



**McGowan Park PAC
November 5, 2018
McGowan Park Elementary Library**

Called to order 6:45pm

In Attendance: Coralee Kwiatkowski, Christina Hamaguchi, Rob Mazzelli, Jessica Sutherland, Sara Sundholm, Joanna Clark, Cori Wickes, Jo McKenna

Adoption of Previous Minutes: motioned by Coralee, seconded by Joanna

Chair Report:

- Still needing replacement for secretary and a D-PAC rep. We also are wanting more bodies to attend PAC meetings! You will see what the PAC does and how decisions are made – we want your input in the decisions we make!
- Constitution: Nichole, Sara, Joanna and Coralee will meet to start updating the PAC Constitution to reflect our current goals. Meeting tentatively set for Wednesday, November 14th.
- D-PAC: While we still need a rep for D-PAC meetings, Christina Hamaguchi will attend the next meeting on November 20th.
- Please remember to run letters being distributed to the school family as well as any event dates etc through 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:

Term1 is flying by! It has been a busy two months!
We are still solidly hovering around 438 students!

Upcoming Activities & Dates:

November 9th - Remembrance Day Assembly at 9:00 am

November 23rd - 'Positive Rebel Assembly' with speaker Michael Bortolotto

November 30th - Blazers game - 14 tickets in a draw

December 6th - Winter Concert – primary students perform @ 6pm

December 7th - Recognition Assembly @ 1:00 pm

Please remember that families are invited to all activities put on by the school!

School Funding Considerations for 2018 – 2019:

The school staff supports the playground funding consideration as we are struggling to have enough places for students to play.

Reports are coming home on November 29 this year. Prior to that date you should have had an opportunity to meet with or talk to your child's teacher if you have any concerns or questions about his/her program. Please don't hesitate to make an appointment to talk to me or your child's teacher at any time.

Thanks! I look forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Treasurer's Report:

(Prepared by Nichole Rae; delivered by Christina Hamaguchi)

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

General Account

During the period from September 28 to November 2:

- The Halloween Dance generated a net profit of \$345 (revenue \$755, expenses \$410).
- Direct Donations totalling \$5,240 were received, bringing total Direct Donations received for the year to \$5,695. Of this total, \$1,470 was sent in by families who donated more than the suggested \$25/student. This \$1,470 has been added to the Playground Reserve.
- Aside from Halloween Dance costs, other expenses clearing the bank included several cheques reported as outstanding at last meeting (total \$850) and posts for the new sign installed by the playground (\$36).
- With interest rates on the rise, deposit interest received was substantially higher than banking fees (\$56.68 vs. \$3.62).
- The closing balance now stands at \$32,362, with no outstanding cheques.
- The 2018/19 School Year Reserve has been released for use during the current year.
- The Playground Reserve stands at \$18,970, leaving Unrestricted Funds at \$13,393.

Gaming Account

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

During the period from September 28 to November 2:

- The Provincial Gaming Grant (\$10,032) was received.
- New cheques were purchased for the Gaming Account (\$156).
- Bank fees exceeded deposit interest received (\$4.50 vs. \$2.17).
- The closing balance now stands at \$18,365, with no outstanding cheques.
- The Playground Reserve remains at \$7,500, leaving Unrestricted Funds at \$10,865.

Reserves

Between the two accounts, the Playground Reserve now stands at \$26,470, of which \$1,470 was added during the current school year. There are no other reserves in place at the current time; however, the Treasurer recommends establishing a Winter Carnival reserve of \$5,000 from the General Account to ensure adequate funds are available to organize floats, etc. for the carnival.

The Treasurer extends thanks to Christina Hamaguchi, who was a huge help in preparing the financial statements this month. PAC financial for the period from Sept. 28 to Nov. 2, 2018, (PAC_FinancialRpt_20181102) are posted in the PAC News section of the school website.

Funding Decisions:

Declined Requests:

- Classroom discretionary - \$3,000 – this is for this school year only. This fund will be reconsidered for the 2019/2020 school year. Motioned by Sara, seconded by Joanna. All attendees in favour.

- Spring Production - \$500 – this is for this school year only. This fund will be reconsidered for the 2019/2020 school year. Funds will come from a different source within the school. Motioned by Coralee, seconded by Jessica. All attendees in favour.
- Art Club - \$300 – this is for this school year only. This fund will be reconsidered for the 2019/2020 school year. Funds will come from a different source within the school. Motioned by Christina, seconded by Rob
- Battle of the Books - \$300 – this is for this school year only. This fund will be reconsidered for the 2019/2020 school year. Funds will come from a different source this year.

Please note, these requests were declined to be able to allocate funds, raised through the PAC, to the building of the playground as it is of utmost importance at this time.

Approved Requests:

- One to One Reading - \$300
- Come Read With Me - \$300
- Eureka! Science Workshops - \$800
- Sahali Graduating Student Scholarship - \$500
- Fur Trade Education (Gr. 4) - \$500
- Cariboo ML Reg. Science Fair - \$200
- Teachers Appreciation Luncheon - \$50
- Primary Gymnastics - \$2,000
- Intermediate Field Trips - \$1,800
- Skating (transportation) - \$1,000
- Parloff Ribbons - \$250
- Grade 7 Send Off Celebration - \$200
- Winter Carnival Reserve - \$5,000
- Playground Reserve - \$9,500 (\$4,500 from General, \$5,000 from Gaming)

All of the above were Motioned by Coralee, seconded by Sara. All attendees were in favour.

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)
- We are just deciding on the third panel – we want to be sure to choose one that will withstand the test of time.
- 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 had a great discussion about the need for a major fundraiser this school year, in addition to the direct donation drive. We currently (as of this meeting's funding decisions) have almost \$36,000 saved in reserve for the playground (yay McGowan families for doing such an amazing job donating!) but we need around \$105,000 (firmer totals to be announced at the next PAC meeting) to reach our goal. While the playground is exciting and fun, it's also a necessity for the safety of our children. With 438 students – and more to enroll in the coming years – we have run out of space for them to play safely during recess and lunch times.
- We are contemplating a Question and Answer forum/or FAQ handout so our McGowan families know why we are going to such lengths – and spending such large sums of money – to have this playground installed as soon as possible.

Next PAC Meeting: Monday, November 26th at 6:45