

École Qayqayt Elementary PAC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 13, 2023
Location: Qayqayt library & virtually via Zoom

2023/2024 Executive

Chair	JC Valeros	Secretary	Laura Kwong
Vice Chair	Theresa Lomas	Treasurer	Shawn Sorensen
DPAC Rep	Melody Gibson	CPF Rep	<i>Vacant</i>
Members at Large	Charlotte Viau, Daniela Laurent, Grace Steyn, Ashlee Reid	Regrets	Melody Gibson, Melody Lui, Ashlee Reid

Invited Guest Attendees

Principal	Suzanne Cameron	Vice Principal	Carly Eirikson
Community Schools	Rick Boudell	SD40 Trustee Rep	Danielle Connelly

Call to Order and Welcome | JC Valeros

- Meeting called to order at 7:05
 - Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement
 - Introductions round table with all present (PAC, guests, parents & caregivers)
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Approval of Minutes and Agenda | JC Valeros

- Agenda MOVED JC SECONDED Laura, CARRIED.
 - Minutes of June 21 2023 MOVED JC SECONDED Laura, CARRIED.
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School District Liaison Report | Trustee Connelly

Regarding the request for a review of the kindergarten gradual entry process and schedule: It's my understanding it is with senior staff now and that there should be an update forthcoming.

The Fuel Up program has a new provider and will begin deliveries on the 19. More info here <https://newwestschools.ca/fuel-up-lunches-new-provider-same-great-program/>

The programs of choice review (consultant led review of Montessori and french immersion programs) will be reported out either this month or next.

Community Schools Report | Rick Bloudell

- Good evening everyone, I apologize I can't be in attendance this evening. I would like to share that the applications for fall programs have opened. I have included the program flier with this update. The cut-off for applying for the draw for after school programs is Monday, September 18 th at 11:30pm.
 - We are extremely grateful to Mme. Cameron for freeing up the gym for additional programming.
 - Our Fuel Up! lunch service will begin on Tuesday, September 19th. Please register and order for your child at <https://order.lunchlady.ca/> . If you have questions, you can email fuelup@sd40.bc.ca or myself at rbloudell@sd40.bc.ca. To contact The Lunch Lady directly, you can email them at new.westminster@thelunchlady.ca.
 - Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding after school programs or the Fuel Up! lunch program. Thank you, Rick Bloudell
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Principal & Vice-Principal Report | Suzanne Cameron & Carly Eirikson

- Sept 20th is "Open house", i.e. meet the teacher from 5-6 pm
 - On the same day is individual picture day, you can choose or not choose to purchase pictures
 - Will also try to sell some Qayqayt spirit wear, and for gr 5s special leaving sweatshirt - there will be a form for this one and that will come by the 21st of Sept
 - Pro-D coming on the 18th, it's an admin day. Which means Suzanne and Carly get to work with their staff on the vision for the year and will be working on the school learning plan. Will focus on math. Last few years were focused heavily on social-emotional learning, and will still continue that. Through the growth mindset work we found difficulties in math. The vision plan will involve teachers and support staff as well.
 - Carly - Really glad to be here and excited to be back, great getting to know the kids.
 - Suzanne - thank you to the K parents going through gradual entry. Have been in kindergarten classes and we see how good it is. It's been a great process for the kids. Not trying to cause hardships for families, trying to help with adjustment. Thank you for your patience.
 - Suzanne - our school is full. We are the largest elementary school, currently 671 students as of this afternoon in 31 divisions. If you ask for a move to a different class there really isn't any room for moving students due to lack of space.
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Chair Report | JC Valeros

- Introduction to PAC: Who, What, Why
 - Recognized collective voice of parents, strive to recognize diversity
 - All parents and caregivers are automatically members of the PAC
 - Through the School Act, we are authorized to provide feedback on anything related to the school and education of our kids
 - Receive the gaming grant from the province requires an active PAC, we will get \$20 per student based on last year's enrollment

