



AGENDA

Ecole Laronde Parent Advisory Council Meeting
Friday, September 26th @ 9:00am Laronde Staff Room

2025-2026 Laronde Elementary PAC Executive:

Chair – Megan Johnson Vice Chair – Jin Thindal Secretary - Corrine Proctor Co-Treasurers – Victor Chan & Elena Plotnic Communications – Elena Plotnic (interim) Class Parent Coordinator – Mallory Geier	Members at Large – Sophia Lou, Stephanie Albanese, Robyn Bal, Nishi Banipal, Julie Elliott, Sarah Martinez, Mannel Kilford, and Ilker Horasan DPAC Rep – Jin Thindal CPF Rep – Julie Elliott
Principal – Janesse Boudreau Vice Principal – Nancy Shakur	

1. Welcome & Introductions 9:00am
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Review and Approval of Minutes from June 13, 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

September 26th - Orange Shirt Day/PAC Meeting Laronde Staff Room
September 29th – Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
September 30th – Truth & Reconciliation Day (Stat Holiday)
October 3rd – Hot Lunch (Mary Brown's Chicken)
October 13th – Thanksgiving Day (Stat Holiday)
October 16th – Photo Day (Individual)
October 23rd – Early Dismissal (1:33 PM)
October 24th – Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
November 10th – Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)
November 11th – Remembrance Day (Stat Holiday)

November 12th – Photo Re-Take Day
November 18th – Early Dismissal (1:33 PM)
December 19th – Last Day of School before Winter Break



LARONDE PAC UPDATES



Chair Report – Megan Johnson

Projects Funded by PAC. PAC has already funded wonderful programs since the start of the school year. Below are just a few, with many more to come this year!

Fall 2025 Programs

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. The kids learned about the following concepts:

Wsflash – Flash Bang workshop on the properties of light and sound: sources of intensity and interactions.

Wswhat – What’s the Matter workshop on matter and states

Wsfinally – Finally fun workshops on forces and simple machines

Wserosion – workshop on local landforms and how they are affected by air, water, soil, and the sun.

Wsevolution – Evolution Revolution workshop on how living things have changed over time.

Wsedison – Edison’s workshop on static and electricity.

Wssystems – All System’s Go workshop on four vital human body systems.

This was a wonderful 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 last year. The kids loved it and she is back this year already! Divisions 1-15 had workshops this month. The remaining divisions 16-20 will have the workshops in December



2024/25 Programs Last Year

Think Yourself for Kids Academy - Yoga week K-7: This program was provided to the kids to promote physical literacy, self-esteem, and confidence. This was hugely popular!

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.

Technology (iPads) – PAC supplied the school with 11 iPads last year to meet the remaining needs for technology in the classrooms.

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.

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.

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

Emergency Preparedness: Carla Hanson, our emergency preparedness coordinator worked diligently last year to ensure supplies were restocked and/or replaced, batteries and flashlights and lanterns were purchased and in good working order, as well as any and all other emergency related items, including nut-free granola bars and water. Thank you, Carla for your continued efforts!

Fall Sports! Fall sports are underway. We are starting off with Cross Country. A big thank you to Kelly Florkowski for her gracious offer to coach! Also, Soccer schedule will be announced shortly. Thank you to all the Laronde staff/teachers who volunteer as coaches so that our kids could learn, develop, and enjoy sports. Please consider volunteering for a sport this year. All coaches require a criminal record check. **Go Lynx!!**

Babysitting/Stay Safe Courses (First Aid Hero). Melissa Hsu, our coordinator, did a fantastic job organizing the First Aid Hero StaySafe and the Babysitting Courses last year! For those of you whose children missed the age cutoff, or were waitlisted, we are pleased to provide these courses this Fall, so please look for announcements. A huge “THANK YOU” to Melissa who has graciously offered to run this program again this year!

Craft Fair. A big THANK YOU to Nishi Banipal and Jasmine Prasad for Co-Chairing last year’s event. It was an absolute success, and it was so inspiring to see the ingenuity, creativity, and entrepreneurialism of the vendors. Nishi has graciously offered to lead the event this year, which will be held on November 28, 2025. More information to come about participating and volunteering.

