

Minutes recorded by Janet Petras (PAC Secretary).

1) Welcome & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

2017-18 Laronde Elementary PAC Members:

Position	Name	Email
Chair	Cynthia Springate	chair@larondepac.ca
Vice-Chair	Tanja Phillips	vicechair@larondepac.ca
Secretary	Janet Petras	secretary@larondepac.ca
Treasurers	Susie Fang	treasurer@larondepac.ca
	Katie Corbeil	treasurer@larondepac.ca
	Sophia Lou	treasurer@larondepac.ca
Communications	Hollis Pilling	communications@larondepac.ca
Class Parent Coordinator	Catharine Macrander	classparent@larondepac.ca
Grade 7 Parent Rep	Tanja Phillips	grade7@larondepac.ca
Members at Large	Pam Wilson-Sydor, Della Faremo, Sarah Hunter, Stefanie Simpson, Luana Foulkes	

Total 13 Laronde parents & PAC executive present at meeting.

2) Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve of Agenda: Moved by Veronica N. Seconded by Erin R. All in favour, motion carried.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes from September 29, 2017

Mme Niro-Fraser noted a minor correction for the Minutes. The first aboriginal presentation was for the school staff rather than the students. The Minutes will be corrected and re-distributed.

Motion to approve minutes: Moved by Catharine Macrander. Seconded by Hollis Pilling. All in favour, motion carried.

4) Principal's Report – Sabrina Niro

Winter Concert:

Mme Ziolkoski, and the Music teacher Mme Ludwig are preparing for the winter concert. The key dates are as follow:

- December 19: Dress Rehearsal, 1pm
- December 20: Concerts, 1pm and 630pm.

Tickets for the evening concert are by donation, and capacity will be monitored and limited to adhere to the fire regulations. A notice will be going out to parents the week of December 11.

Communicating Student Learning (CSL):

On December 8 a CSL documents will go home with the students. For teachers using Fresh Grade parents need to check their child's portfolio for regular updates to student learning. There are three different CSL formats currently being utilized by staff. The goal of CSL is to show a student's progress throughout the year. Most teachers are using performance scales and a few will be using letter grades. Overall there is no set way to conduct CSL at this time. If a teacher is using Fresh Grade then a cover letter will be sent to parents indicating to check their child's portfolio. Several new teachers who are new to Fresh Grade are learning it and using it this year.

There was discussion regarding the two performance scales of Extending and Proficient. Proficient means that the students know the subject matter and there is no need to worry if they haven't been given the Extending scale. An example of Extending is going above and beyond like a Grade 6 student answering a Grade 7/8 math question on a test.

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA):

The Grade 4/7 FSAs have been completed, with approximately 30 students excused by parents from the testing. The results were very good. Parents indicated that the grading system was very confusing and difficult to navigate. Mme Niro indicated that Grade 4 French Immersion students generally don't do as well on the English test section as compared to English students in grade 4. By Grade 7 the French Immersion students have generally caught up in proficiency or even surpassed students in English programs.

Middle Years Developmental Instrument (New):

The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences.

The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school and community, from their own perspective. The survey uses a strengths-based approach to assess five dimensions of child development that are strongly linked to social and emotional wellbeing, health, academic achievement, and overall success throughout the school years and in later life:

a) Social & Emotional Development: optimism, empathy, happiness, prosocial behaviour, self-esteem, self-regulation, sadness and worries, responsible decision-making*, self-awareness*, perseverance*, assertiveness*.

b) Physical Health & Well-being: general health, body image, nutrition, meals with family members, and sleeping patterns.

c) Connectedness: presence of supportive adults in schools, families, and neighbourhoods, sense of belonging with peers, and friendships.

d) Use of After-school Time: time spent participating in organized and unorganized activities including team and individual sports, lessons (e.g. music, art, academic), watching TV (e.g. online streaming of TV, movies and videos), playing video games, socializing with friends, reading, homework, working* and volunteering*.

e) School Experiences: academic self-concept, school climate, school belonging, future goals and victimization (bullying).

