



PAC MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2025

Laronde Staff Room

2024-2025 Laronde Elementary PAC Executive:

Chair	Megan Johnson
Past Chair	Cynthia Springate
Vice Chair	Jin Thindal
Communications	Erin Martin
Co-Treasurers	Victor Chan & Elena Plotnic
Class Parent Coordinator	Mallory Geier
CPF Representative	Julie Elliot
Secretary	Corrine Proctor
DPAC Representative	Jin Thindal
Members-at-Large	Tracy Merry, Sophia Lou, Stephanie Albanese, Robyn Bal, Nishi Banipal, Julie Elliot & Lara Guelpa

1. Welcome & Introduction

Welcome from Megan. Welcome everybody! 11 parents were in attendance including the following members of the Executive: Megan Johnson, Victor Chan, Elena Plotnik, Jin Thindal, Julie Elliot, Corrine Proctor, Lara Guelpa and Nishi Banipal. Principal Mme. Boudreau was also in attendance. Megan called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

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.

Review of Code of Conduct. Megan reviewed an excerpt from our Constitution and Bylaws:

Code of conduct

- a. General meetings will be conducted with fairness to all members. The business of the council shall be unbiased towards race, religion, gender, politics, sexual orientation or social condition.
- b. At general meetings, members shall not discuss individual school personnel, students, parents or other members of the school community.
- c. The organization shall refrain from partisan political action or other activities, which do not serve the interests of the school or the public school system.

2. Approval of Agenda

Copies of agenda provided to attendees. The agenda was also emailed to the Laronde school community in advance of the meeting. Motion by Lara to accept as presented, seconded by Jin. All in favour, motion carries.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2025

Copies of the Minutes from the PAC meeting on April 25, 2025, were emailed to the school community and physical copies were provided to attending parents.

Motion to approve Minutes by Lara and seconded by Elena. All in favour, motion carries.

4. Principal's Report – Janesse Boudreau

Mme Shakur will be our acting VP next year. Congratulations to her!

Comings and Goings. Mme Lamothe (3 years at Laronde) and Mme DesLauriers (19 years at Laronde) are retiring. Mme Ziolkowski is moving on to new adventures. We are sad to see them go but wish them all the best in their new adventures. Mme Michelle's last day was June 13. Thank you to her for filling in for Mme Burden. Mr. Ablitt (previous band teacher) will be our new music teacher next year!

Spring Dance. This was an incredible experience for our students. A big thank you to Tracy Merry and Luana Foulkes for organizing and making this happen.

Welcome to Kindergarten. This event was held on June 5, 2025 and was a huge success. Thank you PAC for attending and presenting!

Parent Appreciation Day. This event was held on June 11. We hope everyone who was able to attend enjoyed the coffee, tea, treats, and all the performances.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon. Thank you so much for organizing! This is our opportunity to thank the wonderful teachers and staff at Laronde. The Luncheon was Tuesday, June 10. Staff loved it and thanks PAC!

Student Learning Plan (SLP). Mme Boudreau & Mme Shakur are working on a SLP for Laronde. The plan will outline what we are working on at Laronde. There is a meeting planned with the Assistant Superintendent next week to go over our SLP. Once completed, it will be available at <https://surreylearningbydesign.ca/student-learning-plans/>

Some items that the SLP will focus on include:

- Focus on literacy, both written and oral French. Looking at ways to have students interact more with each other in French.
- Social/Emotional Learning. This is our third year with the Second Step program (social-emotional learning curriculum). It has been wonderful to see the students focusing on a growth mindset. The school has committed to do this program again next year!

National Indigenous Peoples Day. National Indigenous Peoples Day is on Saturday, June 21. This special day is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the rich cultures, traditions, histories, and achievements of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples across Canada and around the world. Since it falls on a Saturday this year, we will be celebrating it at school on **Monday, June 23rd**. To mark the occasion, our PAC has generously provided Bannock for all students and staff to enjoy. We look forward to this opportunity to honour and learn more about the diverse and vibrant cultures of Indigenous Peoples!

Swimming Field Trips. On Thursday, June 19, students from divisions 1 -11 will attend a field trip to Sunnyside Outdoor Pool.

Sports Day. We are excited for our annual Sport Days on Friday, June 20. All stations will be on the grass field and divided between Primary and Intermediate Groups. We will have 3 stations before recess, 3 after recess, and 3 after lunch. Colours: blue, green, black and white. Concession will be at 1:30 p.m.

Grade 7 Farewell Ceremony. This event will be held on Tuesday, June 24. A letter was sent out to all the parents on May 30 with all the details. Grade 7 Band will be performing at the ceremony.

Final Assembly. The assembly will be held on Thursday, June 26, at 9:15 am in the gym. The Grade 7's will perform their last band performance. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Last Day of School. The last day of school this year is Thursday, June 26. Students will be dismissed at 1:33 p.m. We will have our last hot lunch that day and teachers will send home report cards. The teachers will be at school on Friday, June 27, if you need to pick anything up.

Next School Year. We are heading into the 2025/2026 school year with 20 divisions. The numbers may change again closer to the start of school.

Grade 7 Band & Music Program Update. Please see the message below sent out to families.

Bonjour Laronde Families,

We understand how difficult and disappointing this news has been, not only for our school community but across the entire district. Unfortunately, we are one of many schools that will not be offering band next year. This decision is truly devastating, especially given the impact music has had on so many of our students. There have been many thoughtful suggestions on how to preserve the band program, whether during the school day or after school hours. However, for reasons of equity across all elementary schools, we are not able to offer an additional program at Laronde when it is not available at other schools.

