



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 | 7:00 – 8:30 PM – LIBRARY + TEAMS MEETING

ATTENDEES:

Ashleigh Inman
Beth Miller
Cameron Walls
Carolyn Wendell
Emily Eversdijk
Erin
Georgina Avila

Heather Galilee
Jen Foley
Jillian Gordon
Katie Scotland
Kelly Moore
Kendra Arkenstall
Martine Stanley

Mika Mokkonen
Niki Kennedy
Samrae Alizadeh
Sandi Thorson
Stephanie Redlich
Veronika Spencer

(7:04 PM) Call to Order Introductions Ashleigh Inman

- We would like to take this time to acknowledge that we are on the traditional, unceded territories of the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and Squamish First Nations and to express my gratitude that we are able to host this event tonight on their beautiful lands.
- Brief welcome
- So nice to see more new faces this year in the PAC

(7:06 PM) Administration Report & School Plan Jillian Gordon & Kendra Arkenstall

Jillian Gordon, Principal

- We had a very smooth start to the school year.
- Increase in Enrollment - Across district, there was yet another dramatic increase in enrollment. In North van, we move new students to their schools and classrooms quite quickly compared to other districts. Ridgeway intentionally builds one day (the first Wednesday) where kids are with their previous classes. This allows them to check in with trusted adult. This also buys admin time with new enrollment. We are very impressed with our students and how well they transitioned and settled into their new classrooms. Enrollment is a team effort; admin and teachers together spend approx. 120+ hours coordinating placement.
- Class profile meetings have just started, offering students services within the school system; counselors, ELL staff, etc.
- Teachers are providing valuable insights about their students.
- Friday Flood Incident - Last Friday, some students tampered with the piping, which caused a flood. The demountable students were relocated, and the hallways and backfield were flooded. Everything has been sanitized, and a new, large, bright cap has been installed to prevent future incidents. The students handled the situation calmly and respectfully.
- We participated in the Terry Fox and raised funds throughout the week. Primary students ran around the block while intermediate students ran to Sutherland and back.
- Class Reps - A suggestion was made to create a link or include class representatives. Admin will assist with sending intro emails to parents to connect with class reps.
- Red Fox Program – teacher Natalie Vermeer – running the ELL program to help build active living / social skills. Invitation out to targeted families but also all families will be able to participate – this is a not-for-profit society.
- Grade 7 Farewell – Tuesday June 24



Kendra Arkinstall, Vice Principal

- Cross Country for grades 4-7 – yellow forms came home.
- Grade 7 Basketball starting soon – forms going home next week
- Tripleball coming in the spring
- Primary students have many options in the community so the school focusses on the intermediate age range a little more.

Mrs. Galilee

- Starting up the grade 5 mentoring training sessions soon.

(7:26 PM) Approve minutes from at meeting Sandi Thorson

- Sandi Thorson approved the previous meeting minutes, Beth Miller seconded.

(7:26 PM) Planned 2024/2025 Fundraisers and Events Sandi Thorson

- **Class reps** – reach out to teachers if you are interested in being a class rep
- **Parent night social** – October 8 – Students will receive a flyer for the social night. There will be a silent auction – must be in attendance to bid. There was a donation from grain terminal – made a \$1,000 donation to the PAC – in lieu of a silent auction item. All funds raised at the Parent Social are earmarked for blue playground.
- **Mini family portrait** coming up – two spots still available. If interested email president@ridgeway.pac.org. More information is available on [signup](#)
- **Funlunch** starting this Friday – we are all very excited – we have a few new vendors this year – volunteer are always needed – The more hands the better to get all of the lunches out to the children quickly – [Parent sign up tab](#) available on the website.
- **Spirit Wear** on sale soon – we've already done one; the orange t-shirts – which had great sales. We are looking at adding another style perhaps or other products this year.
- **After school programs:** basketball and lights up – for more information or to register [visit our website](#)
- The **pancake breakfast** in in discussion – more information coming
- **Halloween costume fundraiser** – the PAC would accept clean and complete costumes, and resell them back to the students at a low cost – environmental initiative to reduce waste
- **PAC BBQ** – Thursday June 19
- The school feels the **Card Project** is better suited for the spring, as it allows for higher-quality artwork, despite moderately higher sales during Christmas.

(7:31 PM) Summary of 2023/2024 Financials Beth Miller / Cameron Walls

- \$110,000 come through PAC \$8,000 under where we projected. Much of this came through munch a lunch.
- Grade 7s did a lot of fundraising this last year. They raised funds for all of their initiatives.
- Spent \$103,000 - 10,000 less than we planned
- All of our events covered their costs, except for those that we intended on keeping costs low to make more accessible.
- View the [Ridgeway PAC Financial Statement 2023/2024](#).

(7:34 PM) 2024/2025 PAC Budget Review Beth Miller / Cameron Walls

- \$20,000 cash available so far expecting \$100,000 this year. We are projected to end with a small net loss; however, we typically tend to spend less than planned.
- This year we added funds to items requested, including for the refuge.
- Announced to admin that if they have a larger ticket item they require or desire, to let the PAC know and we can do a vote. Our budget is in place; however, new items can be added as needed and agreed upon throughout the year.
- [View the 2024/2025 Budget here.](#)



Jillian Gordon: Request for funds towards replenishing teacher iPads

- Ridgeway has good tech, but some equipment is aging as tech becomes outdated quickly. The government has provided funding to maintain proper student-to-tech ratios.
- In the past, every division had a working teacher iPad. With 1/3 of students in ELL, iPads have been essential for communication with non-English speakers.
- Teachers value iPads in class as they allow for quick adjustments to meet diverse student needs.
- Only four working teacher iPads remain. Ridgeway is committing funds towards teacher iPads. And are hoping to add additional for the ELL and ESL teachers as well.

PAC – Let's look at budget together and see how and where the PAC can contribute

(7:36 PM) Parent Concerns **Sandi Thorson**

Book Sale

- What is the proposed date for book sale? We had the gym booked for late October, but the parent who was spearheading the book sale has left the school. PAC can look into new dates.
- We have done a used book sale in the past, which Ms. Galilee ran. She is happy to share information on organizing a used book sale, but the PAC will be organizing this one. Any parents who wish to take charge / participate are welcome.

(8:06pm) Board Member Vote – A quorum voted in favor of Emily Eversdijk joining as a board member.

If you would like to submit any concerns or discussion topics before or after the PAC meeting, or anonymously, please use this form.

Meeting Adjourned 7:41pm
Next PAC Meeting October 29 2024
Meeting Notes: Stephanie Redlich