

ECOLE ROSS ROAD SCHOOL

2015/2016

PAC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Feb 24, 2016 - Library

PLEASE NOTE: These minutes are "Unapproved"

Here's why: As we move with technology and the new pace of life, we are making changes to how and when information is shared with our parent population. Ross Road PAC now has fewer General Meetings over school year than we had in the past, and we are communicating much more via internet and email. Moving forward, we will post minutes from General Meetings on our website BEFORE THEY HAVE BEEN APPROVED AND ACCEPTED at a General Meeting. Therefore, these minutes are NOT the final version and some content may change during the next PAC General Meeting.

<b>Attending</b>	Janice Sardari	Tamrah Corben
	Caroline Clarke	Christie Lutz
	Jen Nutall	Joulia May
	Mike Pretorius	
<b>Regrets</b>	Cheryl Schreader	Greg Thorpe
	Bettina Harris	Caroline Leonard
		Colette Anderson

**Administration attending:** Susan Owens and Carla Orr

**Guests:** Cyndi Gerlach, Liz Bell, Heather Skuse

**Number of non-executive members in attendance:** 26

## Agenda

Approval of Minutes from GM, 21 October, 2015

Argyle update

BrainSTEM presentation

Igirl and Iguy presentation

Principal's Update

PAC updates

Upcoming Opportunities

**Meeting called to order 7:05 pm.**

Agenda Items	Notes
Approval of GM Minutes	Approved by Janice Sardari and Lene Burgman
Argyle Rebuild Update	<p><b>Liz Bell</b> - Principal of Argyle Secondary</p> <p>From start to finish rebuild takes approximately 4 years from receiving the go ahead to the time the new school is ready.</p> <p>A rebuild is less invasive than a seismic upgrade.</p> <p>There are a few issues outstanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Need agreement from government</b> that they will rebuild. The province have not yet signed off on the <b>project agreement</b>.</li><li>• The province agreed to a seismic upgrade. <b>The district needs to find the cost differential for a rebuild.</b></li><li>• <b>The district is still short by 2.4 million</b> for all the elements required in the rebuild. These include capacity for an additional 100 seats.</li><li>• The school board would like to have a <b>performance space</b> that would also support community involvement.</li><li>• The school board would also like to have a</li></ul>

	<p><b>multi-use recreational centre</b> that could be used by the school and the community. These cannot be included without the 2.4 million</p> <p>The project agreement is contingent on the district getting the funds now as the project agreement will be based on a specific amount. Which will be inadequate if much more time passes.</p> <p>Ideally the district will <b>negotiate an agreement with the province</b> that could have scope to allow the district to find the funds.</p> <p>The school board is looking to raise funds. Generating revenue from other sources. Possibly private support. Possibly corporate sponsorship.</p> <p>Parents will likely be asked to support fundraising for what goes inside the building as funding for that is very limited.</p> <p><b>What Parents can do:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write letters to the Ministry and ask them to sign off on the project agreements.</li> <li>• Talk to council.</li> <li>• Talk to the three NV MLAs.</li> </ul> <p>Handsworth is also due for a rebuild and there will be financial issues which could impact the Argyle situation.</p> <p>Turf fields are a joint agreement and there is nothing in place yet.</p> <p>Joint agreements are being looked at to facilitate joint use.</p> <p>This is an opportunity for the family of schools to work together.</p> <p>There has been a lot of delay and frustration.</p> <p><b>Heather Skuse</b> - Chair of Argyle PAC</p> <p>We need help from the elementary school PACs to put pressure on the province.</p> <p>The school building has become hazardous.</p>
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	<p>Ideally the school would be built for 1400 as Lynn Valley is becoming more populated.</p> <p>The province funds schools based on the number of seats and students not based on where people actually live in the district.</p> <p>Ideally Argyle needs two fields turf fields.</p> <p>Argyle's PAC has decided to put the pressure on to get the school that is really needed.</p> <p><b>Argyle's PAC is asking for 2 or 3 parents who would work with Argyle and help to facilitate communication which is key.</b></p> <p>PAC thinks 2.4 million is the bare minimum required</p> <p>Public pressure is needed</p> <p><b>Gillian McCormack</b> - An Argyle and Ross Road Parent has offered to step in as liaison.</p> <p>Need a core group of parents from each elementary school in the Argyle family of schools.</p> <p>The longer this takes the greater the budget required.</p> <p>There was an expectation that the Braemar land would sell so there was not an additional plan in place to raise the funds.</p> <p>Concern that political expediency will delay the agreement being signed given the election is looming.</p>
<b>BrainSTEM</b>	<p><b>Sarah Baldwin</b></p> <p>Possible initiative for the school in the wake of the call out from the last GM. This is a new company that is expanding. 4-14 year-old children.</p> <p>To foster creativity and confidence in the context of the engineering design process.</p> <p>Children work in teams.</p>

	<p><b>STEM stands for:</b></p> <p>Science</p> <p>Technology</p> <p>Engineering</p> <p>Mathematic</p> <p><b>4-6 year old program:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 programs</li> <li>• 6 weeks for one hour</li> <li>• Max 12 children</li> </ul> <p><b>7-14 year old program:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 programs</li> <li>• 6 week programs 1 ½ hours</li> <li>• Max 24 children</li> </ul> <p><b>Methodology:</b> Give the children 20% theory and the rest is experimentation</p> <p>Opportunity for the children to learn and experiment with different concepts such as speed, velocity, gravity...</p> <p>Program can be accessed outside school.</p>
<b>Igirl and Iguy</b>	<p><b>Ashley MackIntosh</b></p> <p>Works with Saleema Noon</p> <p><b>Igirl</b> workshop that has been around for 17 years.</p> <p><b>Iguy</b> was started 2 years ago.</p> <p>30 girls or boys per session.</p> <p>Skills building - games, metaphors, role-play.</p> <p>Discuss issues related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Body image,</li> <li>• Self-esteem</li> <li>• Healthy friendships</li> <li>• Assertiveness</li> <li>• Non-violent communication and technology</li> </ul>

