johnson Past Chair – Cynthia Springate Vice Chair – Jin Thindal Secretary - Corrine Proctor Co-Treasurers – Victor Chan & Elena Plotnic Communications – Erin Martin Class Parent Coordinator – Mallory Geier	Members at Large – Tracy Merry, Sophia Lou, Stephanie Albanese, Robyn Bal, Nishi Banipal, Julie Elliott & Lara Guelpa. DPAC Rep – Jin Thindal CPF Rep – Julie Elliott
Principal – Janesse Boudreau Acting Vice Principal – Nancy Shakur	

1. Welcome & Introductions 9:00 AM
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Review and Approval of Minutes from January 28, 2025, Meeting
4. Principal's Report – Janesse Boudreau
5. Chair Report – Megan Johnson (Please see Updates below)
6. Financial Report (Treasurer's Report Attached; see Updates below)
7. Committee Reports (Updates Below)
8. New Business
9. Old Business

Important Dates

April 22nd – 25th – Track Attack Stations
April 21st – Easter Monday (no school)
April 22nd – Earth Day
April 23rd – Administrative Assistant Day
April 24th – Ready, Set, Learn
April 25th – Young Entrepreneurs Fair
April 30th – Jump Rope for Heart
May 2nd - StaySafe Course (Babysitting/Stay at Home) Pro-D Day
May 5th – Grade 7 Camp
May 8th – Spring Dance

May 12th – Parent Appreciation Gathering (1:00 – 2:30 pm Laronde)
May 19th – Pro-D Day
May 22nd – Fusion Fete
May 26th – Pro-D Day
June 3rd – Track Meet
June 5th – Welcome to Kindergarten
June 13th – PAC Annual General Meeting (Budget Consultation and Approval/Exec Elections)
June 20th – Sports Day
June 21st – National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 24th – Farewell Assembly (Grade 7)
June 26th – Last Day of School!!!



LARONDE PAC UPDATES



Chair Report – Megan Johnson

Projects Funded by PAC. PAC has funded wonderful programs this year, including:

Vaisakhi – Samosas. PAC was proud to support Laronde's celebration of Vaisakhi on April 14th providing a samosa for each child. PAC will continue to contribute to the cultural enrichment and education of our kids and to recognize the very important cultural celebrations and events occurring throughout the year through food, art, music, dance, and literature.

Body Health Presentations – PAC sponsored the Body Health sessions presented by Saleema Noon in addition to paying for access to the content before the presentations in the classrooms. PAC hopes that by providing access to the videos, parents felt better informed and equipped to make decisions about their children(s)' participation.

Unique Minds Science Workshop: Unique Minds came to Laronde to give Science workshops to our students on topics such as space, machines, properties of light and sound, meteorology, and water. This was a great way for students to be exposed to some fun Science projects and learning and the teachers have the chance to see the interactions of students in their grade groups. This was funded by PAC's Science Enhancement Funds.

Saltwater Studios Art Program: PAC supported Johanne Howard from Saltwater Studios to come do workshops with our students.

Think Yourself for Kids Academy - Yoga week K-7: This program was provided to the kids to promote physical literacy, self-esteem, and confidence. Ask your child about their experience!
<https://thinkyourself.com/school-kids-programs/>

(4) MOSAIC PAC was thrilled to fund this important presentation by MOSAIC Centre for Diversity that focuses on building a school environment based on respect, equity, inclusion, and diversity. In the

assembly, students explored ways people are different from each other, including racial and cultural differences; understand the meaning and negative impact of racism; and to understand and learn to recognize the signs and negative impact of racism.

(5) Technology (iPads) – PAC supplied the school with 11 iPads to meet the remaining needs for technology in the classrooms. PAC is thrilled that it could help Laronde satisfy this critical need so that each and every child in the classroom has access to technology-based activities.

(6) Screenagers – PAC provided funding for the **newly updated** film, *Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Ag*. Award-winning and thought-provoking, the film is now more relevant than ever with its recent update for 2025, including fresh insights from **Jonathan Haidt**, author of [The Anxious Generation](#), and several others. The update also includes the latest scientific findings on the effects of video gaming, sleep, social media, and the use of phones and smartwatches in schools.