Direct Donation Campaign 🙏

PAC's biggest fundraiser of the year is the Direct Donation Campaign. After consultation with parents over the years, PAC executive concluded that parents are willing and happy to donate to their children's school but often don't have the extra free time to do the various hands-on fundraisers such as selling door to door, bake sales, or other activities. For this reason, PAC has tried to make it AS EASY AS POSSIBLE to donate on your child(ren)'s behalf. The Direct Donation Campaign is a fast and simple way to donate ONE TIME for the entire year and 100% of the funds raised go directly to PAC, which means it goes directly back to our school and children.

We have calculated that raising a minimum of **\$15,000** for the 2025/26 year will allow us to continue providing programs, paying costs for technology items, and sponsoring other important cultural enrichment activities throughout the year. PAC is only able to sponsor and support these many wonderful programs with the help of the generous support of our parents.

Please look for email announcements and emails about the Donation Campaign in October. We sincerely hope each family will donate on their child's behalf. **Each and every child directly benefits from the funds raised.**

Class Parents Needed!

Being a class parent is a lot of fun and a great way to get to know other parents and the teacher. It's very flexible; you can handle everything from your phone or computer, which is perfect for those of us with full-time jobs. We need one class parent for each of the 20 divisions. You can do it alone or team up with another parent to share the duties.

We're looking for 1-2 Class Parents per division to help share updates, coordinate hot-lunch volunteers, support classroom communication, and organize teacher appreciation gifts. If you're new to Laronde or haven't done this before, our Class Parent Coordinator, Mallory, will provide templates and all the support you need. Please reach out via email or text with your division number or if you have any questions and would like more information, at mallory9_9@hotmail.com or Tel: 604.309.7279.

Financial Report

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

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.

The 2025/26 budget (attached) was presented and approved at the meeting on June 13, 2025, including the following motions.

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. Motion was approved.

Committee Reports

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Warm Clothing Drive:



Nikki and Michelle (both grade 2 moms) are in their third year as co-chairs of the PAC's Outreach Committee, and do a tremendous job organizing, planning, and executing the Outreach programs. The Outreach Committee organizes two major events each year, the first is the Warm Clothing Drive at the end of October and the second is the Christmas Hamper program in December.

During the Warm Clothing Drive, the Outreach Committee reaches out to the Laronde Community to collect new and gently used, warm weather clothing in good condition for distribution at our sister school in North Surrey - Forsyth Road Elementary. More information to come.

Christmas Hamper Program

The Christmas Hamper program is another wonderful program we run with Forsyth Elementary. Every year, Forsyth Elementary invites families from their school to apply for a Christmas Hamper. They select families based on the level of need and make efforts to select families that will not be receiving a Christmas Hamper through any other program. Laronde will usually receive a list of approximately 10 families. Those families are assigned to different classrooms and the whole Laronde community comes together to purchase food for the families and gifts for the children (trying to keep in mind any specific requests from the families). This year, the Christmas Hamper program will likely run the first two weeks of December, similar to last year. However, this year the list of gifts being collected will be reduced to continue supporting the same number of families while ensuring every family benefits from the wonderful generosity of the Laronde community.

Other events and how to volunteer

Last year, the Outreach Committee supported the Grade 7s in running a canned food drive and hopes to support the Surrey Food Drive again this year.

There will be many ways to get involved with the Outreach events – we are always looking for more hands! Please look for emails coming soon with links to Sign Up Genius to volunteer to sort clothes for the clothing drive. We will also need help organizing the Christmas Hamper program and packing the hampers on the last day of the program. If you are interested in getting involved with the events, please send us an email at outreach@larondepac.ca.

GRADE 7 FUNDRAISING

Grade 7 Committee

Our 2025/26 "Grade 7 Committee" will be assisting with the communication, planning, and fundraising efforts/events for the Grade 7 kids and their families.

Grade 7 fundraising efforts are extremely important as they assist in covering the cost of Grade 7 extended day camp(s) and the end-of-year Grad party. The party is a parent-run event with no involvement from the school. Without fundraising, the cost for camps and the party, would be out of pocket for each individual family. We hope that all Laronde families will support our Grade 7 fundraising activities, as your child will be in Grade 7 before you know it, and you'll want them to have the best year ever!

