

PHSS PAC, General Meeting
Wednesday, February 23rd, 2022, Via ZOOM

ATTENDANCE: Mark Heidebrecht, Anne Pino, Jodee Young, Mary MacKay, Tanis Zayshley, Melanie Ewen, Cherie Stone, Katrina Bishop, Paola Stewart, Samantha Haines

CALL TO ORDER: 6:33 PM

Additions to agenda

- Under New Business, Anne requested we add a DPAC update from Cherie.

It was **MOVED** by Mary MacKay to approve the minutes of the January 19th PAC general meeting.

SECOND - Jodee Young

CARRIED

Principal's Report

- Semester 2 has begun, and Term 3. First semester Report cards were distributed a few weeks ago. Over the next few weeks they'll be working on a time table for course selection for next year. Parent information Zoom was on February 16th. More meetings with Cathy Gordon are planned for the students over the next little while. The data collected will determine what courses and electives will happen.

- Water situation - got the green light from specialists. Two main filters were addressed. All material was replaced in one of them, to the tune of about \$6000. Can now safely drink the water. In the interim they had a water cooler, which was taken back to Noah's. The students liked Noah's water, though, so they got the cooler back and will continue with it. It's not that expensive, and it's for the kids' peace of mind.

- Junior band program - Garth Bowen got some African drums, with support from the Music LSA.

- Find Your Fit - last week, there as a careers presentation. It was for PHSS students, plus some from the Elementary school, and also from Kinnikinnick.

- Grad fundraising - had another successful bottle drive. Lots of bottles need to be taken to the recycle depot. Purdy's chocolate sale is in the works, online. They also might make picnic tables for the May Day weekend, to potentially earn up to \$3000. Mr. Hovanis is willing to work with the students to make these. Will talk about it at the next Grad meeting.

- Budget items - Bronze medalion swim program will continue after Spring Break. It has cost about \$2000. Some Seniors have been taking it too. Can the PAC help to support this

program? Also - The foods room needs a new fridge - can the PAC donate money toward this? Also - the yearbook costs have gone up. They need \$3500 this year. The school provides them for free for the students. Can the PAC help with this expense?

Questions: We'll go back to this after Linda Cordell's presentation.

Guest Speaker: Linda Cordell

Paola - Intro to Linda Cordell, guest speaker. She teaches classes through the community school.

Linda - Has lived on the coast for about five years. She was the manager of the credit union here, worked for Scotiabank across Canada as banker and financial planner. She's in her "inspirement" years.

She has been offering Financial classes at the Community School, and also in Sechelt. She has an independent financial consulting business as well. She is planning an open house on March 10th about preparing taxes and basic financing. It's good for young people too, who are starting out. She used to teach financial literacy at High School in Sechelt. Linda offers these classes for free, and the Community School charges for the space. She also offers pension and Service Canada help. There is no Services Canada office on the coast.

Linda also does volunteer taxes, which is for those under a certain tax bracket. All-in-all, she offers education about financial services so that people can carry on on their own.

Her contact is: linda@cordell2020.ca

Questions for Linda:

Anne - is the open house at the Community School?

Linda - Yes, it's to learn how to do taxes, with the Turbo-Tax program. Linda also teaches one-on-one. It's more of a drop-in situation, but registration is encouraged. Paola - give the Community School a call if you want to express an interest. Paola also suggests that if there's a group of parents interested in a particular day or time, they can try to set something up.

Guest Speaker: Ben Ellerton

Paola intro. Ben is a student at PHSS.

Ben - Would like to give back to the community, and that aligns with achieving the highest award in Scouting. He is organizing a Trunk Sale at the Legion parking lot on April 2nd, from 9am to 2pm. The Legion will be open for lunch. If you'd like to apply for a parking spot to sell your things, it costs \$10, and you should call to reserve the spot before March 29th. Sellers keep their own profits, and the Community School receives the proceeds from the space rentals. It keeps items out of land fills, it's an opportunity to exchange items, and

money goes back into the community. Please spread the word! It's for the sale of toys, clothing, books, equipment - anything from your kids.

Anne - the PAC could write something on their Facebook page and PHSS App. Ben has posters and flyers.

Questions re. Principal's Report

- Anne - What's going on with the emergency supply kit stuff?

Mark - Nick Westwick and Rob Collison visited all schools, and they're in the process of buying bins for all the schools. They said it would be done 'shortly'. Until we get a bin, we have water now. In terms of basics, Mark is considering working with the Leadership group to put some things together.

- Anne - Bronze medallion program. Mark - It has been running in term 2, and it's being extended in term 3. Grade 7, 8 and 9 students have the opportunity, and some seniors have expressed an interest. Mark believes the Permission slips went out, and they should be handed back in before spring break. It was requested that the form be made available on the App, because some kids haven't received the form.

Treasurer's Report by Jodee Young

No update - no new activity.

Community School Update by Patti Soos

- May Day - a May Queen has been selected and they've obtained permission to use the field, so it looks like May Day is a go.

School Trustee Update by Sam Haines

- Elections for 2022 are coming up in the Fall.

- Creating honorary dogwoods for elders that didn't graduate high school. They're working with the Sechelt Nation.

- Going to provincial council regarding gender equity. Mark: regarding the equity scan, the PHSS staff and other schools in the district have been working on it and are providing data. They're hoping the data will be helpful in finding a good direction for the school board. Sam: the equity scan will look at equity from every perspective.

