

**ÉCOLE SOUTH PARK ELEMENTARY  
PAC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
April 5, 2017**

<p><b>7:00 – 9:00 pm</b> <b>South Park Library</b></p>	
Item	Summary
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p><u>Executive:</u> Shanna (Chair), Natalie (Vice-Chair), Jen (Treasurer), Mel (Secretary), Avery (MAL), Sol (DPAC Rep), Lynsey (MAL)</p> <p><u>Absent:</u> Terri (Past Chair), Catherine (MAL), Jason (MAL),</p> <p><u>Administration:</u> Ms. Potter, Mme Anderson</p> <p><u>Other Members:</u> 3</p>
<b>1. Welcome</b>	
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	<p><b>MOTION MADE (Avery, with Natalie seconding) AND CARRIED to approve the minutes from the last general meeting of the PAC held January 25, 2017.</b></p>
<b>3. Old Business</b>	<p><u>Stream of Dreams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last meeting approved \$1500 to add to existing art fish on the school fence as part of the “Stream of Dreams” program.</li> <li>• Lily submitted a grant application for the project and is waiting to hear back. If the grant does not come through, we will need to talk about what we do about filling in the funding gap. To be further discussed in New Business.</li> </ul> <p><u>Emergency Preparedness Audit</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jason will be meeting with Lily before May 5 (date of the Emergency Preparedness Drill) to help with the planning. Jason has been doing a lot of work to understand the school’s emergency preparedness program and to identify those areas where PAC funding can best be applied.</li> </ul> <p><u>Anxiety Workshop – Christine Yu (LEAP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Park is hosting a parent education seminar on anxiety in children: May 15 in the South Park gym. Christine Yu from the LEAP Clinic in Vancouver will be presenting; Christine comes highly recommended and promises to provide a lot of great information and resources for parents. Posters will go up soon.</li> <li>• Beach Grove and Pebble Hill Schools have also been invited to the workshop to enable our PAC to apply for a \$600 DPAC parent education grant. Please spread the word! It promises to be a very informative night.</li> </ul>

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**4. Executive Reports**

Chair (Shanna)

*Since the last meeting -*

- 2 Special Foods in February and March (February 17 and March 31)
- 1 after school movie (Secret Life of Pets on February 3)
- Financially supported wheelchair basketball (instruction provided February 27 - March 3)
- Paid for the presentation of “Les Bucherons” (February 21) and “Speed Control” (March 8)
- Planned Learn to Curl adult social had to be cancelled due to low ticket sales
- Endorsed the Stream of Dreams funding application with a letter of support

*Coming up -*

- 3 more Special Foods (April 21, May 26 and June 23)
- 2-3 after-school movies – next: Sing on April 21
- Hanging basket sale in time for Mother’s Day (delivery on May 9)
- Financially supporting Geering Up May 15-18 (more details under New Business)
- Booked Saleema Noon for a workshop on sexual health in the Fall of 2017
- 1 more meeting with this Executive, looking for people who would be interested in running for an Executive position (or otherwise willing to help) next year

Vice-Chair (Natalie)

- June 21: Staff Appreciation Lunch – looking for volunteers to assist (e.g. making favours, centrepieces, setting up and doing dishes on the day). The plan is to cater this event this year.

Special Foods (Shanna for Catherine)

- We are super excited and grateful for the new members on our Special Foods Committee (thank you Linda Deamer!), we are looking for a few more to help out, particularly on the actual Special Foods days.
- Registration is now open for the last 3 Special Foods – order by April 12.
- June 23 Special Foods will be on the same day as the Track Meet and will include hamburger and hot dog options.
- May Special Foods will include a Cobbs Bread order option.
- Special Foods team is considering a survey to see how much parents want to pay for improved quality. As a PAC we need to decide what the goal is – nutritional food or a fun day with profits for the PAC. Fuel (supplier) margin is quite low, but prices are higher because of superior ingredients.
- Panago is now antibiotic free!
- PAC to investigate the possibility of a school kickback if purchases are made at Cobbs Bread in Ladner. Cobbs offers this support to schools in other locations.
- A concern was raised about the amount of wasted food on Special Foods days.

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	<p>Discussion followed about possibilities to ensure that uneaten food goes home with students and that recycling gets into the appropriate bins. School and Special Foods Committee will try to find ways to encourage these behaviours.</p>
<p><b>5. Treasurer Report</b></p>	<p>Jen reviewed the latest financial statements, which are attached to these minutes. There are definitely some funds to spend down before the end of the year. Jen and Shanna are working with Lily to ensure that allocated funds go out as planned.</p>
<p><b>6. DPAC Update (Sol)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the last DPAC meeting there was a long discussion about Delta’s snow response. General view is that schools are essential and need to stay open if possible. In Tsawwassen schools were able to stay open for the most part – schools in North Delta are treated differently because of their higher elevation.</li> <li>• There was also some discussion about international students crowding classrooms – balance the extra students (always have to be below the student maximum anyway) and additional funding that international students provide.</li> <li>• Terry Small provided a very good, informative presentation in North Delta about different ways to access your brain power (for example, eat walnuts and prunes!). For more information, visit Terry’s website and sign up for newsletters.</li> <li>• DPAC is considering introducing a standard template for PAC financials to ensure consistency, particularly for schools where the Treasurer is not an accounting or financial person.</li> <li>• Next DPAC meeting is April 10 – all parents are welcome to attend.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Principal’s Update (Lily)</b></p>	<p><u>Strawberries</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No strawberries in Mme Dane’s class (Mme Dane has a severe allergy) or in other common areas, other classes are ok.</li> <li>• Fruit cup providers have been asked to eliminate strawberries.</li> </ul> <p><u>Gardening (Mme Anderson)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Park students garden every year. Over 200 students signed up to participate in the take-home gardening initiative (students plant pots, which they then get to take home). 4 divisions are doing Project Pickle as well (see previous meeting minutes for Mrs. Henderson’s description of this program). Mrs. Henderson and Mme Anderson are also coordinating Spuds in Tubs this year, which is supported by PAC funds.</li> <li>• Mme Anderson is starting Garden Club Mondays at lunch. Students will help to maintain plants in the courtyard and keep them tidy.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Link (Mme Anderson and Mme Sadd)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in Reading Link results in extra books for the school library and is otherwise a fantastic program for Grade 4 and 5 students. Participation this year is down as compared to last – roughly 20 students this year, 3 teams. There are different</li> </ul>

