

# École Qayqayt Elementary

## PAC Meeting Minutes **DRAFT**

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Meeting Date: October 11, 2023, 7:00 pm  
Location: Qayqayt library & virtually via Zoom

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### 2023/2024 Executive

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

### Invited Guest Attendees

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

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### Call to Order and Welcome | JC Valeros

- Introductions of parents, PAC exec members and special guests
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### Approval of Minutes and Agenda | JC Valeros

- JC motion to approve minutes & agenda from Sept, SHAWN seconded, CARRIED
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### School District Liaison Report | Trustee Connelly

- 2 LRFP info sessions, one in person and one virtual
- Updated plan is online and in the operations agenda
- Facing unprecedented capacity challenges in the district, and looking at all options to address these challenges
- Includes advocacy and creativity, staff are hard at work to address the capacity issue
- First Ed committee meeting, presentation from principals at NWSS. exploring options around timetable amendments going to a 5 block system, looking at other districts that have implemented this. Conversions happening with staff, teachers, students.
- In Ops meeting discussed portables, but there is not a lot of room at portables, looking at adding classrooms inside the highschool in the common areas
- Program of Choice review completed and recommendations are being implemented e.g. waiting until Dec to dissolve the waitlist. Currently they are dissolved in Oct. Will give opportunity for students to join a bit later if students do leave before Dec.

- Also want to add more signage, announcements, etc in french language in EFI schools, will be implemented soon/immediately.
- Recommended a POC in QB, further down the road. Will include consultation.
- At the Operations Committee meeting, an update on staffing and enrollment was presented - Qayqayt increase of 54 students. The Director of HR assured that he is working hard to fill the vacancies (resource & learning support teachers are significantly understaffed currently. Hoping to fill by end of week)
- Increase of 219 ELL (English language learner) students, we (the district) do receive \$1500 per student but it doesn't go far enough to cover off the needs of these students.
- Inclusive Ed students, increase of 75 in district. Lots of advocacy needs to be done around inclusive ed students. Only half of inclusive ed students are funded. But all require additional supports. A lot of advocacy still to be done around that.
- BCSTA is having the first of its kind "advocacy day", Board of Education trustees are all going to Victoria to meet with MLAs, members of the opposition, anyone who has ears and can address our needs.
- Providing clarification - School boards can not make developers/city ensure that there is capacity in schools. We present them with our numbers and challenges and we can work collaboratively. We are working as hard as we can within our means. Often frustrated and our means are limited but working in every way we can.

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#### **Community Schools Report | Rick Bloudell**

- Access to the gym has allowed us to expand offerings. Seven programs and over 140 students
- January will be the next set
- Update on FuelUp - lunch lady started on Sept 19.
- Feedback from all of us and the kids is extremely important - allows us to ensure they are meeting our expectations. We have been meeting weekly to deliver feedback, and have been responsive.
- [fuelup@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:fuelup@sd40.bc.ca) for feedback
- Will be doing a survey for families in Nov. would like to get initial thoughts, talking to as many people in schools as we can. Will be doing a larger survey in Nov - more info coming soon.

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#### **Principal & Vice-Principal Report | Suzanne Cameron & Carly Eirikson**

- Working mostly with gr 4s and 5s, for afterschool programming and next round will have more offerings for younger kids.
- Picture retakes on Oct 23rd - some paperwork coming to sign up (but if kids just show up without paperwork we let them take a picture)
- We host student teachers at Qayqayt, so your kids may be having student teachers in their classrooms. Helps to bring teachers to our district. Currently we have 5 in the school and are looking to bring one more into an EFI classroom.
- Parent/teacher interviews in Nov, teachers will be reaching out with info

- FSAs - there is an online and written component. Teachers are preparing. Admin staff view these as an opportunity to practice writing/logging into their profiles. All tests should be completed before the end of Oct.
- Looking for volunteers for the book fair - parents and caregivers can volunteer for a couple hours. And is a nice opportunity to meet teachers and staff
- Q from parent - We moved from Ukraine last year, my grade 4 child is having trouble learning english and understanding the teachers. A (Suzanne C) - support is either in the classroom, called push in support, or pull out support outside of the classroom. It's within the students day at school. A (Melody G) - English conversation circle & reading buddies at NWPL on Wed & Thursday afternoons.
- Q from parent - mentioned that you need volunteers for the book fair what does that entail? A (JC V) - Taking payment for purchased books in the library. There is an electronic system here and a cash box, and the school librarian Ms Lee will be there to assist as well.

