

## **South Meridian Elementary School – PAC Meeting Minutes**

**November 27, 2024, 6:30 pm, via Zoom**

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Present: Rhian Walker, Co-chair; Marloes Holland, Co-chair; Courtney Peluso, co-VP; Wendy Bloye, Treasurer; Marilyn Fransen, Secretary; Kayla McKinlay, co-VP; Andrea LaPointe, Principal; one other parent

### **Motion to Approve the Last PAC Meeting's Minutes (Oct. 16)**

- The minutes were distributed with the notice of this meeting.
- Courtney motioned they be approved.
- Marloes seconded.
- Vote: approved

### **Principal's report – Andrea LaPointe, Acting Principal**

- Everyone is gearing up for Christmas season.
  - Renting a stage and sound system for the Christmas concert; had to borrow chairs from Peace Arch.
  - Kids excited for movie night and voting is ongoing [between Dr. Suess's The Grinch and Author Christmas].
  - The Giving Tree is up by the office, and gift tags will be added by this Friday and PAC will communicate to all parents when they are ready to be chosen.
- **Presentations have been booked:**
  - **Get Real.** They have presented at our school before. They will provide an Inclusion and Diversity and anti-racism talk for intermediate students. It has been booked for before spring break.
  - **Resilient Rhythms** – A music group. They will provide all-school assembly and then a hands-on drumming experience for the primary students. This is also booked for just before spring break.
- **Pickleball** is booked for the end of April. There will be about four lessons per student.
- **Flood restoration.** Close to finalizing all the replacements of items. Some teacher-owned items will not be replaced so the school will have to see what they can cover and Andrea is confirming if the PAC will be able to cover some of the costs. Wendy – yes we had discussed this previously and will be able to contribute some funds we had raised at the end of last year (from freezie sales).
- **Renovation/addition**
  - More water main work is going on soon (over a weekend).
  - The drop-off lane will be repaved but the timeframe is still unclear due to a couple of different works that need to be done near the front of the school first (including the water main).

## **Treasurer's Report – Wendy Bloye**

- **Halloween party:** we had about \$4,200 revenue, costs \$1,800, so a **profit of about \$2,800**, which was close to what was budgeted
- **Art cards made \$1,750 profit** – above estimated budget
- **Purdy's orders are closed and have \$896 profit;** the money will be received after the orders are given out; this was well over our budget by about \$300.
- **Hot lunch is on track to net \$3,000 for the fall session.**
- **Accounts**
  - **\$32,000 in general account (about \$6,300 is liabilities for hot lunch).** So there is about \$26,000 remaining, and for the purposes of discussing the AV item later in the meeting, Wendy suggests we will want to keep about a \$15,000 reserve. (So there is theoretically approximately \$11,000 available from this account, based on the current budget).
  - **\$20,000 in playground account** – to potentially reallocate. Will be discussed with the AV agenda item.
  - **\$9,700 is currently in the gaming account.**
  - **Current budget is projecting a \$2,000 loss. So \$9,000 remaining from general.**
  - **Wendy suggests an updated budget if we want to consider the audio-visual system update, eliminating some items totalling \$10,000:**
    - \$5,000 technology
    - \$1,000 parent education
    - \$2,000 document cameras
    - \$2,000 to replace water in the earthquake kits

## **Proposed Audio/Visual Expense**

As discussed in previous meetings, the school is investigating updating the audio-visual system [in the gym] and there is no district money for this, so it would be a request to the PAC. A quote was provided by a school district vendor because district-approved vendors mean that district staff can then support and repair the items in future.

## **Discussion**

Andrea has received final quotes after the vendor Soundrite visited the school and looked at the needs in detail. \$34,133.46 is the new grand total. The quote has also been broken down again into the audio (\$16K+) and then video separately [~\$12k], plus ~\$6,000 for related electrical work – it would be more expensive doing the audio and video separately because the electrician will need to make two visits and they would need to rent a lift twice.

Q: Kayla – can we go back to the vendor and ask for them to find cost savings wherever they can? Yes she and Andrea will discuss further later. Also they will ask them to make it a firm price quote.

On a related note, there is also some money (\$3,000) in the Principal's account that was won by a student and was originally allocated to the gaga ball pit, which has now been covered by the new renovation. These funds are to be allotted to something that helps as many students as possible.

Q: Is there an opportunity to get a second quote? A: There is a second approved district vendor but they are not recommended to be used and it sounds like they have never been chosen to actually do any work in the district.

Q: Is there a possibility of having another vendor approved by the district? Unclear. Rhiann's experience is that there isn't a lot of competition in this field so there likely aren't many providers.

Q: Why does the district not cover the cost for this kind of expense? The original sound system would have presumably been paid for so when that needs replacing, why is it not covered?

A: Ms. LaPointe's understanding is that this is seen as an improvement to the school, not something necessary to operate it.

#### **Related Motions:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> motion as follows: The 2024-25 PAC moves to dissolve the "playground" bank account and move those funds into the general account. Wendy motioned and Marloes seconded. Approved.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> motion as follows: The 2024-25 PAC moves to reallocate the monies in the budget (\$10,000) as discussed with the budget update, and change the annual budget accordingly. Proposed by Wendy. Seconded by Marloes. Approved.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> motion as follows: The 2024-25 PAC moves to pay for the expenses of equipment and installation of the new audio visual system for the South Meridian school gymnasium up to a maximum of \$34,200. Wendy motioned and Marloes seconded. Approved.

#### **Events/Fundraising - December**

- **Movie night is Dec. 12, sales cut off one week before.** So far about 90 tickets have been sold. **Doors open at 4:30pm, and the movie will start about 5:00 or 5:15.**
  - Wendy remembered that one year recently a primary teacher asked if their class could count the movie votes and it was a fun activity for them – yes Andrea will arrange that again.
- **Giving tree.** We are getting some corporate donations so far (thanks to Marloes) of money as well as, for example, baking from Cobbs Bread. Still reaching out to others.
  - **Tags will be going on the tree starting Friday and ready for students or families to pick up a tag starting Monday.** (We will be supporting five families from Anne's school Bridgeview and several families from our school).
  - **Date to return items by:** to be confirmed [**Friday, Dec 13** at the latest]
  - Hampers then will be finished for pickup which will be Dec 18.

### **Events for consideration for January-February**

- Valentine's bake sale – was successful last year.
- West coast seeds launches in January. (Wendy will arrange.)

### **New Business**

- Can the Grade 7 event committee be a subcommittee of the PAC? It would help alleviate past issues with money allocation as well as insurance, and ensure coordination of fundraising events. Motion to run the Grade 7 graduation fundraising through the PAC online fundraising portal and bank account for ease and accountability.
  - Motion by Wendy. Courtney seconded. Approved.
- Would the PAC consider adding two donation options to the Hot Lunch portal: Donation for the grade 7 graduation and donation for the A/V system? Yes

### **Call for Additional Items**

- How do parents get Christmas show tickets? There will be an update on Monday from Andrea and see the past newsletter.

**Date of next meeting; Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Weds. Jan. 29, on Zoom, at 6:30pm.**

**Meeting Adjourned 7:40 pm**