

École Beairsto Elementary
Parent Advisory Council General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Mar 5, 2025 (6:30pm) Location: Beairsto Library/Hybrid
Zoom

Chairperson: Mandy Pretty

Call to order: 6:32pm

- 1) **Presidents Welcome & Attendance:** In Person attendance: Mandy (vote), Adrienne (vote), Liz (vote), Chelsea (vote), Mme Manthorne(Principal- No vote), Eric Neilson (Vice Principal- no vote), Kim Williams (CPF- no vote), Dayna Saari-Lauman (vote), Natalie (vote), Dionne (vote), Shannon (vote), Jessica (vote)
- 2) **Approval of Previous Minutes and Adoption of agenda:** Liz moves to approve previous minutes and adopt agenda, Dayna seconds.
- 3) **Grade 7 Presentation: Year End Activity Funding Request:**
 - a) Presented by: Grade 7 students and teacher Johie Burns
 - i) Overview of planned Grade 7 events:
 - (1) Mara Canyon (April)
 - (2) Cirque du Soleil (May)
 - (3) Gardom Lake trip (June)
 - (4) End-of-Year Celebration (June)
 - ii) Fundraising goal: \$20,000.
 - iii) Fundraising efforts:
 - (1) Completed: Bake sale (\$1,500), Santa Photos (\$1,800), Apple Juice fundraiser, popcorn sales at Movie Night
 - (2) Upcoming: Bottle drives, Chip Fundraiser, Bake Sale, Freezy Friday, Red Robin, Art Cards, Track & Field Concession

PAC support requested for event funding.

4) **Reports:**

- a) **Principal: Mme Manthorne - With the school Update**
 - i) **Report cards & Learning updates:** To be sent out next week. Discussion about sending printed copies home.

- ii) **Basketball:** Grade 7 opted out of zones; instead, a three-on-three event was held, well received by students. M Helm will be continue having 3on3 once a week for the month of April, which can extend into May if there's interest.
 - iii) **Teacher professional development:** Training in Story Workshop, science, oral French, and reading strategies.
 - iv) Le Flo Franco, French Canadian Hip hop artist performing tomorrow (Mar 6) at Seaton
 - v) **Registration -**
 - (1) 51 Kindergarten registrations (lowest in recent years). French Immersion program waitlist started.
 - (2) Late French Immersion (LFI) enrollment: 24 students;
 - (3) Efforts ongoing to increase numbers. **Suggested Action Items:** Banner at intersection 27th and Seaton, Maven Lane mailout, Castanet article, early learning fair, Beairsto float in the parade
 - (4) Community concerns: Some parents still believe that parent French knowledge is necessary for Kindergarten entry.
 - vi) Black History month - Student trustees are coming this Friday to speak to Gr 7s about being an anti-racisit
 - vii) Question from Dionne regarding student digital security: Proposal for mandatory annual password changes to improve security. **Action Item:** Dionne to email this reminder to Moira to send to Tech support
- b) **President: Mandy Pretty -**
- i) **Movie night** was a huge success. Next movie could be a Minecraft movie possibly in April - **Action Item - QR code for CPF**
 - ii) Staff appreciation in May
 - iii) Spring Fair discussion: TBD based on volunteer availability.
 - iv) AGM in June - Talk to our friends about recruiting for upcoming PAC rolls to fill. President, Fundraising, and more.
- c) **DPAC report - Natalie Ellard**

- i) **DPAC Budget** \$18,000 in budget and they have \$16,000 left
- ii) Community Event: DPAC is planning a gathering for PAC members, with each able to invite their DPAC Rep and two additional members. The event will celebrate the outgoing President and include an educational component and speaker sessions. No similar session has been held since 2019
Potential event topics:
 - (1) Preventing PAC Fraud
 - (2) Reducing Turnover 7 Inefficiencies
 - (3) Racism & Bullying
 - (4) AI & Social Media Challenges
 - (5) Education Assistants
- iii) VP/Principal Pool: 4 Candidates (2 internal, 2 external) available for vacancies. Language needs may affect Beairsto's eligibility
- iv) PAC insurance: PACs are covered under District insurance for sanctioned events (Principal approved). Events with alcohol require separate PAC insurance.
- v) Trustee Update: Budget consultations are underway
- vi) International Exchange program: One of BC's largest programs. Expanding with \$400K funding, 6% budget increase and 375 students from 18 countries.
- vii) Public attendance at Board meetings: restricted due to past safety concerns - special permission required through DPAC
- viii) Increasing noon hour supervisors
- ix) Bill 40 - Indigenous Education Councils (IECs)
 - (1) Mandated IECs to enhance Indigenous student outcomes
 - (2) Councils will advise on achievement strategies, funding and policy
 - (3) Collaboration underway with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)
- x) Sanctuary Schools Policy
 - (1) Ensures all school-aged children, regardless of immigration status have access to education
 - (2) Ensures that all school-aged children ordinarily resident in the district can attend school,

