

Dr Knox Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes | November 16, 2022 | Dr. Knox Library / via Zoom

1. Meeting called to order.
2. **PAC EXECUTIVE:**
 - All prior minutes will be approved at the next meeting.
 - MOTION to approve the meeting agenda put forth by Glenn, seconded by Cam, motion unanimously APPROVED.
3. **PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE:** *Luke Campbell, Principal*
 - a) **Report Cards**
 - Report cards are coming out; going to be a bit different - all going to look the same....a ministerial order is being drafted that they are implementing. Comments should be much more personalized and elective courses will now have marks.
 - May be some growing pains around it, but all in all expected to go well.
 - b) **Affordability Fund**
 - \$2.3 million given by government; if there is a financial need, people can go in and complete a request form for exemption from school-related costs (field trips, sports fees, school fees).
 - c) **School Goals**
 - Staff is meeting to generate ideas using a thought exchange; will then put it out to parents.
 - Looking to narrow focus onto one academic goal and one non-academic goal.
 - d) **General**
 - T-shirt ordering is under way – kids are all sized, so hopefully that will be coming in soon.
 - Athletic department very thankful to PAC for funding new uniforms, which are now on order.
 - Volleyball season just wrapped up, so thank you to all the coaches.
 - Basketball season starting; Gr 9 boys/girls tryouts just wrapped up
 - Teachers put on an amazing Remembrance Day assembly in the school with choir etc., very nice to be able to do something in person this year
 - Clubs....more and more clubs, more news in e-news. Any questions about clubs, drop Luke a note.
 - Take Your Kid to Work Day was very successful – only 6 students stayed back to learn about careers and everyone else was out in the community.
 - Some feedback that a lot of kids already know what their parents do; might be a great idea to do a swap where kids go with a different parent to learn about a different career option.
 - Is there an option for a second day, or to swap kids? This is always an option to coordinate themselves amongst parents – there is a form where it can be in community etc.

- There are liability considerations as well, so it would need to be coordinated by parents and this is all made clear in the forms.
- Carlos commented from the RCMP perspective that it is certainly a liability and logistical issue....was it ride along? Or desk only? Official ride-alongs are not done regularly. This was a tour of the attachment, divided in groups, had demonstrations, there was a full day planned by the RCMP.
- A suggestion to Luke for teachers to make it abundantly clear to students that there is an option for their parents to coordinate that for them, and they will ensure to highlight that for next year.

e) Open Floor for Questions

- Question re: band and fees involved and the band trip being planned, for this year and for future years. There are great fundraisers going on for band to help pay fees for the trip, and it is a great trip.
- Trip is currently still in planning phases, so there isn't an accurate estimate at this point.
- For Gr 7/8, it wouldn't be more than \$100 per year.
- What is the purpose of kids doing fundraising? Is there an educational value to it?
 - No real answer, it is part of our culture. Helps to offset fees and involve community.
 - Life skill/learning experience/generally fundraising within community (not to strangers)....it's built into the system.
- Is it possible to get a letter grade along with the categories for each report card term as in prior years (Emerging/Developing/ Proficient/Extending)
 - at the end of the year you can request this at the office, but this option will likely not exist next year
 - province is trying to shift to one consistent assessment framework, and Dr. Knox is standardizing to the draft process; next year, all the schools will be the same, same scale, comments will follow same format, etc. – a written learning update vs. a report card
 - coaching staff to make comments meaningful, since they are the most insightful and informative piece for parents

4. **MAJOR FUNDRAISER:** *Sarah Bendall, President*

- School has typically done one major fundraiser per year, Executive would like to propose a change to then General PAC how this is done.
- Comments have been that without a specific project to put funds towards, fundraisers don't pick up a lot of steam and not a lot of money raised.
- Met with the school to come up with good projects for PAC to fund – would like to propose that we use a fundraiser to put in additional permanent seating.
- Currently, one bench and moveable chairs/tables in atrium. Would like to put in more permanent seating around the atrium.
- Three "good" spots have been identified. Atrium is used for PE classes etc., and would give kids a place to sit while waiting their turns during class as well as during hang-out times.
- Would also like to change *how* we raise the money.
- Looking at running it as a 50/50 so there is something in it for the parents and incentivize it; and also to make a donation to the school district so that a tax receipt.

- We will vote on both what we fundraise for and how we fundraise at the next meeting in the new year, as we are waiting on quotes from the district (anything in the school has to be done through the school/the union).
 - Question: is this in addition to raising funds for everything else? How would we raise funds for all the other items in the budget – COBSS, we look to be short about \$1,600
 - Conversation ensued re: using gaming funds for items other than a project; *ie*, teacher gifts, COBSS bursary, etc.
 - Anything raised through a gaming event means it is gaming funds, so we'd need to do other fundraisers
 - Also need an avenue to raise funds for general items – no limitations on what donations can be used for
 - Bottle drive suggestion – a one day blitz – a big group effort and a lot of work, but one day can raise a few thousand dollars....an idea for spring
 - Bottle fundraiser needs to be geared up and we need to do a bigger push here
 - MOTION to move ahead with an additional fundraiser for additional indoor seating put forth by Candice, seconded by Eva, and unanimously APPROVED.
5. **TREASURER UPDATE:** *Mike Moore, Treasurer*
- Mike and Glenn Kissman (VP) received a directive/government document highlighting Best Practices for running finances for a PAC.
 - Will go through the document more closely and may do up a scorecard to illustrate how we currently measure up – cursory review shows that compliments to Mike are in order for ensuring best practices are in place.
 - Have signed for another year of COBSS – first cheque for \$525 will go out (first \$\$ out the door), and second cheque will need to go out in February – need to generate some \$\$
 - Budget that was in the last set of minutes has not changed, but is here again in case anyone wants to review
 - Gaming funds can be used for scholarships/bursaries, but not curriculum-based items
6. **COPAC UPDATE:** *Camila Biffard, COPAC Rep*
- District Principal for digital learning talked about reporting (which Luke has touched on)
 - Two events coming up: one at KLO and one at Mt. Boucherie in November: Paul Davis – security expert.
7. **OTHER BUSINESS?**
- Meeting adjourned
 - Next Meeting January 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm
8. **SNACKS AND SOCIAL:** Good chats were had by all 😊