Mary: Is Sam running again? Sam: Yes

Anne: Regarding the budget consultation, is there any money for food in schools for our hot lunch program? We're struggling to finance this. We've talked before about money coming from the district, is that still being talked about?

Sam: Food in Schools committee is still in the works, and hopefully in a year or two the program will be up and running. Right now it's still in the discussion phase. Any Covid supports that were happening will continue. Sam isn't sure about specifics, because she is

no longer on the operations committee due to other commitments. She will try to get hold of more information.

Old Business

- Additions to agenda - Mark already addressed the water and emergency supplies.

New Business

- There weren't enough donors for hot lunch for March. We're collecting for April, two lunches are covered so far. Some people have requested a letter they can pass on to their head office, could someone help write that up? Contact Anne.

- Maggie mentioned the grad parents might sponsor a hot lunch, and maybe the grads.

- Will there be a ceremony this year for grad?

Mark talked to Paul Bishop and schools across province are still waiting to hear about what will be possible. Right now our gym can have 50% capacity, which is great for Pender. There are no solid plans being made yet as they're waiting for direction about what's possible.

- Anne - are any field trips possible before the end of year?

Mark says it's possible. The seniors are planning to go to the Anthropology Museum in Vancouver. For a full school trip, though, we can't make that decision without further guidance.

- Anne - can the next PAC meeting be in person? Do we want to have it in person? Katrina says she likes the Zoom meetings because no one has to drive anywhere at night. Mark said he prefers being able to go home at a reasonable hour. Right now, the district is encouraged to continue with Zoom meetings. Chris may be back in April.

- Anne - are there plans for drop-in sports? Patti - the Community School just got the go-ahead for drop-in pickle ball. They were running drop-in hockey, so they could do that again if they get the okay to use the facilities. Mark says the facilities are opening up again.

- Mark - The school needs money for the swimming program, the yearbook and a new fridge for the foods room. Can the PAC help with these things? Jodee says we don't have enough money to cover all of it. Mark asked if the PAC could contribute a portion.

- Jodee said the PAC has \$4,822. We have to spend all of our gaming account, which is \$1500. \$1000 of that must go to last year's bursary and this year's bursary. Last year, the PAC contributed \$1080 to the yearbook. Jodee and Mark pointed out that we haven't been collecting any money for hot lunches so there's not much extra in the budget.

- Jodee - why doesn't the school district pay for the fridge? Mark said that Nick basically said that when you get the 'piece of the pie', it's up to the school to decide where it goes. PHSS budget went toward extra staffing, including supporting the band program.

- Mary - what kind of fridge do you need? Mark said there were two fridges in the foods room and now there's one, and it's not enough. It will probably cost about \$800. A fridge on top and freezer below would be the least expensive.

- Jodee: For the yearbook, we should decide now what to contribute so Mr. Jasch can make a budget. We could take \$500 out of the gaming account and \$500 from the regular account, for a \$1000 donation to the yearbook.
- For the Bronze Medallion program, Anne suggested that next year we could ask the parents of children participating to contribute a sum of perhaps \$30 or \$40.

It was **MOVED** by Mary MacKay that the PAC contribute \$1000 toward the budget for the yearbook, specifically \$500 from the gaming account and \$500 from the regular account.

SECOND - Patti Soos

CARRIED

Mary said she has a fridge that PHSS can have! Anne asked Mark if Mary could get a tax receipt for her donation.

DPAC Update by Cherie Stone

- The DPAC has a survey questionnaire with nine questions, and Cherie requested feedback from the PAC for answers.

- 1) What projects are being worked on? Our hot lunch program.
- 2) What are your longterm goals? Mark: Earthquake preparedness. Anne: Bronze medallion, Star and Cross program through the PHSS pool, as a regular part of the curriculum. Katrina: Changing the sign by the highway to an electronic sign. Mark said there's a legacy fund from each grad class - last year it went toward upgrading PE equipment. This year they bought the big picnic tables in front of the school. The money is there in trust. Melanie: The volleyball equipment really needs an upgrade. It's in very bad shape. Mark said the school should be doing that, and it's in the works.
- 3) How many people come to PAC meetings? 6 to 10
- 4) What helps with parent engagement? Tanis: sushi! Mary: Traditionally, in-person meetings have offered food.
- 5) In person or Zoom? Zoom
- 6) How does the PAC communicate with parents? The App and email. Mark says Chris is the only one that can update the App, and Anna can put things on the web site and they automatically go to the App. The PAC has a Facebook group.
- 7) What are the best fundraisers, and what would you not do again? Patti - the samosa fundraiser was successful. It was suggested we do that one again. The gift card fundraiser was not successful. Anne thought there just wasn't enough time, but Jodee wouldn't want to do it again.

8) What are the main challenges for our PAC? Getting parents to come to meetings and to help. It's been extra difficult with Covid.

9) What would we want added to the DPAC agenda? Anne - we need better lighting at the entry to the school. It's tricky at night while picking kids up from evening events. All busses now have cameras.

- They talked about a book written by Kim Barthel about recognizing and understanding trauma in children. There are ten available for the district. The meeting about this is on youtube.

- DPAC will be writing a letter to Bonnie Henry to ask for more clarification regarding Covid.

- March 7th - there will be a family engagement. Cherie will attend in person.

- Cherie will forward the minutes, which will have links included.

Next general meeting was set for Wednesday, April 6th, at 6:30pm.

ADJOURNED: 7:54 pm

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