



Laronde Elementary Parent Advisory Council
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 27, 2013 7:00 pm

2013-14 Laronde Elementary PAC Members:

Lisa Clarke - Chair Maida McGunigal - Vice Chair Kate Tobin & Erin Rao - Treasurers Cynthia Springate - Secretary	Members at Large - Martine Bollard, Tanja Phillips, Jaime Clinker, Vanessa Soon, Cathy Hsu DPAC - Jaime Clinker Past Chair - Polly Diether
SPC - Cynthia Springate, Greg Caza & Ana Kozak	Principal - Johane Fortin

1. Meeting called to order by PAC Chair Lisa Clarke at 7:02 pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda: Moved by Jaime C. and Seconded by Jennifer P. All in favour, motion carried.**
3. **Approval of the Minutes of September 20, 2013: Moved by Jennifer P. and Seconded by Jenn A. All in favour, motion carried.**
4. Principal's report – Mme. Fortin

Technology consent form

- The form has generated a few concerns from parents namely:
- Duration of consent - We can modify the District form to cover only one year if parents feel more comfortable with this option
- Ensuring students do not share personal information
- Patriot Act and servers located in the USA
- How technology is used in the classroom
- Mme. Pulsifer will address some of them tonight
- Mme. Pulsifer (the school's Tech Leader) reported that most of the servers are outside Canada. IXCL Math is the only Canadian site they're currently working with. To address security concerns care is taken to ensure that students don't identify themselves (names, photos, location, etc.)
 - Current tech uses are Prezzi, Dropbox (no identifying names), Google Box, EduBlog. Mme. Pulsifer can set up teacher based accounts so that individual student names cannot be searched. Student videos on YouTube are non-searchable and can only be accessed via a link sent by the students. The entries on EduBlog require a password through the teacher's account. Blog entries can be found through the teachers' names but not the students'. The degree to which entries are vetted varies from teacher to teacher.

Parking / Commuting to school

Crossing Patrols

- Student crossing patrols have been trained and are now working on the Amble Green crosswalk
- We will probably move them to the Laronde Drive crosswalk in a few weeks and determine where is the greatest need
- We have to choose one crosswalk or the other because we only have nine patrols

Bike Safety Program

- Students in grades 3-5 participated in a bike safety program earlier this month. With this training it's hoped that more students will feel confident biking to/from school.

Drop Off Lane

- Our drop off and pick up situation has improved since last year with the various initiatives that have been put in place. It is however our whole school's responsibility to make sure that this program works smoothly. Parents and staff need to be actively involved in this system. It really helps when parents come in the morning to help at the drop off lane. We all need to step up to the plate!

New Drop Off Area on Laronde Drive

- City is still looking into the feasibility – researching the reason for No Parking signs in front of Laronde Park
- New No Stopping signs to be installed on 131 at the intersection of Laronde Drive to help alleviate congestion caused by vehicles parked on both sides.

Mission Committee

- Planning a student assembly to kick off our new mission statement on November 4
- Will focus on one key word per month i.e. French, kindness, respect, responsibility, creativity.
- Will address logo and team name in the New Year after we all have a better understanding of our mission.

Interim Report

- Taking place this week
- Please phone the school if you want an appointment with your child's teacher

Athletics

- Had a very successful cross-country and soccer season.
- Just started volleyball this week. Very thankful for parent coaches.

Events Coming Up

Halloween

- Free The Children student group is organizing a costume contest. Need to bring 5 non-perishable food items to register. Then the week of Halloween, students will be asked to bring food donations – one item = 1 ballot to vote for best costume on Halloween day.

Festival de Films

- All students are going to the CPF Festival de films on November 13. All expenses paid by CPF and French department.

5. Chair's Report – Lisa Clarke

- Needed 2 Coordinators for the 2014 Spring Fair. Very special day for our school community and there are many people with previous fair experience willing to help answer any questions you may have.
- Craft Fair coming soon – November 28th.
- Mad Science currently running programs on Monday & Thursdays. Art with Ellen starts Oct 30th (Wednesday, 5 classes) with a few spots still available.
- First Aid Hero's Babysitting course is on November 8th with a few spots left also
- About 8 divisions have had at least one or two parents sign up to be Parking Lot Assistants. Thank you very much to Class Parents for helping with this important task. We appreciate your coordination in getting those 15 minute parking lot helpers signed up.

6. Financial Report – Kate Tobin

We received our Gaming Grant – \$7680.00 based on \$20 per child. Limited on what we can spend it on. The timeframe to spend it is within 3 years of receiving it. We can apply for a one year extension. Total PAC funds available for distribution is \$24, 722 but the gaming fund is \$22K of that (highly restrictive). Perhaps the emergency preparedness committee could use some of these funds. Our annual cheque writing campaign is coming soon, our most profitable fundraiser of the year.

7. Committee Reports

- Social Responsibility – Mme Pulsifer reported on the Grade 6/7 class initiatives for social responsibility. Peer tutoring, knitting scarves for shelters, Free the Children, other ideas may be community gardening for food bank, etc.
- Outreach Jennifer P. – New contacts at our sister school. Warm clothing drive will happen soon. Likely Xmas hampers will continue.
- Emergency Preparedness Erin R. – looking to increase supplies, currently have enough for 60 students for 3 days, and want to increase this to 180 students for 3 days. Needing new volunteers as half the group is moving on this year (grade 7 parents).
- DPAC Jaime C. – Laronde made its first motion at the DPAC meeting re: first aid notification. Some changes at the school district higher admin, Mike McKay is retiring. We will be getting a new area superintendent.
- Intramurals Jenn A. – parents have stepped up to volunteer, a few slots left to fill. Bring a whistle, let the students choose activity.
- School Planning Council (SPC) Cynthia S. Ana K. & Greg C. – Had first meeting with Mme. Fortin to discuss school plan. A draft will be written by Mme. Fortin and will be discussed in detail at next meeting.
- Lice Check: Jaime C. & Michelle F. – 11 volunteers so far, November 6th
- Craft Fair Ana K./ Tanja P - Nov 28
- Spring Fair May 16: **2 coordinators needed**
- Yearbook Committee: Karin B. – Looked into a new printer but all more expensive. Will stay with Lifetouch. Looking to set up SkyDrive for class parents and teachers to drop photos for each division.
- Canadian Parents for French – Martine B. BC/Yukon AGM is Nov 1-3. Membership in CPF is available to all parents. CPF is sponsoring all Grades 1-7 to go to movie in French at Empire theatre on Nov 13.

8. New Business

- Jenn A. brought up 60 minute kids, a website promoting healthy eating and activity. Will pass along to Gr 7 leadership program.

9. Old Business-

- Parking Raffle not supported by Principal, too many complications.
- Family photo night as a fundraiser, Amie J. could look into this

10. **Adjournment** - Polly moved to adjourn at 8:37pm

Next meeting: Friday, November 29th 9:00 am