(3) No barriers to education should exist for students due to lack of documents

d) Fundraising - Chelsea Haines

- i) Vaz art - (\$630)
- ii) Zelaney's (\$165) **Action Item: Zelaney's to come to the fall fair**
- iii) Shuswap Pie fundraiser (\$934)
- iv) Silverstar Pub night (\$1,000)
- v) **To Come:** Purdy's Easter and Flower Baskets.

e) Dionne - Hot lunch & Treasurer Report-

i) **Hot lunch -**

Tried 3 new vendors

-Bar Burrito

-Pita Pit

-My Chef Meal Prep

No longer using- Samosa Joes or Pita Pit

ii) Treasurer's report -

(1) Fundraised \$12,500 to date

(2) \$6000 committed to projects so far

(3) Approx another \$6000 to spend

(4) We have a request for outdoor equipment (\$5000)

(a) Shade sails in the back

(b) Features around the school for balance, etc

(5) There are grants that we can apply for

(a) Action Item: Canadian Dermatology Association - anything that promotes shade to help reduce skin cancer

(b) Many other playground equipment grants with varying deadlines for application

- (6) We have a request for new school T-shirts for this year and incoming Kindergarteners (\$1,920)
 - (7) We have a request for support for Grade 7 trips. In previous years we have given \$1,200.
 - (8) Current bank account balance \$22,403.79 (doesn't include the outstanding invoices to Silverstar brewing, Shuswap Pies, or Boston Pizza).
- iii) Gaming account approx \$2,400 left that hasn't been earmarked for activities underway
- We have requests for:
- (a) \$115 to go to the Rugby club
 - (b) \$150 for the Indigenous outdoor workshop bussing
 - (c) \$240 to go to Osmo club
 - (d) Social skills club \$300- we need more information
 - (e) Chess club request - Hoping to use the monies from the Beirsto christmas spending night for this
 - (f) Referees for the Gr. 7 3-on-3 - looking at whether highschool kids could get their Careers volunteer hours this way
 - (g) Allan Brooks field trip for Kindergarten and the Cardiff Miller trip for the Grade 6s.

5) PAC Funding Requests: Discussion & Vote

- a) We propose \$5000 to go towards Outdoor Equipment from the General Account, which can be considered for carrying over should the next executive agree.
- b) We propose \$1,500 to go toward the Grade 7 trips from the General Account
- c) We propose \$ 1,920 for school shirts for Kindergarteners from the General Account. Action Item: Fall fair idea - spirit wear swap, bring in your outgrown Beirsto gear.
- d) Mandy proposes a vote for \$5000 to Outdoor Equipment, \$1,500 to Gr. 7 trips and \$1,920 to school shirts from the General Account; all in favour
- e) We propose \$1,500 to go into a hardship fund for field trips, \$115 for the Rugby club, \$150 for the Indigenous outdoor workshop bussing, \$240 for the Osmo club from the Gaming Account. Mandy proposes a vote, all are in favour.

6) Open Floor:

CPF - Kim Williams

-Bonhomme was here recently, he could also come for crepe day. He was at Seaton today for Karaoke.

-Went to the library last week and did our \$3,000 donation. Should purchase approx 175 French books. Dionne mentioned "Choose your own adventure" books.

-Concours d'art Oratoire. How are we doing? The kids are working hard. Do we have certificates, gifts etc for the Gr 6/7 finalists. More information available on the CPF website.

-Summer reading club- CPF buys prizes to encourage kids to keep reading in French over the summer.

-After school club - this was a program that was a lot of fun for the kids with games and reading. It died during Covid but CPF is looking at bringing it back.

Moira Manthorne-

-Syilx flag raising is May 1

-Year 2000 time capsule opening- June 5

- our two crossing guards (before and after school) have given their notice. If we know anyone that might be interested in an hour of work, go to Community Futures North Okanagan (<https://www.futuresbc.com>)

Next General Meeting: Tues, June 10 at 6:30 (AGM)

Meeting Adjourned: 8:17