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	<p>levels of Reading Link Challenges: in school, District and Regional levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natalie shared some great feedback on the program – the kids really enjoy it and it is a well-organized program. Suggestion to increase parent communication, especially about reading expectations, to help parents encourage kids to participate.</li> </ul> <p><u>Starting with Stories and Ready Set Learn</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First session this week – incoming Kindergarten students have the opportunity to come into the school and spend an hour in the classroom with a different teacher. Parents have an opportunity for a parent education session at the same time.</li> <li>Ready Set Learn, catering to 3-5 year olds, is coming up April 19 and will be hosted at South Park this year. Pebble Hill and Cliff Drive are joining us. Will Street will be performing.</li> </ul> <p><u>Other Upcoming Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Quebec (April 22-29)</i>: Mme Schultz, Mr. Smith, Mme Burnette and Mme Eade will be going with the Grade 6 and 7s. Mme Simpson will take all kids whose teachers are away on the trip.</li> <li><i>Student Led Conferences (April 27 and 28)</i>: early dismissal these days</li> <li><i>Easter Egg Hunt (April 13)</i>: for the whole school in the afternoon. Students will be looking for coloured toothpicks, special ones entitle them to a chocolate bunny from the office, otherwise students will earn a handful of eggs.</li> <li><i>Emergency Preparedness Release Forms</i>: notification will be circulated to ensure parent information is up to date on Parent Connect prior to the next drill.</li> <li><i>Concours (April 12)</i>: French Grade 6 and 7s. 4 South Park students will be moving ahead to the finals at SDSS.</li> <li><i>Math Celebration (April 12)</i>: several schools will be visiting South Park to participate in Math Celebration. Students will work in groups and be evaluated on team work, accuracy and other aspects of math problem-solving. A comment was made about ensuring criteria for inclusion in the event is clearly described to avoid children making negative assumptions about their math abilities.</li> <li><i>Book Fair (week of April 25)</i>: additional volunteers for lunch and after school times would be appreciated.</li> <li><i>Spring Production (intermediates)</i>: Ms. Saip is working on a special program to celebrate Canada’s 150 birthday.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. New Business</b></p>	<p><u>Geering Up</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Geering Up” will visit South Park the week of May 15-18. During that time, every class will have at least an hour session with engineering students from UBC.</li> <li>Part of a program offered by the UBC School of Engineering and Science to encourage interest in physical sciences. Students will do hands-on experiments and get to see cool science in action.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAC had budgeted funds for the Maple Man, but he was unable to visit South Park this year. \$1350 is reserved in the Cultural Fund for the Maple Man; the total cost of Geering Up is \$1600.</li> </ul> <p style="color: red;">MOTION MADE (Jen, with Shanna seconding) AND CARRIED to reallocate \$1350 from the Cultural Fund to a new line item called Student Workshops and to increase the amount from \$1350 to \$1600 to cover the full cost of Geering Up.</p> <p><u>Grade 7 Legacy Gift</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 7s would like to purchase an electronic scoreboard for the school as their legacy gift – the cost is approximately \$700 + tax.</li> <li>• We have \$350 allocated to support the legacy gift – those funds are intended to be matched by Grade 7s fundraising.</li> </ul> <p><u>Teacher Wish List</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAC allocated \$4500 to the Teacher Wish List line item as part of the budget at the beginning of the year. A significant amount of those funds remain.</li> <li>• Teachers top requests are science materials for the science lab, 3 world globes, rolling stools (\$60 each), Kore wobble chairs (\$100 each), Hokki Stools for learning assistance rooms (\$125 each) and jerseys for Grades 4 and 5.</li> <li>• Discussion around the number of jerseys required and how best to address the need. Jerseys are used for a number of activities and sporting events, such as Math Celebration, Reading Link, volleyball, etc. but the most jerseys are required for the track meet. Currently students have to share a small number of jerseys throughout the day.</li> </ul> <p style="color: red;">MOTION MADE (Mel, with Tracy seconding) AND CARRIED to allocate \$1000 from the Teacher Wish List fund to science materials and fidget items, and to earmark \$1000 of the remaining Teacher Wish List fund to purchase jerseys once a more definitive proposal is ready for consideration.</p> <p><u>Friendship Bench</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money from the Spirit Fund was previously earmarked for a friendship bench. Concern was raised about singling kids out instead of helping them out. Discussion ensued about the potential to rebrand the bench as a quiet bench or something else that invites students to use the bench when they need a quiet spot to read, relax or take a break from other playground activities.</li> </ul>
<b>9. Adjournment</b>	8:56 pm, until the AGM May 24.