Book Exchange. A big THANK YOU to Cynthia Springate and all the volunteers who made this event possible this year! It was a spectacular success with children rushing to get in the gym to find their favorite authors or series. Not only did our Laronde children benefit from this event, but we were able to donate approximate 15 boxes of books to our sister school Forsythe Elementary after all was said and done. This event was enjoyed by all, but we can't do it without volunteers. Next year, we will be looking for a volunteer or team to lead this event. We hope you will consider being a part of it.

Playground Funding. As many of you know, playgrounds are not paid for by the school, the city, the district, or the province. Rather, it is the responsibility of PAC (all of us), and/or private donations to fund the building, repair and replacement of all playgrounds at our school. This is a substantial financial cost which funds cannot be generated in the short-term. Therefore, the PAC executives from previous years have had the foresight and long-term vision to plan, save, and allocate funding in a way which will ensure that we have the financial capability to repair and/or replace our playgrounds when deemed expired/necessary by the district. We are fortunate to have three playgrounds for our children. According to the district, there will be need for replacement of one of our playgrounds in the next 5-6 years. Therefore, we will endeavor to have these funds available so that Laronde families and our community can continue to enjoy the benefits playgrounds bring. But, in the event of unforeseen damage, vandalism, etc., it is assuring to know PAC is reasonably prepared for such contingencies.

There were concerns expressed at the last general meeting that PAC had not clearly communicated whether, and what percentage of funds raised by the current Direct Donation Campaign would be allocated for future playground repair and/or replacement. We would like to address this by reiterating what was communicated in previous PAC minutes and Direct Donation Campaign letters that some portion of funds raised by the Direct Donation Campaign have been, and could be, used for playgrounds to be repaired and/or replaced.

We hope that Laronde families will take a moment to reflect on their child's first day of school. There was at least one playground for your child to play on during their very first recess. That playground was most likely paid for by funds raised by former Laronde parents who have since watched their children graduate from university. Being part of Laronde means being part of a community. And as a community, we lift each other up and we pay it forward!

At our annual general meeting on June 13th, we will approve the budget for the 2025/2026 school year. We encourage parents who have questions, and/or are interested in participating in the budget allocation and approval to attend this meeting.

Spirit Wear. Update from Julie Elliott. The Laronde PAC made over \$800 from the spirit wear campaign. Each year, PAC buys Laronde t-shirts for all of the kindergarten students. We purchase youth small shirts for kindergarten students. They are big but last a long time and makes them feel a part of Laronde immediately!

Passive Fundraisers. Emily Press Labels, Cobbs Bread in Ocean Park (just mention that you are a Laronde parent).

Fusion Fête. This year, we are no excited for our first-ever Fusion Fete to be held on May 22nd. Please look for updates and additional details in the coming days. EDB and the Fusion Fete committee will be looking for volunteers to contribute and/or participate in a myriad of ways via Signup Genius. We hope everyone can attend as we look forward to celebrating our community, culture, and creativity in an inclusive environment. Let's hope for sun!

Spring Sports! Spring sports are underway. We are starting off with badminton until the end of April and first week of May. A big thank you to Mr. Ng for his gracious offer to coach! Track Attack (for grades 3-7) starts on April 22nd 24th. The students will get to try out many track and field events. There will be a track meet at the South Surrey Track on June 3rd. More information to come! Thank you to all the parents, guardians, and Laronde staff who gave their time to coach this year, so that our kids could learn, develop, and enjoy sports. Please consider volunteering next year for a sport. All coaches require a criminal record check.

Babysitting/Stay Safe Courses (First Aid Hero). Melissa Hsu, our coordinator, has secured dates for the First Aid Hero Staysafe Course for Grades 4-7 and the Babysitting Course for Grades 6/7 on the Pro-D Day, May 2nd at Laronde Elementary. There are still a few spaces left for enrollment. We hope parents will take advantage of these very important courses. We also hope o provide these courses during the Fall for those who missed the age cutoff. Please email chair@larondepac.ca with any questions. Thank you for your efforts, Melissa!

Canadian Parents for French ("CPF"): Update from our CPF Coordinator, Julie Elliot:

This year, we sponsored the Kwantlen Park Secondary School Film Festival (400\$) and the Peace Arch Elementary Spring Fair (100\$). We also provided medals for the winners of the Concours d'art oratoires that was held at Simon Fraser University - Surrey Campus. We also organized the French Ice Skate during the holiday which was a successful event.

We want to provide a CPF Spirit Wear for the next school year to promote the French language. We are also talking about French Movie night and a Book fair. More information to come!

