

École Margaret Jenkins School

Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, Oct 22, 2020 (7pm, via Zoom)

1. Welcome and introductions (Suzanne)

- Roundtable discussion - silver linings from the pandemic

2. Parent Committees and Event Updates

○ Upcoming PAC events

i. Parent Education (Speaker series)

- **Nikki Lineham**, Supporting Math Learning, November 3rd at 7pm - register [here](#).
- **Kristin Yarker**, Nutritionist, January 12th at 7pm (Tariq) - Kristin will discuss healthy lunch and snack prep. Register [here](#).

○ Other PAC initiatives

- Class parents** (Heather) - we have class parents for every division. Time requirement for a class parent is very minimal. The main duty is to curate the class list. They also organize class gifts.
- Hot lunch** (Betty) - at the last meeting we decided that we would try to go ahead with a modified lunch program. Looking at options and will likely be unable to go ahead with it in 2020. Mr. Hansen confirmed that no other schools are doing a lunch program at this point.
- Safe & active travel to school** (Heather) - there were close to 1000 active trips to school over the week. Thanks to all students that participated, the parent volunteers, Carolyn Blum for the prize donations and Duttons for the grand prize. James to follow up with the winner of the grand prize to see if we can get a photo of her with her new bike. There will be another walk and wheel in May.
- Smile Card and Fairways fundraising** (Britta) - you can request a smile card from PAC and if you use the card to buy groceries Thrifty's will donate 5% to EMJS (up to \$2500). We have been using this fundraiser to get a projector for the gym.
- Grade 5 hoodies & grad activities** (Betty) - parents can order hoodies [here](#) and it is a fundraiser for grade 5 grad activities. Plan A is for kids to go to camp Thunderbird for the day. If that isn't possible, the committee is looking at other options. Looking for suggestions for legacy gifts - one suggestion is a tree for Trafalgar Park, including a plaque and a quote from Dr. Henry.
- Halloween decorations** (Suzanne) - a group of parents went into the school on Thursday after school and put up Halloween decorations (that are normally used for the Fall Dance) in high traffic zones. Decorations will be up until October 30th.

3. Budget update (Michaela & Tariq, 5 min)

- We received the gaming grant for \$9,000. These funds can be used for non-curricular and benefit everyone in the school (class trips, presentations, clubs).
- We included the school counsellor, librarian and music teacher in class allotments this year. We will include the dance and drama teacher in these allotments as well - Exec to

follow up.

- 2 significant losses to the library budget - due to a scaled down version of the Scholastic Book Fair this year and less funds from the TC book sale. PAC will be in touch with Ms. Maddern to see how we can support the library this year.

4. Teachers' update (Ashley Frketich, 10 min)

- Thank you for the additional class funds from the PAC and also for the purchase of the tents.
- The art cards are coming along - it is a school fundraiser for the Fine Arts Committee where all students make a card and parents can purchase them.
- PAC asked teachers for suggestions on where they would like to see funds spent: one is outdoor portable seating and one is floor stickers - they would benefit the whole school and are great for movement breaks.

5. Administration's update (James & Lindsay, 10 min)

- There are 454 students with 21 divisions - 11 French and 10 English.
- The district has now approved class walkabouts.
- Admin and staff are working on some way to have a Remembrance Day assembly.
- Fire and earthquake drills are being done by division because they cannot do the entire school at once.
- There is more outdoor space with the staggered break times.
- \$28,900 was received by Federal funds - going to build in sinks in 4 classrooms.
- Report cards will look different this year as there is less instructional time (ie. 30 minutes a day is spent washing hands).

6. New business and open Q & A

- Will Chess lessons happen this year? Ashley Frketich followed up with the instructor - he will not be providing lessons until the new year. We will check in with Mr. Churchill in January.
- Is there a way to include school spirit days? There should be some information about this coming shortly, as the Grade 5 Leadership committee is in the works (Lindsay Swan leading this).
- Can we do Christmas Hampers? Last year we did 5 hampers and worked with the school counsellor to identify families in EMJS that could use some support over the holiday season, we also worked to collect warm clothing for Our Place. Exec to discuss and provide an update at the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next meeting: November 26, 7pm on Zoom - register [here](#).

Followed by Jan 28, Feb 25, April 29, May 27

Need to contact the PAC Exec? Email Chair@emjspac.ca or Exec@emjspac.ca

EMJS PAC Website, Online Orders and Class Contact Lists: <https://emjs.hotlunches.net>

Newsletter subscription: <https://tinyurl.com/ycn4fxab> EMJS PAC on Twitter & Instagram: @emjs_pac

EMJS PAC Facebook group: [EMJS PAC](#)

School Website and Calendar: <https://margaretjenkins.sd61.bc.ca>