

GEPAC Meeting Minutes – Thursday, January 18, 2024

Attendees:

Brandy Pacheco
Chelsea Hadland
Sarah Estabrooks
Valerie Townsend
Kirsten Mazur
Darcie Kelm
Caitlin McIntosh
Elisha Clark

1. Meeting called to order @ 4:05pm
2. Minutes from last meeting – sent via email and Facebook
 - Change to Treasurer’s Report – Poinsettia Deposit of \$21,030 should be Progressive Gift Card Deposit
 - Motion adopted by Sarah E. and seconded by Val
3. Treasurer’s Report - Valerie Townsend
 - Opening Balance 12,461.05 Closing Balance \$12,461.05
 - Two cheques to deposit - \$900 from Grindrod Rec from the Pancake Breakfast and \$138 from SD22. \$120 in cash will be deposited from popcorn. Cheque will be made to Elisha for hot lunch.
 - Gaming Account – \$2377.03 however we are still not linked.
 - Banking Info: Fee will be refunded; second signature to link the accounts online. Chelsea will go.
 - No omissions or errors
 - Motion adopted by Brandy seconded by Sarah
4. Principal’s Report – Kirsten Mazur
 - Safety Drills
 - Hold and Secure Drill with staff – This means there is a threat in the community (police presence, criminal at large). Kids are not allowed out during recess or lunch and parents have to contact school to be let in. Blinds are drawn and outside doors locked. Business as usual inside.
 - Lockdown – February 9th – Can sometimes be scary for little ones but conversations are had with them ahead of time. Interior and exterior doors are locked. Students are taught to take direction from teacher, lights are turned off, students stay in an area away from windows. If it’s nice out, the lockdown will follow up with an evacuation to the church. If students have cell phones, they are advised to put their phones on silent mode but to keep them with them.
 - Shelter in Place – Examples could be: the bridge could be out, storm, power is out, parents can’t get to the school. The school just keeps the students in the school but doors remain unlocked.
 - Indigenous Pro-D Day – January 29th
 - Every school is having a virtual session in the morning with Joe Korona to talk about the past and there will be an activity in the afternoon with an elder.
 - Kindergarten Enrollment
 - 16 as of yesterday with more to potentially come. 13 grade 7s will be leaving so Grindrod will potentially have more students next year. There could be some Grade 6’s who will be heading to A.L. Fortune early as well.
 - Ready Set Learn – March 8th
 - For ages 3-5 in every community and you can go to any session in the district. Allison DeBoer, who is the District Vice Principal for Early Learning and Child Care, will run a session in Grindrod on Friday, March 8th from 1-2pm. It is a great opportunity for the school to see who will be here next year and what kind of supports the school might need.
 - Reconfiguration Discussions – SD83
 - School configurations in different communities in SD83 are all over the place – there is no cohesive plan. They know the two transition years are not good for kids based on research over the years. The plan in

the past has been reactive based on space but the current board really wants to find out what is best for students.

- Sessions and discussions will begin soon and parents will have an opportunity to express opinions
- This will not affect kids this fall but the timeline could change configurations for the following year.
- Different ideas
 - K-7 and 8-12
 - K-6, 7-12
 - K-6, 7-9, 10-12
- Ministry of Education is willing to put money towards this in order to rewrite catchment areas and build and renovate schools.
- Basketball
 - Practices started last week with Justine with away games beginning next week for Grade 6 & 7
- Unplug & Play
 - Begins on Saturday within communities and the school.
 - Students have been given passports to fill out and return when completed.
- Family Affordability Fund
 - Families who struggle with school fees, transportation, or food were supported last year with gift cards however the district does not want to use gift cards any more so we need to come up with a different way to support families. The school is receptive to ideas.
- Santa's Anonymous
 - Gave the school \$2000. Sheila went to accept the cheque since she is so involved with Santa's Anonymous.
 - We don't need funding for food this year since there are so many district initiatives so the staff is considering putting it towards P.E. equipment.
- Runaway Moon Theater
 - Students will be making a lantern and they will be presenting them in Enderby in on February 18th. Students will be taught about the lantern and what they mean.
- Art Fair
 - Coming soon! Representative students from Grades 4-6 will go to it with Kirsten
- Playground
 - Slide will be replaced as it is broken – this is about a \$10,000 fix!
- Strategic Priorities & Goals for 2023 – 2028 for the School District
 - Big focus on social emotional learning and career planning.

5. Old Business

- Playground Update
 - Zipline and monkey bars are the oldest equipment that can be potentially replaced.
- Popcorn Machine
 - Label will be made to recognize the donation by the Verbeek family.
 - We could use a trolley as the popcorn machine is quite big and then we can store it under the stairs. Uline has one for \$180 or Ikea had one for \$130-ish. We will also need to get more popcorn and bags.

6. New Business

- DPAC Rep
 - We have been asked to have a representative attend the meetings through Zoom – January 24th, February 28th, April 24th, and May 22nd 7 – 8:30pm
 - Can be a bit more political in conversations.
 - Idea to send one member each month since we are having a difficult time to find one representative.

7. Events

- Banana Split Day Tomorrow
 - We have enough volunteers and will do an assembly line and deliver to students. We will start delivering to younger students at 1:30.
 - We have French Vanilla and Sorbet. Chocolate and sprinkles will go to everyone – let's keep it easy.
- Hot Lunch
 - Made about \$100 at hot dog day
 - Elisha has recommended a spaghetti day to use some of the food donations we have in the freezer.
 - Date – February 23rd for Spaghetti Day. This will be a fundraiser so \$5.00
 - Something to consider for future orders – Microsoft Forms idea with e-transfers
- Popcorn Day

- We could get some shaker seasonings. Goal to do a PAC event every month? Next Popcorn Day – March 15th

8. Fundraisers

- Popcorn Day – March 15th
- Fun Fair
 - Bounce House – unanimous vote for yes. We will need solid, strict adult supervision. Will maybe cost around \$500 including delivery.
- West Coast Seeds – up and running.
- Mayfair – Tonya used to do up the order forms but we don't have a copy of the spreadsheet. Update – found a picture of it on Facebook. Caitlin will do up an order form and confirm with Mayfair.
- Laura's Pies – Jessica Washtock
 - Will be picked up on April 11th so order forms will be sent out before Spring Break with order in before March 29th. No peach this year.
- Raffle
 - Chelsea needs to write up a letter asking for donations.
 - Rancho Vignola Basket – approx. \$110 value

9. Budget Request Update

Class Materials & Supplies	\$800 Classroom (PAID)
Grade 7 Hoodies	\$300 (PAID)
Teachers Requests	\$234.10 Division 4 and 5 for Cookie Sheets (PAID)
Swimming	\$1000 Approved
Rec Program Bussing	\$2000 Approved – Gaming Account
Library Funding	\$1000 Approved
Picnic Tables & Installation	Tabled until the spring
Learning Circle	Tabled until the spring

10. Action Items

- Sarah – Thank You Cards – Grindrod Rec Association and Farmer John's; Sarah will look into Popcorn trolley, bags, and seasonings
- Kirsten – Thank you Cards
- Elisha – Spaghetti Day
- Chelsea – Second signature at BMO; newsletter; raffle letter; update contacts with Darcie's info
- Kaitlin – Mayfair forms

11. Next Meeting: Thursday, February 15th 4:00pm

12. Meeting Adjourned @ 5:30pm.