	<p><b>*</b></p> <p>The program challenges gender stereotypes and empowers children to be themselves by stepping away from gender expectations.</p> <p>They examine challenges such as negative self-talk.</p> <p><b>Ages 9-12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefer to deliver the program in school hours so all children can participate.</li> <li>• Complimentary to Safeteen.</li> <li>• Usually done as a full day workshop or two half day sessions.</li> </ul>
<b>Principal's Update</b>	<p><b>Carla Orr</b></p> <p><b>Parent evening</b> Wednesday April 6, 7-8:30</p> <p>Family of schools event at Argyle.</p> <p>Preview of the <b>new curriculum</b></p> <p><b>School Plan</b> There are changes to the template. Focus on process now. The staff have been discussing the core values that underpin the plan.</p> <p><b>Play First</b> Started at the beginning of February. At the end of April the administration will assess whether to continue with it or not.</p> <p><b>Crosswalk Safety</b> A number of issues at the crosswalks by the school.</p> <p>Carla Orr reminded parents that they can call By-law and the RCMP. Safe group advocates are addressing this in NV. Maybe we can connect with them?</p>
<b>PAC Updates</b>	<p><b>Christmas Craft Fair</b> Thanks to Jodi Labriola for organising the event in such a short time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$7700 raised in total</li> <li>• \$500 from the tree sales</li> <li>• \$5200 ticket sales</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3300 Raffle baskets</li> </ul> <p><b>Munchalunch</b> \$11000 raised Sept 2015 -Feb 2016</p> <p><b>Parent Party</b> At Toby's on March 5. Tickets still available \$30</p> <p><b>School Performances</b> April 4 - Tillers Folly performing - Celtic Band</p> <p>May 30 - Access theatre presents <i>Raven Meets the Monkey King</i></p> <p><b>KM Club</b> 5-6 week program 3 times a week for all grades.  Dates TBC. Possibly April 4-May 13.</p> <p>Popular event with the children that encourages fitness and community spirit.</p> <p>PAC is donating a little more as costs have increased. Now donating \$700 (previously \$500).</p> <p>There is no supervision so parents need to stay.</p> <p><b>Bike to School Week</b> Jackie Hicks is overseeing.</p> <p>May 30-June 3 - tentative dates</p> <p>There will be a bike safety program.</p>
<b>Upcoming Opportunities</b>	<p>Need a <b>coordinator</b> for the Spring Carnival.</p> <p>There are lots of people to support the coordinator. If we don't have anyone by March 7<sup>th</sup> then we cannot run the Carniva.l</p> <p><b>Opportunities for September 2016:</b>  <b>PAC Secretary</b>  Need to attend all meetings and send out the minutes.</p> <p><b>PAC Treasurer</b></p>

3-5 hours a month  
Ideally someone with an accounting background  
See Tamrah Corben for details

#### **Communications**

Once a week send out the PAC email

#### **Emergency Preparedness Team**

We need to restock the emergency bin at the back of the field.

Christie Lutz asking for volunteers to help organize on **Sunday 10 April**

But we need long term volunteers to ensure the grab and go classroom bags are stocked, to update response procedures, and liaise with the PAC.

#### **School Directory**

Need someone to take on this project. The previous files are available.

#### **New Volunteer Vision**

The PAC is proposing a rotation of annual volunteer events and projects.

This structure has been suggested to help prevent volunteer burnout and facilitate more interaction between English and French parents. We are suggesting that each grade be responsible for a couple of things. Class reps are not expected to coordinate but simply communicate with their grade. Parents are invited to give input. Send email to Tamrah Corben, **corbenst@telus.net**.

Suggestion made that the PAC needs to let parents know more about where the money goes which might encourage greater participation.

Example of volunteer assignments:

- **Grade 1** - Welcome back coffee
- **Grade 2** - Spring Carnival
- **Grade 3** - Emergency Preparedness
- **Grade 4** - Christmas Craft Fair
- **Grade 5** - KM Club and Greening/Environment committee
- **Grade 6** - **Grade 7** graduation and valet

	<p><b>Fundraising Initiatives:</b></p> <p><b><i>Two Rivers Meats</i></b></p> <p>Suggested by Christie Lutz.</p> <p>Order a meat pack – local meats, naturally raised, non-medicated.</p> <p>PAC gets 15% of any order.</p> <p>PAC will launch shortly.</p> <p>Two weeks to submit order and then collect order in North Vancouver.</p> <p><b><i>Kids World</i></b></p> <p>Community event – they provide a calendar of events for families throughout the summer.</p> <p>\$50 membership and access to 50 free events plus discounts</p> <p>PAC gets \$5 per membership and will launch in April.</p> <p><b>North Vancouver School Board District Budget</b></p> <p>The NSVB is seeking parent input about how the funds that the district receives are allocated.</p> <p><b>Jessica Stanley</b> – school trustee and Ross Road parent is encouraging all parents to respond by <b>Friday March 4.</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.northvanpac.org">http://www.northvanpac.org</a></p> <p>She notes that it is hard for trustees to advocate for parents if there is little feedback.</p> <p>Possible issues to address in feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom materials</li> <li>• LAC time</li> <li>• Assessments</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Books</li> </ul>
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**Meeting adjourned: 9:17**