- We also raise money that goes to supporting teachers, parent education, and other resources not offered through the school
- How to get involved: Volunteer, come out to PAC meetings, follow us on our socials, support our fundraising, sign up to join the PAC exec at our AGM in May 2024. Can email: volunteer.qayqayt@gmail.com
- Please join our community:
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/qayqaytelementarycommunity>
Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/ecoleqayqaytelementarypac/>
- If you'd like to learn more about how Qayqayt PAC operates, we have our Constitution and Bylaws available for download and viewing on the PAC website, under Documents; which is a list of guidelines we follow. <http://qayqaytpac.ca>
- Within the Public Education, there are three parts; School (Local), School Board (District Level), and Ministry of Education, (Provincial Level)
 - School has a PAC, which is us, that advises the school administration; then there's
 - DPAC, District PAC, which PAC advises the school district, and they support us; then there's,
 - BCCPAC, BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils, is the Provincial voice of parents on K-12 public education, which then supports DPAC and PAC members.
 - To learn more about DPAC, BCCPAC and our School Board, please visit their websites:
 - New Westminster DPAC: <http://nwdpac.ca>
 - BCCPAC: <http://bccpac.ca>
 - New Westminster School District: <https://newwestschools.ca/>
- Important Dates
 - Movie night for K-2 families tomorrow Sept 14th
 - PAC lunch Fri Oct 27th Subway
 - Wed Nov 28th first parent ed workshop - stay tuned for more info
- Budget and Fundraising Plan
 - Exec will be meeting in Sept to finalize a few details budget

DPAC Report | Laura Kwong for Melody Gibson

- Kindergarten gradual entry - have been asked to K entry with the Board of Education and will be doing so at the Sept meeting
- TransLink - lots of positive communication over the summer. Route review for west end students and QB students attending NWSS, adjustments to schedules will increase peak hour frequency. TransLink have asked for DPAC to support their advocacy to the Federal govt in asking for increased funding to delivery increased service.
- Capacity - lots of discussion over new developments, especially the Columbia Sq proposal.
 - Mme Cameron - capacity is a big challenge for us. We can't do things like winter concerts because we can't all fit in the gym, we'll have to get creative and we

have been creative with our events. (General comments that the last winter family event was very well received)

- Question about planning for growing areas like Quayside. Laura: There are plans for new schools in various stages of progress. We are likely 5+ years away from seeing a new elementary school (Fraser River/Simco Park site). Check out the Board of Education's June meeting agenda for this year's capital funding request.
- Dee Beattie - DPAC is still asking for an internal investigation into the culture on the Board of Education and whether this was an isolated incident
- Response received from Ministry of Education to letter sent from DPAC, NWTU, CUPE regarding overheated classrooms and indoor air quality. Stated the responsibility for adding cooling is with districts and should use capital funding request process. The response did not address the indoor air quality concerns and request. Response is posted on DPAC website under communication.

CPF Report | Vacant

Nothing to report

Treasurer Report | Shawn Sorensen

- Balance in gaming as of Sept 12th - \$2412.26, no outstanding expenditures
- General account balance as of Sept 12th - \$4062.78. Winter event focussed on fundraising
- Spring event (if hit our winter fundraising goals) will be focused on community building
- Gaming Spending Plan:
 - Spoke with staff at meeting today and let staff know that we'd like them to use their class field trip funds, each division will get \$400
 - Last year's school wide activity was very well received - aiming to support one again this year (last year PAC paid 50% of Mario Movie), and the school is aiming to match again with the goal that it's a free event for families
 - Aiming for a balanced budget, spend most of what is brought in this year
- General account income and spending plan:
 - Purdy's and Neufeld farms are hopefully our biggest fundraisers
 - Read-a-thon aiming for \$2500
 - We have reduced the curriculum subsidy (we had raised it last two years as we had unspent covid funds), changed back to \$150 per division
 - Staff year end event - Little Miss Coffee truck, Mme Cameron: that was one of our most thoughtful staff appreciation events, very much enjoyed it
 - Two Parent Ed sessions planned one in fall and one in spring
- MOTION for draft budget to be approved from Shawn, SECONDED JC, CARRIED

Old Business

- Walking school bus update - one route for Quayside families, sign up in Mme Cameron's email that was sent out last week!

- Funded by TransLink, delivery partner is Society for Children and Youth (SYC), one paid route leader (background check, first aid) and one volunteer leader per route.
 - Children can walk alone to “bus stop” or be dropped off at bus stop by parent
 - Multiple stops along the route.
 - This is a pilot (two routes granted in SD40), continuation of the walking school bus depends on success this year
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New Business

- Election of CPF Representative, one nominee Melody Lui
 - Grace: description of role - part of New West chapter, part of a national organization, attend monthly meetings and report back at the PAC on what’s happening
 - MOTION to elect Melody Lui as CPF Rep by Theresa, SECONDED Shawn, CARRIED
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Open Forum & Questions

- Little Miss Coffee Co - Mondays in Tipperary Park (parking lot where the farmer’s market is) from 8 am onwards
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Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn JC, SECONDED Theresa, APPROVED

Next meeting: October 11th at 7:00 pm, virtually over zoom or in the library for in-person