



**McGowan Park PAC
November 26, 2018
McGowan Park Elementary Library**

Called to order 6:45pm

In Attendance: Coralee Kwiatkowski, Christina Hamaguchi, June Blake, Tim Scallon, Nichole Rae, Sara Sundholm, Rebecca Warner, Cheryl Hawrychuk, Elicia Lee

Adoption of Previous Minutes: motioned by Nichole, seconded by Christina

Chair Report:

Constitution Meeting: We had our first meeting to update the PAC constitution. Made a good start, but have a ways to go. We will continue to work on it over the next little while

Carnival: Thank you to June Blake who had stepped up as Carnival Chair again this year! Still looking for people to volunteer their time to help with this year's Winter Carnival.

We are still needing someone to take over as PAC secretary. If anyone is interested in helping out once a month to take notes during the PAC meeting and turning them into the minutes, please contact Coralee.

Opinions: all opinions within the PAC are valued and we are to treat everyone with respect, regardless of whether we have differing opinions or not.

Principal's Report:

Thanks, everyone, for helping to raise over \$5000 at the Scholastic Book Fair! Over \$1500 comes directly back to the school for the purchase of library books! Your support was appreciated!

Upcoming Activities & Dates:

November 30 - 15 lucky students have been drawn to attend the Blazer's game with a parent to show McGowan school support!

December 6 - Winter Concert – primary students perform @ 6pm “The Great Northern Candy Drop”

December 7 - Recognition Assembly at 1:00 pm

Help!

Lunch Time Clubs – we are still seeking parent volunteers for interesting club activities at lunch time. Do you have an interest or skill you could share with kids?

School News!

* students in Mrs Hindle's grade 5/6 class are participating in the Junior Dragon's Den competition – adjudication happens December 11 – stay tuned!

* Chickens in the house! Mrs Underwood's class has a Farm to Table grant in process and they will soon be participating in an educational chicken project. Cluck cluck will be happening in the atrium for all to view!

* Snack Shack – will soon start up with icy treats available for purchase once or twice per month from January to June

* ALL of our volleyball teams are competing in the finals this week at Brock Middle School! Way to go McGowan students!

* students in grades 1 – 7 will be participating in a special odeon cineplex showing of 'The Grinch' as a school wide event on December 17th. The K's will also be having a special day...shhh...stay tuned!

C. Wickes, Principal

Treasurer's Report:

(Prepared by Christina Hamaguchi and reviewed by Nichole Rae)

PAC funds are held in two bank accounts – “General” and “Gaming”.

General Account

During the period from November 3 to 25:

- Transactions included only an activity fee of 13.73 and a deposit of \$25 (direct donation).
- Two new cheques have been written (One-to-One reading \$50, office expenses \$13) but have not yet cleared the bank.
- The Adjusted Closing Balance (once all cheques clear) stands at \$32,311.
- School Improvement Commitments totaling \$2,650 were approved at last meeting (One-to-One Reading Program, Come Read With Me, Eureka! Science Workshops, Cariboo Mainline Regional Science Fair, Fur Trade Education Program, Sahali Graduating Student Scholarship, and Teacher Appreciation Luncheon). The unpaid (outstanding) portion is now \$2,600.
- The Playground Reserve (General portion) stands at \$23,470 after being increased by \$4,500 at the previous PAC meeting, and a Winter Carnival Reserve of \$5,000 was established at last meeting, leaving Unrestricted Funds at \$1,241.

Gaming Account

Gaming account funds are received through a grant from the provincial Gaming Branch and must be used to enhance student extracurricular opportunities.

Amendment to previous report: Through an oversight, Gaming Account transactions for Nov. 1-3 (net credit: \$0.85) were not recorded in the report presented Nov 5. The reporting period end date for the Gaming account has thus been changed from Nov 3 to Oct 31 in the previous report. Gaming account transactions for Nov 1-3 are included in the current Financial Report.

During the period from November 1 to 25:

- Deposit interest received exceeded bank fees (\$5.35 vs. \$4.50).
- A cheque for Primary Gymnastics has been written (\$448) but has not cleared the bank.
- The Adjusted Closing Balance (once all cheques clear) stands at \$17,918.
- Student Extracurricular Commitments totalling \$5,250 were approved at last meeting (Primary gymnastics, Intermediate field trips, Skating (transportation), Parloff ribbons, Grade 7 Send-off celebration). The unpaid (outstanding) portion is now \$4,802.
- The Playground Reserve (Gaming portion) was increased by \$5,000 to \$12,500 at the last PAC meeting, leaving Unrestricted Funds at \$616.