We are very sad to see Mme Ziolkoski go and are so grateful for the passion and dedication she brought to our students. At the same time, we are thankful to welcome Mr. Ablitt as our new music teacher. While we are still finalizing what music programming will look like for each class next year, we are confident it will be a rich, joyful, and engaging experience for all.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support as we continue to prioritize meaningful and equitable learning experiences for every child.

5. Chair Report – Megan Johnson

Megan began her chair report by thanking the PAC executive for everything they do for the school and for taking a team-oriented approach. It made her first year as president much easier! Megan also acknowledged our amazing Principal, Mme. Boudreau, for being so collaborative with PAC and working alongside parents to make Laronde such a wonderful place for students. A BIG thank-you also to Cheryl and Natalie for everything you do our kids!

Projects Funded by PAC in the 2024/2025 school year. PAC has funded wonderful programs this school 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/>

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.

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 every student in the classroom has access to technology-based activities.

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.

EMS Scholarship. Megan provided an update on the scholarship Laronde provides annually to an EMS graduate (must be a former Laronde student). This year we are proud to announce that Sofia Jamal was the winner of the \$1000 scholarship. Sofia has been accepted to UBC and wants to go into social work like her mom. She is also a theatre lover and is interested in learning how to incorporate art/dance/theatre to support children. Congratulations Sofia!

Other News and Upcoming Events

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

Sports Day and Concession. We are excited for our annual Sport Days on Friday, June 20. The grade 6 class will be running the concession this year to kickstart fundraising for their grade 7 year.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon. PAC was happy to organize the annual Teacher/Staff Appreciation Luncheon on June 10. This is our opportunity to thank the wonderful teachers and staff at Laronde.

Fusion Fete. Thank-you to everyone who made Fusion Fete such a great success this year. A special thank-you to our EDB Committee who put in countless hours organizing this school community event!

6. Financial Report

Co-Treasurer Elena Plotnik carefully reviewed the proposed budget for the 2025/2026 school year. Elena reviewed projected revenues and expenditures. We discussed the many activities that PAC has funded for the school year and options for fundraising next year. If you have any ideas for activities that PAC can considering funding, please contact PAC or come to the September meeting. **We would love to hear from you!**

A huge shout out to Verna who took on the role of hot lunch coordinator this year. Verna has 2 kids, works a full-time job and still stepped up to make sure that our kids had a hot lunch program this year. She worked hard to make sure that hot lunch raised funds for PAC while remaining affordable for families. It was a tremendous amount of work. Thank-you Verna!

Motion to accept budget as presented by Jin, by Ilker. All in favour, motion passed. *Please see attached 2025/2026 Budget.*

Elena reviewed funds PAC currently has in various accounts. We discussed strategies for maximizing returns for these accounts. Elena and Victor have volunteered as co-treasurers for two years and have worked hard to learn best practices for managing the PAC budget.

Motion to keep \$30,000 in the operating account as an open balance for the upcoming year and all remaining funds to move from the operating to fundraising Account. Move to accept by Corrine, Seconded by Julie. All in favour, Motion passed.

7. PAC Executive for 2025/2025 School Year

Chair – Megan Johnson
Vice Chair – Jin Thindal
Secretary – Corrine Proctor
DPAC Rep – Jin Thindal
Treasurer – Victor Chan and Elena Plotnic
Class Parent Coordinator – Mallory Geier
Communications Coordinator – Lara Guelpa
CFC Rep – Julie Elliot
Outreach – Michelle Hagenson and Nikki Dhaliwal

Members at Large – Sofia Lou, Stephanie Albanese, Nishi Banipal, Robyn Bal, Mannel Kilford, Ilker Horasan and Sarah Martinez.

Motion to accept the PAC Executive team as recorded by Kirsty, seconded by Mme. Boudreau. All in favour, motion carries.

8. Committee Reports

Outreach. If anyone is interested in helping with Outreach next year, please send an email to outreach@larondepac.ca. 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!

Grade 7 Committee. The Grade 7 Committee has a number of volunteers and fundraising planning is already in the works. If you have a child in grade 7 next year, stay-tuned for more information about how to get involved!

Hot Lunch and Booster Juice. 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.

EDB. Thank-you to EDB for all of your efforts this year (ex. Displays at the front of the school, Fusion Fete and parent socials). Please consider getting involved with EDB during the next school year!

Surrey District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC). Jin will provide an update at the next PAC meeting (September 2025).

9. New Business:

Why is Camp Jubilee no longer an overnight event for students?

- Grade 7 students attended three day camps this year. The teachers have been happy with this change and feel more comfortable not taking the students away on an overnight trip.
- The day camps are school run events, but parents are welcome to plan a parent-led event after school hours (ex. a weekend away for grade 7

families). This will be up to grade 7 parents and PAC will not be involved. This year, almost 50 families went to Whistler for a parent organized camping trip. Everyone had a wonderful time!

- Jin noted that the district is making a shift away from school organized overnight camps and there is more emphasis on parent planning/organization of these events.

Pancake Breakfast. This year, the grade 6 students and their families put on the annual pancake breakfast in December. Thank-you to Greg Lutz for all your efforts! We discussed whether it would make sense to have the grade 6 class put on the pancake breakfast again this year. It is a great opportunity for them to get started with fundraising. More discussion to follow next year!

Important September Dates:

- Terry Fox – September 19
- Orange Shirt Day – September 26
- Non-instructional Day (Pro-D)– September 29
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – September 30

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.