

École Beirsto Elementary

Parent Advisory Council General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, Nov 29, 2023 at 6:30pm at Beirsto Elementary Library

Chairperson: Mandy Pretty (PAC President)

Attendees: Mandy (President), Shannon (Secretary), Chelsea (Fundraising), Sheridan (District PAC Rep), Moira Manthorne (School Principal), Karyn (Parent), Adrienne (PAC communication), Chloe (PAC Vice President), Karen (parent), Dionne (PAC Treasurer), Dawn (Parent), Kelli Sullivan (School Board Trustee)

Call to order: 6:30pm

- 1) **Welcome-** President's welcome and acknowledgement of what an honour and privilege it is to live and meet on the beautiful unceded traditional territory of the Syilx nation
- 2) **Attendance-** Roll call and introductions
- 3) **Adoption of Previous minutes-** Mandy moves, Chloe seconds, all in favor
- 4) **Adoption of Today's Agenda-** Mandy moves, Chloe seconds, all in favor
- 5) **Reports -**

a) Dionne - Treasurer's Report

- i) \$30 remaining from our \$12,140 gaming grant after allocations of \$12,110
- ii) Today's balance of \$7,211.61 in our General Bank account with total allocations of \$14,400 approved and income from hot lunch and fundraising coming in
- iii) Hot lunch income to date \approx \$834.55
- iv) Fundraiser income \approx \$4,450
(Purdy's, Zelaney's, Davisons, Vaz Art)

b) Chelsea - Fundraising Report

- i) Fundraisers Completed - Purdy's (\approx \$2,700 with bonus in the new year TBD), Zelaney's (\$700), Davisons (\$475.25), Vaz Art Calendars (\$567)

- ii) Upcoming Fundraisers- Holiday Shopping night at Teach and Learn, Cookie dough (Valentines Day), Shuswap Pies (April), Town Theater night, Flower Baskets (Mothers Day)

c) Sheridan - DPAC news

- i) Update from the restitution training that was offered, DPAC asking what parents want, Sheridan will report back to DPAC our recommendations
- ii) Dave MacKenzie - teachers association rep - discussed burnout for teachers and an increasing workload. Our PAC asked about parent/grandparent/community volunteers in schools.
- iii) BCCPAC training workshops for PACs - funded and provided by the District. Mandy suggested discussing this at the next executive meeting
- iv) Seeking a PAC member to sit on the French Immersion Committee. Chloe mentioned willingness if available
- v) Mandy asked about the District PAC funding our PAC's membership with BCCPAC

d) Mme Manthorne - Principal's report

- i) CBC was at school today recording ONIVA! in 2 Grade 6 classes. The game show will air in February;
- ii) Canadian Parents for French (CPF) is looking for help in their executive
- iii) Communications on student learning coming out in December
- iv) Parking lot - parents are asked not to park in the school parking lot during drop off and pick up times, working with District to get more targeted signs made up
- v) Feeding Futures funding, looking at putting a kitchen in the school as well as funding some of the garden spaces the school has in mind
- vi) Mme Baturin led the Beirsto Choir in a fantastic performance at the Kal Rotary Dream Auction as well as the Carnival of Lights. This is Mme Baturin's last year with us as she prepares for retirement at the end of the school year.
- vii) Beirsto School accepting cash and gift card donations due Dec 7 to support the Young Parents Program through NOYFSS.
- viii) We have a new school counselor, Michelle, as well as 3 new teachers in training and 2 new EAs in training

e) Mandy - President's Report

i) We are working hard on our goal to improve PAC communications. Huge thank you to Gregg and Chelsea for their hard work creating a new website and to Adrienne for her work on our newsletter.

f) Kelli Sullivan - School Board Trustee

i) climate of board meetings and continued efforts to communicate and inform amid concerns about SOGI in the curriculum and misinformation regarding SOGI

ii) Updated School Board policies and procedures being written

iii) Mental health programs in the schools

iv) District has a mentorship program for onboarding new teachers

v) There are now 2 student trustees from each school (High school)

vi) Superintendent report - new education: Gr 10 social studies: Holocaust

vii) Trustees on Tour - visiting schools in our district

6) **Open Floor**- Dawn asked a question regarding the Boards stance on devices in schools and classrooms and wondered if the district held a stance on the topic

7) **Next Meeting Date**: General Meeting, Wednesday March 6 at 6:30pm

8) **Thank you & Adjournment** - 8:02pm