Reserves

Between the two accounts, the Playground Reserve now stands at \$35,970. There is a \$5,000 reserve for Winter Carnival expenses.

The current PAC financial summary, including a detailed list of PAC financial commitments, year to date spending, and fundraising program costs & revenues, is posted in the PAC News section of the school website (PAC_FinancialRpt_20181126).

D-PAC Report:

Christina attended this month's D-PAC meeting. The BCCPAC had a presentation about healthy and safe learning. There was discussion about how the Ministry of Education expects districts to spend the funds allocated to them and how the districts tend to save money as a buffer – in case of emergencies.

D-PAC is still offering Food Safe. There are two seats available. Please contact Coralee if you are interested in attending.

The next D-PAC meeting is January 15th at 7:00. This meeting will discuss Hot Lunch Programs.

Volunteers:

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the many things PAC supports within our school community. Volunteering doesn't have to be an ongoing commitment. With that, the PAC understands that people are busy and will adjust the activities we plan accordingly so as not to put a strain on anyone who does volunteer their time to help.

We discussed the idea of having grandparents help out within the school for things like the One to One reading program. We will also seek guidance from D-PAC as to how to encourage our McGowan Park families to volunteer when they can.

Playground Report & Fundraising:

-\$66,548.37 is the cost of the new playground equipment (we may be able to take away \$3,000 from that as the school district gets a tax break and we have to have them place the order). This includes the cost of a supervised install that is required by our school district grounds crew – which makes sense for liability reasons.

- \$26,737 (before taxes – which should only be 5% GST = \$1,336.85 to total \$28,073.85 approx) is the cost for ground cover for all three play spaces – which we are required to replace. This includes shipping and landscaping fabric. We, the parents, will have to install the EWF ourselves for this price. If someone has access to a small digger, Steve from Habitat says it works really well and cuts the time immensely.

- Inclusive panels to replace and add to our current playground : We are installing three new panels to our Adventure Playground to update and make it more inclusive for all our children:

Colour Splash Panel - #177712 - \$3,715 + shipping, taxes & install.

Gear Panel - #117146 - \$2,366 + shipping, taxes & install.

Super Scoop - #123831 - \$1,305 + shipping, taxes & install. (This is going to be installed in our sandbox)

Accessible Super Scoop - #123832 - \$1,241 + shipping, taxes & install. (This is going to be installed in our sandbox)

Our Adventure Playground doesn't have enough space to add any new equipment to it (aside from the panels and diggers for the sandbox) as it doesn't conform to today's safety standards – thankfully because it was built before the change in regulations, it's been grandfathered in the way it is.

We have had some grandparents comment on the lack of benches to sit on while waiting to pick up kids and a few have said they'd donate to pay for the cost of one or two to be placed. Something to discuss with Habitat and the districts head of grounds as to where they could be placed.

We have decided to put a hold on any further fundraising ideas until we have confirmation from the school district about possible grant money. Once we know the application process and how much we can apply for, we will revisit the different fundraising options.

We are planning on putting out a newsletter to give to our McGowan families with FAQ's on the playground and our progress to date. Our thoughts were to publish it monthly, but there was concern about the frequency being too often and was suggested that we try every other month. More to come soon!

Winter Carnival:

Winter Carnival 2019 Chairperson June Blake

- McGowan Winter Carnival 2019 date set for Friday, February 22nd
- Attendance and contact info sheet sent around for those in attendance for Carnival. Thank you to those who stepped up including Tim Scallon, the new Co-chair for Carnival
- June to update list of Team Leaders and identify positions still needed to be emailed out to parents
- New ideas for Gym Games were discussed as follows: Dunk Tank, Pie Face, Horizontal Bungee, Sumo Suits & Mechanical Bull
- Raffle Basket themes confirmation date was established as January 14th. It was determined that there will be 19 Raffle Baskets. New this year, the Carnival will need a Gaming Licence for the Raffle Baskets. This will involve collecting the value of each item in the basket.
- Teachers' requests were discussed and will be taken to first Carnival Crew meeting: first to personally ask teachers before volunteer list goes online what stations they wish to volunteer for, and also, it was suggested a photo be taken of each classroom used prior to event set-up to ensure classroom is reassembled as before

Date of first Carnival Crew meeting was set to Tuesday, January 8th @ 6:30 at the school

Next PAC Meeting: Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:45