Financial Report

Financial Report Updates – Elena Plotnic, our co-treasurer will provide an update.

Also, Sophia Lou, has submitted our taxes to CRA for the previous fiscal year 2024 as required of PAC as a registered charity. Thank you for your time and efforts, Sophia. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Sophia for her time and dedication to Laronde. Her child is graduating this Spring, and she will be missed. We will be looking for someone to fill her position, so if accounting is your strength, please consider volunteering next Fall.

The Treasurer's Report was provided in a separate attachment.

Committee Reports

OUTREACH COMMITTEE



Canned Food Drive



A canned food drive for the Surrey food Bank will take place June 9 - June 13. Each class will have a box in their room to collect donations. We are starting with what we hope is a very attainable goal of 2 cans per child, so approximately 1000 cans for the school. There will be a collection jar as well located at the office should any families wish to give monetary donations.

Also, if anyone is interested in helping with Outreach next year to please send us an email at outreach@larondepac.ca because we start organizing the Christmas hamper event and Warm Clothing Drive in September and it would be great to know if anyone is available to join us next year! Thank you to our co-chairs, Nikki Dhaliwal and Michelle Hagenson, for their invaluable leadership and commitment to Laronde's Outreach initiatives.



GRADE 7 FUNDRAISING

Grade 7's will be enjoying their last camp of the year on May 5th at Camp Jubilee – your support throughout this year has enabled our Grade 7's to build bonds and create memories at all 3 camps this year and to put money towards their Grad Party in June. Thank you so much!

Below are the remaining fundraisers for this school year that will support our Grade 6's soon to be Grads!

- **Fusion Fete Concession**

EDB COMMITTEE (Equity, Diversity, and Belonging)

Excitement is building for Fusion Fête, our inaugural community block party on May 22nd. Scheduled as an open event for all families with a minimal entrance fee, it promises a vibrant gathering for the Laronde community. A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated parent volunteers who are spearheading strategic efforts with the EDB to bring this event to life. Their leadership is invaluable in crafting a memorable day.

Attendees can look forward to an array of cultural experiences, engaging games, captivating cultural entertainment, and an art auction. We will also set up a quiet reading area and a delightful picnic space featuring optional sample boxes for purchase. We are still seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join us in making this landmark event a success. Let's work together to create an unforgettable experience for our community at Fusion Fête!

DPAC COMMITTEE

Surrey District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC). Jin Thindal, our DPAC Representative, will provide any and all updates.

HOT LUNCH COMMITTEE

Hot Lunch and Booster Juice. Verna Chow, our Hot Lunch Coordinator, Lei, and her team, are doing a terrific job! Thank you to Verna for her diligence, responsiveness, and capacity to make this program function for the kids to enjoy. Also, a big "thank you" to families for supporting the hot lunch program, as it raises funds for all the wonderful programs, workshops, and initiatives we want to provide to our kids.

Any suggestions and/or feedback are always welcome for future vendor sourcing.

Also, please remember to make your payments online or your orders will be removed. **Please also pay close attention to the hot lunch and Booster Juice deadline dates and reminders on the Laronde PAC Website.** We have received requests from parents to order hot lunch after the deadline and for reasons outside our control, late orders cannot be accepted.

HOT Lunch Dates (Term 3 2025)

April 25th - White Spot
May 9th - Sushi/Cobs (**Order Deadline April 25th**)
May 23rd - Red Swan Pizza
June 6th - Subway/Wok Box
June 20th - Boston Pizza
June 26th - White Spot

Booster Juice: April – June 2025

April 17th
May 1st
May 15th
May 29th
June 12th

YEARBOOK – Updates from Tracy.

A big “Thank you” to Tracy for her years of dedication to capturing special moments of our children over the years. We are so grateful and wish her well. We are thrilled to welcome Robyn Bal, a current Member-at-Large, as our incoming Yearbook Coordinator. Thank you, Robyn for taking this on.

Expressed concern that monies donated to the Direct Donation Campaign would be used for future playground repair/replacement, thus their Grade 6/7 child may not directly benefit from those monies donated this year.

New Business:

PAC Executive Vacancies – At our last meeting, on Friday, June 13th, we will hold elections for any executive position needed to be filled. Please look for announcements for 2025/2026 vacancies. All are welcome to serve, and we encourage everyone to consider taking on an active role in leadership and participation in PAC’s mission!