Fundraising Activities anticipated for Grade 7 this year include bottle drive on hot lunch days, pizza sale after school, Krispy Kreme, Menchies, Purdys Chocolate, Flowers with West Coast Garden, Meridian Meats, movie nights and a dance. Please look for announcements regarding these many initiatives of our amazing Grade 7 class of 2026!

Grade 6 Fundraising/Committee Parent Representative (*future Grade 7 parents*) In addition to a Grade 7 Committee and Representative, this year, we found it helpful for the Grade 6 parents/kids to begin their fundraising efforts early to prepare for the costs of their Grade 7 activities/camps which start early in the year (October Camp). For example, last December, the Grade 6 kids/parents hosted the Holiday Pancake Breakfast for the first time, which was an enormously successful event, both in outcome, and as a fundraising activity. Going forward, the Grade 6 kids/parents will host this event to help them get the necessary head start for their fundraising. If you wish to participate as a Grade 6 Representative, please contact Megan at chair@larondepac.ca.

DPAC COMMITTEE

Surrey District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC). Update will be provided by our DPAC Representative /Vice Chair, Jin Thindal as they come.

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

HOT LUNCH COMMITTEE

Hot Lunch and Booster Juice – NEED VOLUNTEERS!! Verna Chow, our Hot Lunch Coordinator, and her team did a terrific job last year, but we need more volunteers to keep it running smoothly! Please email hotlunch@larondepac.ca or chair@larondepac.ca if you would like to help.

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.** Note that after the deadline, for reasons outside our control, late orders cannot be accepted. A huge thank-you to Verna and her team for their hard work on our incredibly popular hot lunch program!

How are Vendors Chosen?

As parents, we want to ensure our children are eating a healthy lunch that they enjoy. Some of you may be wondering how our hot lunch vendors are chosen each year.

Many factors are considered when deciding on vendors including (1) affordability (2) availability (3) profitability (4) popularity (4) variety (5) healthy options; and (6) support for our local community.

Verna, our hot lunch coordinator, works VERY HARD for months to make sure our children have a variety of choices, and that the hot lunch program reflects our goal of providing a diverse, healthy, and delicious lunch. Due to the plentiful options provided by each vendor, we are hopeful that your child(ren) can find something they will enjoy for each Hot Lunch Friday.

We welcome parent feedback at any time. Try to keep in mind Verna's considerable effort taken to make this program a success, and that no vendor is permanent. Our Hot Lunch coordinator is always searching for and evaluating new and different vendors to address changes in demand, price, or for other reasons.

Hot Lunch Dates for Term 1:

October 9th - deadline October 3rd

October 23rd - deadline October 17th

November 6th - deadline October 31st

November 20th - deadline November 14th

December 4th - deadline November 28th

December 18th - deadline December 12th

Booster Juice Thursdays are coming to Laronde!

This is an extremely popular fundraising initiative for the Grade 7 class and all proceeds will go toward supporting the Grade 7 camp and other grad related activities. Please support Grade 7 while also giving your child a healthy and delicious treat!

Booster Juice Thursdays will start on October 9th and will be offered on weeks that do not have a hot lunch. Smoothies will be delivered just before first recess for an energizing mid-morning snack. The deadline to order is the Friday before, and the deadline to order the first Boost Juice is **October 3rd.**

EDB COMMITTEE (Equity, Diversity, and Belonging)

We warmly welcome all parents to support our district-recognized EDB Committee. Your insights are greatly appreciated as we strive to enhance our school's environment, ensuring it is a safe and welcoming space where every member of the Laronde community, especially our students, can learn and play, while being their authentic selves.

Last year, the EDB Committee hosted our first ever Parent Social. It was extremely well-attended, and the parents loved getting to know each other outside of school in an inclusive and fun environment. EDB plans to host this event again in the Fall. Look out for announcements coming soon.

If you are interested in learning more about the committee and its events/programs, wish to be on the committee, or volunteer, please contact Nishi at edblaronde@outlook.com.

New Business

Grade 7 Band Funding Discussion

Old Business