Mr. Fleming's Class:

Mr. Fleming will be teaching until Christmas. The District has hired a new teacher who will begin in January and potentially complete the school year pending the return of the two teachers on leave. The new teacher will be visiting at least once in December prior to starting.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

There are no parent/teacher interviews planned with upcoming CSL for term 1. The next scheduled time for them is April.

5) Call for Volunteers

Parent volunteers are currently required in the outreach area as follows:

- Outreach (Christmas Hampers):
Hollis Pilling indicated that volunteers are confirmed with the exception of for Grade 7. She will check with leadership group to gauge interest, and in addition Mme Carajal is keen to become involved. The library has been confirmed as available for December 7/8 to use for storing and sorting hampers.
Thanks to Hollis for spearheading the warm clothing drive.

6) Chair Report – Cynthia Springate

It was a busy October/November for everyone. As the holidays quickly approach, we would like to thank you all for taking time out of your busy lives to come to a PAC meeting.

Our Cheque Writing Campaign's official deadline was November 15th. Our rough total to date is \$14,400. The goal is \$20,000 and we will absolutely still take your donations! Please drop a cheque off at the office or donate through our web-site. Please be sure to fill out the tax receipt form if you want a tax receipt. We will only issue tax receipts if a form is submitted.

Volunteers Wanted:

Outreach committee members &/or Chair – this committee works closely with our sister school Forsyth Road to support initiatives like the Christmas Hampers. This is a big initiative and we appreciate any help you can give. Deck the Boards – thanks to Morag A. for coordinating the hot cocoa portion of this annual holiday decorating event. We will need many hands to help make and distribute hot chocolate to all students on Dec 8th.

Upcoming Events:

Mark your calendars for our annual Xmas craft fair happening this Thursday from 2:30-4:30. Thank you Cindy A. for coordinating this creative event! So far we have 106 students signed up to sell their crafts so this is still a very popular event with our students. Please come and check out the crafts or send your child with some spending money (small bills/coins greatly appreciated!)

Teacher Christmas Luncheon is booked for December 13th.

Change to Booster Juice delivery time:

At the request of teachers, Booster Juice delivery has been changed to lunch time. Please note this may affect your choice of snack or lunch for Booster Juice days.

7) Financial Report

Katie Corbeil indicated that the circulated Financial Report is two weeks old however there are no significant changes. The Gaming Grant has been received.

8) Committee Reports

Emergency Preparedness Committee:

Erin R, who leads the Committee, indicated that they had been busy updating all supplies, replaced shelving, and replacing supplies in Grab and Go kits. The supplies have traditionally be based provisions for 385 students however in September the total numbers including staff will be increasing by 30% to 500. Therefore the Emergency Preparedness Committee requires \$2,500 in additional funds to replace expired food and to increase supplies to reflect the increase in student population.

Motion: Motion by Erin R to spend up to \$2,500, in excess of their current budget, on emergency preparedness this year. Seconded Pam Wilson-Sydor. All in favour, motion approved.

9) New Business

Tanja Phillips indicated that the Igirl/Iguy program was well received.

Joy R inquired if there was interest in celebrating the Chinese New Year. After discussion it was agreed to consider celebrations on February 15. Joy R will coordinate the details with Mme Niro-Fraser.

Basketball Season: The season begins January 14 with students allowed to begin practicing two weeks in advance. Badminton and Ultimate Frisbee will follow basketball.

Book Exchange: Josee K has expressed interest in more information about the book exchange.

10) Old Business

Craft Fair set to go on November.

11) Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned @ 7:58 pm. Moved by Kate Corbeil, and seconded by Erin R.

Next Meeting: February 2, 9:00 a.m.

Important Dates:

November 30: Craft Fair
December 8: Deck the Boards
December 22: Pancake Breakfast/Pyjama Day
December 23-January 6: Christmas Break
January 8: School Begins