



**Laronde Elementary Parent Advisory Council  
MINUTES  
Friday, November 29, 2013, 9:00am**

**2013-14 Laronde Elementary PAC Members:**

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| <b>Lisa Clarke - Chair</b><br><b>Maidra McGunigal - Vice Chair</b><br><b>Kate Tobin &amp; Erin Rao - Treasurers</b><br><b>Cynthia Springate - Secretary</b> | <b>Members at Large - Martine Bollard,</b><br><b>Tanja Phillips, Jaime Clinker, Vanessa Soon, Cathy Hsu</b><br><b>DPAC - Jaime Clinker</b><br><b>Past Chair - Polly Diether</b> |
| <b>SPC - Cynthia Springate, Greg Caza &amp; Ana Kozjak</b>  | <b>Principal - Johane Fortin</b>  |

1. Meeting called to order at 9:03 am
2. Approval of Agenda: Moved by Jennifer P. and Seconded by Kate T.
3. Approval of Minutes of September 20, 2013 with note to change spelling of Ana’s name in the Committee list. Moved by Ana K. and Seconded by Katie C.
4. Principal’s Report:
  - Upcoming Christmas events: Teachers would like 3 time slots for cocoa delivery on the Deck the Doors afternoon (next Friday). Other activities:  
 Monday, December 16 – band concert in the morning.  
 Tuesday, December 17 – dress rehearsal in the afternoon, some space for parents  
 Wednesday, December 18 – afternoon and evening performances. 6:30 show will be ticketed with 2 per family. A preorder form will be sent home and tickets will go home with students.
  - School Plan: Largely teacher driven to build a question (s) to address an area of need. Similar to the idea behind the \$25,000 the teachers received to look into tech use in the classroom. Working on oral language and self-regulation are goals in this year’s plan. Self-regulation will mean looking at different strategies for different students. Making children more conscious of their state (idling slow or running fast?) and providing ways for them to manage their behaviour themselves. The committee is also gathering information on numeracy.
  - Mission Committee: working on French part of the new mission. Have positive comments from parents. Students are working on a collage of what living in French looks like. Next Thursday’s assembly will discuss this and then we will move onto the next part of the mission: kindness. The focus will be “how full is your bucket?” The Tree of Kindness will also be part of this as students will decorate the tree in the lobby with kindness statements. Also working on a “secret kindness” initiative.
  - Technology: have received the 20 MacBooks. Hurray and thanks to the PAC. The older versions will go to the teachers.
  - Big screen for the gym – using school funds for a large, motorized (and locked) screen.
5. Chair’s Report:

- Looking for a new rep for the DPAC as Jaime has resigned. DPAC meets in the evening on the last Wednesday of the month at the District Learning Centre in Guildford. Let Lisa know if you're game.
- Many thanks for donations to the cheque writing campaign. Deadline for a 2013 tax receipt is December 20.
- Thanks to Michelle and Jaime for coordinating the Lice Check. Huge "success" – found 15 cases.
- Susan Jensen from the Safety Preparedness Committee has passed on her report - committee currently has 6 members who are busy increasing the supplies in our container to cover 180 students for 3 days. Spring projects will include checking the classroom grab and go kits as well as creating a committee manual for future volunteers.
- December 6 is the Deck the Doors event. Need parent volunteers to coordinate and pour cocoa in the classrooms.
- Classified ads are available on the PAC website. Can be used for any number of things: sales, car-pooling, baby sitting, etc. The possibilities are endless!
- Passive fundraising – Cobs Bread in Ocean Park will donate 5% of sales if you tell them that you're from Laronde before they ring in the order. And yes, it includes cinnamon buns. A parent is also looking into selling gift cards as a means of passive fundraising. And Emily Press Labels will kick back 20% to Laronde.

#### 6. Financial Report:

Kate distributed a financial report (appended to these minutes). Still waiting to pay for the new TV for the library. We budgeted \$8,000 for all library tech. Won't spend more. Cheque writing is coming along. \$6,845 at beginning of week but still a pile to process. Hoping for \$15,000 to replenish funds.

#### 7. Committee Reports:

- Outreach: Jennifer Pilchak reports that the Hamper Drive has started today. We're helping 12 families, some of which are very large. Providing both gifts and food. Hopefully some clothes too. Food and clothing were the primary needs. Working with the students this year – they're going class to class to talk about the hampers and asking for a toonie from each students to buy a gift card for perishables. Also hoping for a toiletries kit for each family. Feel free to send in new items that you have around home that could be used in a hamper. Looking for 10-12 people at 7:30 on December 13 to help Forsythe put on a pancake breakfast. Already have some food donated. Contact Jennifer if you're available. "The forgotten family." Special request from the secretary at Forsythe to help another family. Jennifer will look beyond Laronde for donations but would like to send this hamper with the others. Jennifer will let us know where donations for this special hamper will be kept. 15 bags of warm clothes were delivered to Forsythe from our drive and in the Spring the committee will be looking to do a Book Drive.
- Craft Fair: 129 students participated. \$387 was collected. \$317 covered the cost of the tables and the remainder will go to the hampers. Ongoing discussion of treats vs. crafts (the eternal dilemma).
- Book Exchange: Tanja is organizing and will set a date with Mme. Fortin.

- School Planning Council: Report made by Greg Caza with Ana also present. The plan is supposed to be signed today. District is moving toward an “inquiry based” plan rather than goals. Questions like “how can we incorporate more French into our school?” Or “how do we support math?” Greater interest this year in working with the committee on an ongoing basis (rather than just a few meetings to put together the school plan). Greg will be meeting with the teachers in January to discuss the results of the FSAs. Greg is also in fostering more parent involvement.
  - Spring Fair: Hollis has agreed to take on the Spring Fair. Hurray! The date is Friday, May 16, 4:00 to 7:00 pm. No theme set yet.
8. New Business: Grade 7 parents are putting on the traditional Pancake Breakfast on December 20 as a fundraiser for camp. Tickets will go on sale the week of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Quantities are limited and they sell out every year.
  9. Old Business: Family Photo Night this Monday. Almost full. We could lengthen time if there’s demand. \$20 sitting fee that gets kicked back to the PAC.
  10. Polly moved to adjourn at 10:40.