

SEXSMITH PAC MEETING

November 24th, 2022• 6:20pm –7:pm

EXECUTIVE

Co-Chairperson: Mandeep Sidhu / Deljit Beesla

Treasurer: Novella Lui (absent)

Vice-Chairperson/Hot Lunch Coordinator: Mike Atwal

Co-Secretary: Jacqui Crawford / Allison So

Fundraiser: Lana Wong

Member at large: Eva Jung

GUEST

Principal: Ms. Laura Rhead

MEETING MINUTES

Mandeep called the meeting to order at 6:20pm.

1. Quorum was met – 11 members present

2. Introduction and welcome statement and Indigenous Land

Acknowledgement.

- Approval of agenda (no additions): approved by Mandeep and seconded by Deljit.
- Oct 24, 2022, PAC Meeting Minutes approved by Mandeep and seconded by Deljit.

3. Treasurer's update - Novella absent presented by Mandeep

- We combined the 2 PAC accounts into the Van City Account, the previous account was attached to the school bank account, now we have our own PAC bank account. See below for November 24th 2022 balances.

[illegible]

4. Principal's Report - (Ms. Laura Rhead)

- Ms Rhead presented summary slides.

THANK
YOU,
SXS
PAC!



We are grateful to announce that due to PAC's generous fundraising and volunteers, we are able to look forward to:

- Breakfast with Santa event (Dec 16)
- Lunar New Year event (Feb 3)
- Approx. \$8/child in fieldtrip monies (\$200/division)
- \$150/class in discretionary funding
- \$500 for our clubs/supplies for extracurricular activities (ie. Lunch clubs, student council, board games, etc for rainy days)
- Library and music funding
- Hot lunch for students/families in need
- ...

Proposed parent/guardian Event:

Wednesday, April 12th 6:30pm

via Zoom:

Saleema Noon

Sexual Health/Body Science/Healthy Relationships parent night (online)!

(Student workshops on April 13-14 in person, during class; paid for with our SAF)

<https://www.saleemanoon.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Body-Science-Elementary-Workshop-Outlines-2022.pdf>

<https://www.saleemanoon.com/resources/books-and-websites/>

<https://www.saleemanoon.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Gender-Identity-statement-2022.pdf>

Grade 7 PAC Parent Committee

- Angela Wong Email: writeangie88@hotmail.com
- Lucia Rivera Email: rivera_marialucia@hotmail.com
- Kam Dhillon Email: kamdhillon16@gmail.com
- Pandora Poon Email: ppoon1437@gmail.com

Overview Student and Family Affordability Fund

On August 29, 2022, the Ministry of Education and Child Care announced a new fund, the Student and Family Affordability Fund, designed to help support families during the 2022-2023 school year.

This new fund provides \$60 million in **one-time funding** to school districts to increase food security for students and their families, and to support students, parents, and guardians with affordability concerns.

Funding Allocation to Schools

The District is allocating \$4.2 million of the \$4,712, 638 in one-time funding directly to schools to provide support in two priority areas:

- Food and Nutritional Support
- Family Assistance / Offsetting Costs for Families

Funding has been allocated based on student population with some adjustments to support school communities with a greater number of families in need of support.

Funding is one-time and must be spent by June 30, 2023.

Food and Nutritional Support

Examples of **targeted** spending to support students and families:

- Provision of food hampers
- Gift cards for a local grocery store
- Providing nutritional snacks
- Student passes to purchase food through the site-based cafeteria
- Other

Examples of **universal** spending to support student access to nutritional food include:

- Funding learning experiences which promote healthy eating and nutrition
- Providing nutritional snacks for students (e.g. at recess/breaks)
- Other

Family Assistance / Offsetting Costs for Families

Examples of **targeted** spending to support students and families:

- Supporting students needing clothing, shoes, glasses, dental work, etc.
- Support with clothing/footwear required for school sports or other school activities
- Providing of transit passes
- Reducing or waiving fees for school organized events and activities (field studies, graduation, camps, performances, cultural events, additional supplies for classes, etc.)
- Other

Examples of **universal** spending to provide family assistance and offset costs to families:

- Reducing/waiving fees charged to families for field studies, performances, camps, and school organized events/activities (including instrument and equipment fees)
- Reducing/waiving fees related to graduation activities
- Reducing/waiving fees related to cultural events/experiences
- Other

- Additional information
 - Staffing; the position for a support staff member to replace Ms. Finch has been filled by Holly Cheung. Ms Cheung has been working as a SSA on call at Sexsmith. However, we are still short staffed.
 - I have spent the last 2 days training with Thread Assessment Training by Kevin Cameron. Kevin Cameron is head of the Canadian Trauma Response Team. He works in tandem across North America with various groups that respond to school shootings, violence in public and difficulties with trauma. Principles train with him so we have an understanding of trauma responses and how we can support families. It was a humbling experience. There are policies and structures in place to support families and children going through anything in that realm. I also share my training and experience with the staff, so they get a taste of what being an administrator is like. Our professional development staff training tomorrow has an indigenous focus goal and goals around engagement and feelings of belonging. Staff need to get together for these big topics, so thank you for keeping your child at home.

Questions

1. In regards to photos, we used a different company this year, Edge Imaging, and is there a reason why? There are parents that felt the selection of photos available were not up to the same standard as the previous company, Lifetouch. In addition, placing the order did not consistently work the first time with edge imaging.

