



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 7:00 – 8:30 PM – LIBRARY + TEAMS MEETING

ATTENDEES:		
Afsin Ismail Ana Sales Ashleigh Inman Beth Miller Cameron Walls Carolyn Wendell	Emily Eversdijk Jen Foley Jillian Gordon Katie Scotland Kendra Arkenstall Masoud Hamzeh	Niki Kennedy Roland van der Werff Sandi Thorson Stephanie Redlich Toktam Sharafi

(7:03 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.

(7:04 PM) Administration Report & School Plan Jillian Gordon & Kendra Arkenstall

Jillian Gordon, Principal

- **School Plan & Student Voice** – We recently held our first after-school meeting with a team of six dedicated students and three supportive parents. This year, we're aiming to expand student voice and focus on our primary objective: fostering a sense of belonging within the school. A welcoming atmosphere is central to our mission, and we're grateful for the collaboration of parents and the PAC in building this community spirit.
- **New Reporting Program:** Our reporting will emphasize literacy and numeracy skills as core objectives. This focus was reinforced during our recent Professional Development day, where teachers reviewed approaches and strategies to support these foundational skills.
- **Executive Function** – Executive function skills like time management and self-control are a current focus across classrooms. We've held class profile meetings and teacher self-assessments to incorporate these strategies for whole-class support. Recognizing these as learned rather than innate skills, we're also planning professional development for teachers and EAs, alongside exploring opportunities for a parent speaker to help communicate these concepts. Together, we hope to build strategies for both home and school environments.
- **Transparency** – Our school plan is available on our website and will be updated as soon as the website technical issues are resolved.
- **Supervision on the Playground** – We kindly ask parents to check in with their before and after-school care providers to ensure that younger children are properly supervised until they enter the school building. In certain cases, greater diligence is needed to make sure these children are safely looked after right up until the school bell; adult supervisors are essential for younger students. Please remember, if a child is not ready to walk to the store unsupervised, they should also not be arriving at school without an adult present.

Kendra Arkenstall, Vice Principal

- **Cross Country** is finishing up this week
- **Basketball:** The grade 7 basketball season, which wraps up in early November, has been a wonderful experience for the team and our parent coaches. It's been fantastic seeing everyone come together.



- **Leak in Building last week:** We hope everyone stayed safe during the heavy rain. A big thank you to our maintenance team for their quick response, ensuring the school remained in good condition despite a few leaks. Mr. Baker's office had a minor ceiling leak, which is currently being repaired.

Q&A

- **Field Access During Lunch:** Due to supervision and staffing needs, one of our fields remains closed at lunchtime, with only half of the students outside at that time. We appreciate parent feedback on this and feel the split breaks have been beneficial, allowing students to engage in more age-appropriate play.
- **Litter-Free Lunches:** We're encouraging families to pack litter-free lunches, as litter on school grounds has become a concern. Removing food wrappers before packing lunches can make a big difference in keeping our school grounds clean and welcoming.
- **Spring Concert in Place of Winter Concert:** This year, we'll be hosting a spring concert instead of a winter one. Ridgeway previously alternated concerts before COVID, and with the busy winter schedule, this allows staff to focus on other seasonal activities. Mr. Voth is excited to plan a great spring concert for everyone to enjoy.
- **Sports Pinnies/Jerseys:** For our sports programs, we've noted the need for additional pinnies in sizes suitable for grades 6 and 7, preferably in black to match our existing jerseys. The PAC will explore options to provide more jerseys in the needed sizes and colors.
- **Parent Coffee Hangouts:** To build our school community, some parents have suggested hosting regular coffee hangouts. We're looking into organizing this on a monthly or quarterly basis. Gillian will follow up regarding logistics and rental space.

(7:23 PM) Approve minutes from at meeting Sandi Thorson

- Sandi Thorson approved the previous meeting minutes, Jennifer Foley seconded.

(7:24 PM) Upcoming Fundraisers & Events Sandi Thorson

- **Thank You to Parent Social Organizers:** A huge thank you to the parents who organized our recent parent social! Your efforts are greatly appreciated.
- **Halloween Costume Fundraiser:** Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Halloween Costume fundraiser! The kids were thrilled, and we raised \$320! We're excited to bring this event back next year.
- **Cream Pony:** Now available on Munch-a-Lunch! Orders are due by November 13, with pick-up on November 21.
- **The Card Project:** Orders are open from October 27, with a final order date of November 11.
- **Purdy's Chocolates:** Available for ordering online. This fundraiser supports grade 7 grads, with key dates of November 30 and December 12.
- **Grade 7 Hoodies:** Now available to order on Munch-a-Lunch.
- **Growing Smiles Fundraiser:** Supporting grade 7s with orders due by November 11, with pick-up on November 26.
- **Additional Fundraisers:** Check out our website for more details on fundraising partnerships with Nellie's, Well Fed, Mabel's Labels, Return It, and Cobs Bread.

(7:28 PM) Parent Concerns Sandi Thorson

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 7:29 pm
Next PAC Meeting November 26 2024
Meeting Notes: Stephanie Redlich