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### **Chair Report | JC Valeros**

- Qayqayt PAC Website reminder - if you have saved credentials on your device they won't work. We clear accounts every year so that we don't hang on to personal information, register for a new account (can use same pw/un if wish to) QAYQAYT2023
- PAC Treats - Oct 17th, hello panda chocolate cookie. Cash payments by Fri Oct 13 at 2:45 so that our treasurer can process them. Online orders by Oct 15th at midnight.
- PAC Lunches - subway and taco del mar are still available to order from our website.
- Neufeld Fundraiser - last day to order end of day on Oct 24 Tues, info in last weeks newsletter
- Book Fair Volunteers - please sign up
- Parent Ed Night Workshop, Nov 8th - hybrid, on "Positive Thinking" speaker Carolyn Sorial - empower children to navigate challenges of negative thinking and cultivate a positive outlook on life. As there will be no PAC meeting in Nov, please check school newsletter and PAC facebook/instagram pages for updates.
- Announcement - the Qayqayt PAC treasurer Shawn Sorensen has declared his candidacy in the upcoming School Board by-election. We are looking for a treasurer to replace him.

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### **DPAC Report | Melody Gibson**

- New parent portal and toolkits for DEIA
- Lots of discussion of LRFP
- Discussion with Supt. Hachlaf regarding cooling and heating systems. Looking into how to do this within our existing buildings. Portables still do not have any solutions for cooling systems.
- Concerns regarding gradual entry process - more information coming to Nov 28 Board of Education meeting. If you have feelings about gradual entry you should put that one in your calendar.
- POC review and findings were discussed.

- Presentation was shared by Maureen McRae-Stanger (Director of Learning, Instruction and Innovation) on the new provincial reporting standards (i.e. grading for report cards), the BC Curriculum website has an update for parents and caregivers.
  - Slides from the presentation are on the DPAC website:  
<http://nwdpac.ca/2023/09/25/presentation-on-new-reporting-guidelines/>
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### **CPF Report | Melody Lui**

- First report, just elected and have attended one CPF meeting!
  - Noted that because the entry into EFI is a lottery system, we now have an idea of how the actual demand.
  - Bonjour / Bonne Nuit - happening Oct 27, hoping the books will arrive in time. This event is for Kindergarten families in EFI.
  - Parent survival night for EFI on Oct 26th - taking place at Ecole Glenbrook Middle School in the library
  - Looking for volunteers to join the CPF New West chapter, the current chair has stepped down (our Qayqayt PAC CPF rep alumni Heather Hansen is the acting chair right now).
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### **Treasurer Report | Shawn Sorensen**

- Gaming update - received our gaming grant based on last years enrollment
  - No expenditures between now and the last report in September
  - General update - we were just over 100 in the black for our movie night, it was not meant to be a fundraiser so that's a nice bonus. Event was a success with great attendance.
  - Revenue coming in for PAC lunches/Treat Tues (Subway, Taco Del Mar and treats)
  - In our general budget initially we budgeted for 6 resource teacher (missed child care worker and counselor), we would like to add in \$150 per (\$300 total)
    - SHAWN motion to amend our budget, THERESA seconded, CARRIED.
  - Q from parent - does the budget include supplies or resources for special needs/IEPs, etc? A (Shawn S) - these funds are directed to classrooms and teachers for materials and supplies for all students. A (Suzanne C) - our resource teachers do use their funds to purchase supplies that they use to support diverse learners.
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### **Old Business**

- none
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### **New Business**

- **Fundraising Report - Grace Steyn**
    - Holiday Baskets - We used to run this fundraiser in previous years and it was very successful. However it requires a fair bit of organizing and planning - reach out to Grace to help right now with securing donations from community organizations and businesses. We will need a few more volunteers again in early Dec to execute the raffle. Contact Grace to help: [gracesteyn@hotmail.com](mailto:gracesteyn@hotmail.com)
    - Neufeld Farms - open for ordering right now, recommend chicken nuggets!
    - Purdy's - coming soon for Christmas! Stay tuned and keep an eye on our socials
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## **Open Forum & Questions**

none

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## **Adjournment**

JC Motion to adjourn, SHAWN Seconded, CARRIED

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Next meeting: **Parent Education Seminar November 8th** at 7:00 pm, in school or over zoom

Next PAC meeting: December 6th at 7:00 pm (a week earlier than our usual meeting date), virtually on zoom or in the library