Ms. Rhead thanked the parents for the feedback. There are 2 big companies Mountain West and Life touch and they do have political leanings. We had used Lifetouch for many years and there was feedback about having a change. Edge Imaging, is a small Canadian owned company that will respond well to feedback. I will reach out to the owner, and if they want to keep our business then they will respond to our concerns. Edge imaging also provided photo stickers of all the students to keep in the first aid/office area.

- Please see my Sway newsletter from the week, as well as our website, for all the updates, including a news story about Diwali at Sexsmith.

<https://sway.office.com/uIPIM1gAenkGjI7Y?ref=Link>

5. Hot Lunch Coordinators Report (Mike)

- The Hot Lunch Program has been going pretty well, there was mix up with lunches but we have had very good feedback from parents. Parents like the munch-a-lunch website to pre-order online for a whole term. Online payment is going well, Deljit helped out a lot, so thank you. It's tough for one person to do it. For the most part I did not have many concerns/complaints, anything that did come in we were able to fix it.
- My aim for next term is to look at the vendors and see how we can keep the cost down.
- Hot-lunch profit - we look at that in the next couple of weeks.
- Next task is to decide if we want to do 2 Hot-Lunches per week, if so we need at least another lead volunteer to take care of the extra day. That person could help out with the administrative work, it's laborious, helping with label names and sorting food out.
- Deljit suggested a survey to parents about the 2nd day of Hot-lunch along with a vendor section, and a note about needing more volunteers and someone to co-lead the program with Mike.
- Fuel catering was chaotic, there was a lot more sorting and they did not sort by divisions. We will give them another go, after the feedback we gave them, and next time with less options. Subway should stay, they offer healthy food.
- When arranging Hot Lunch for Fridays, we did not appreciate the Friday Pro-days and Stat days - maybe we want to change the day to a different day, to make more profit for the school. If we do want to keep a Friday, it's a popular day to have Hot-Lunch, then maybe we add a Wednesday too. This can only happen if we have more lead volunteers.

- Ms Rhead informs that often Friday is a day that more kids are sick, so after the pizza lunch there were many slices of pizza left in the freezer.
- Thanks to all the volunteers that help with the distribution, you make it run really smoothly, we now really need admin volunteers.
- A reminder to parents about payments, a couple of kids showed up thinking they had Hot-lunch but it had not been paid for.
- If you are unable to make a payment or you have a late order please let us know and we will assist you.
- Also a reminder, for utensils and to pack snacks on Hot-Lunch days.

6. Fundraiser Report (Lana)

- Final numbers for the Chocolate Fundraiser, we collected just over \$13000 in chocolate sales, minus the cost of the chocolates, just over \$7000. We made a net profit of \$5800, that's accounting for the \$400 in gift card prizes. For the late delivery of boxes, we got a discount of \$133, which is equivalent to 4 cases of chocolate almonds. So we made \$5800 for our technology fund. Thanks to everyone.

● On-going fundraisers.

○ **Fundscrip.**

- PAC Gift Card Fundraiser Gift cards are the perfect gift but can also be used to pay for things that you would have used cash for and you can help support your child's school when you buy one!
- Shop from the comfort of your home when you purchase gift cards through Fundscrip, and Sexsmith will receive a percentage of the gift card sale.
- Choose from over 100 popular retailers like Toys R Us, Gap, Cineplex, Metropolis at Metrotown etc. Please use this link:
<https://www.fundscrip.com/Sign-Up.aspx?IID=2CBHHR>

- **Oliver Labels**

- Keep your items out of the lost and found pile by labelling your personal items with Oliver's labels. Custom labels can be printed with your child's name to use on all their belongings. When you purchase labels from Oliver's Labels, 20% of the purchases will support Sexsmith PAC's fundraising efforts. Please use this link;

<http://www.oliverslabels.com/sexsmithelementary>

7. Other Business/Questions/Comments

- **Breakfast with Santa (Lucia)**

- Deljit has organised the Rotary Club, as in previous years, to make the pancakes.
- We are making a list of items we need to buy (pancake batter is going on sale!). Kam and Lucia will do the shopping.
- Deljit is tasked with obtaining the donation of coffee and the giveaway prizes for teachers and younger kids.
- Pandora will decorate and put the tree up in the library.
- Our volunteer list is looking good, a few parents who have volunteered over the years, their children are no longer at Sexsmith, have offered to come in to help out (Stan and Roy, the two pancake breakfast experts, we are very grateful, this is a big undertaking).
- We will need a subcommittee of many volunteers. Lucia, along with Kam, Pandora, Eva and Angela will start a Breakfast with Santa organisation committee.

- **Lunar New Year (Pandora)**

- Pandora plans to decorate school on Friday January 20th after school. Parents can help me decorate, so that on Monday morning the decorations are up. We are starting the rehearsals for lion dance, thank you to Stan again, who will come back to help. Any parents are

welcome to help or learn the dance too. We will be practicing in December and January on Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime in the music room. Assembly will be on Friday February 3rd. We will do the luncheon for staff that day, so we will need volunteers and the volunteers can help to take down decorations that day. We need more red envelopes, if anyone can help out.

8. The next PAC meeting is set for Thursday, January 19th at 6:15 pm. The meeting will be held at the library.
 - Future meetings are scheduled on February 23rd, 2023, and April 20th, 2023.
 - Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm