

February 11, 2021

Royston PAC Meeting

6:35 pm start

In attendance: Christine VanDerRee, Paul Liebenberg, Danica Prowse, Penelope Turner, Jenn Stevenson, Lucia Little, Lindsey Eastman, Stacey Murphy

Principals Report:

- Kindness Focus – Kindness Gallery for visuals, morning announcements, lessons shared amongst the staff – an inquiry focus ... what is kindness? Will tie in with Pink Shirt Day – shirts not arrived yet but will distribute through the child when they do
- Toy Cart – sign out now happening, has helped to focus the play of small same cohort mixes
- Earthquake supplies – the food is outdated. I will work with Penelope Turner on this one. Lindsey to help with distribution of the outdated food.
- Art Starts virtual event – upcoming in the Spring, Drumming workshop, Request for PAC support.
- Dishwasher – is now installed, received some district support and breakfast club of Canada support, I would like to make a request that PAC use some of the kitchen supplies funds (\$1000) to assist with the installation costs.
- Kindergarten registration – robust, diligently checking proof of residence – currently have 49 we are working through, suspect a few will be going to French Immersion, district is aware of the numbers as this and our returning DL students (18 confirmed – 5 maybe – 2 no) puts our school population at 305 minimum (currently 276)
- School Garden – would like to invite some work parties/families to help prepare/clean up the site, feeling somewhat overwhelmed with the state it is in.
- School is receiving some indigenous district funds to commission a wall carving focusing on Royston, Karver Everson will be taking this on, working with us on the design.

Comments from Principal's Report:

Earthquake Supplies:

- Penelope Turner will be purchasing \$400 worth of supplies
- Christine would like to have new food on site before older products are distributed through Lindsey's acquaintance who will pass onto Homeless Shelters.
- Penelope and Christine will meet together to make arrangements in next couple of weeks

School Dishwasher:

- Clarification of request for PAC contribution to dishwasher as in the past PAC has voted not to put funds towards this purchase.
- The dishwasher helps EA staff complete dishwashing quickly and effectively for proper sanitation vs. spending time washing dishes
- Christine has sourced funds for the \$7000 investment (\$5000 for specifically required commercial dishwasher + \$2000 for time and materials) through \$2500 from superintendent, funds that were surplus from last year and some of school supply budget. The remainder will have to come out of school's budget.

- The request for \$1000 from PAC seems to be appropriate amount request given the balance of collective funding for the dishwasher so that not so much has to be taken from school's budget
- Request will be carried over to next PAC meeting

Treasurer report:

- ½ way through fundraising which is perfect as we are now ½ way through this year. Financially things are looking up
- Since last meeting, PAC exec's Voted yes to provide \$250 each for teachers and yes to White Hatter series
- Shout out to all fundraisers and those who have spearheaded them – all have done well: Silent auction, gunter, hot lunch, Royston t shirts, purdys
- We have been frugal in our spending and should remain so as we're not sure what future holds in these Covid times
- Outdoor classroom funds: Money in outdoor classroom funds will continue to accumulate based on Thrifty foods fundraiser so even if we dip into this for some purchases, the money will replenish over time. Ideas that had been suggested in past for spending from this fund: Gaga Ball, Clip boards
- Art start request for Drumming - already falls into PAC budget. Majority vote YES for this opportunity
- Review of \$ in gaming fund and what can be used for. Christine clarifies if iPads be purchased through gaming. Answer: yes, have staff put together proposal for quantity/cost.
- \$1000 put aside in PAC budget to go towards transportation for field trips. Christine will remind teachers that they can access this fund in addition to the \$500 budget for field trips they have been allotted through school budget. More funds for transportation (i.e. bussing) could also be accessed through gaming.
- Big take away from Treasury report - Hot lunch has been a huge contributor to PAC \$

Fundraising report:

- Have had great fundraising so far
- West coast seeds seems to be popular, no numbers for that yet but should be lucrative and something to be considered in future years
- Easter Purdy's – need to sell \$500 worth to get any profit. Suggestion to fundraise for this online only (at Christmas only 1/5 of Purdy's orders were paper) Consensus was that enough parents will make orders to reach \$500 goal and to go ahead with fundraiser. It's also more discreet to purchase online so that Easter booklets don't go home with children. Jenn will run this but would like help with the online advertising. Christine will help with sending email out to parents for steps of online ordering. Jenn will make option of pick up at her home available if school pick up is not suitable
- Hot Lunch – moved to 3x week – Wed to Friday. Paul would like for next year for hot lunch to go back to Mon, Wed, Fri as it spread things out for parents. \$1700 profit for February is huge so going to 3 days a week is a big money earner. Lindsay suggests

looking into hot lunch scheduling early next year and base the days of hot lunch on availability of parent volunteers. It has been much easier this year because parents are not making snacks or heating up lunches. Paul feels regardless of days, we'd be able to manage. Christine will talk to Twila re: soup Mondays to see if Mon, Wed, Fri is available even sooner than later and how we could consider it for next year. Christine has noticed trend of kids needing extra food from office even on hot lunch days. Jenn wondered if smaller size of hot lunch is part of factor for still being hungry. Christine quickly shared how and who preps extra food for kids who need more to eat (most are not 'luncless' just hungry); Twila, indigenous support worker, has taken on program with Lush Valley that provides food and recipes for fresh made soup every week. Normally students would be involved in cooking and sharing with their classes. This year kids come to her room to share soup. EA Simone also preps paper bag lunches while prepping for Breakfast Club and those are available at office as well as bowl of prewashed fruit

School Garden

- Danica would love to get the garden up and running again. She has lots of ideas , time and flexibility but she needs help getting the garden back to fresh start.
- Past issues with garden have been summer harvest (no one in school to enjoy) and watering
- Paul has seeds and plastic covers to help with weeds when beds not in use
- Lindsay also seeds and other garden supplies and will help clean out garden. Suggestion that grass clippings from Grounds maintenance be used for mulch to keep down weeds as well
- Suggestion that fall harvest produce is grown so students can enjoy when return to school in fall (pumpkins, squash, potatoes) . maybe flowers including edible flowers to be enjoyed during Spring
- Christine was also planning to approach parents to see if they could donate time to clean it all up and give it a fresh start. Danica will put together some ideas in next little while to present to Christine to get this going

Introduction of Stacey Murphy who will be taking over treasurer position next school year. She will be working with Lindsey over the next few months to become familiar with the position as this will be Lindsey's last year as a parent at Royston

Meeting adjourned 7:31 p.m.