

BME PAC Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2015



Location: Learning Commons

Attendance: Janelle, Lacey, Rachelle, Val, Bonnie-Lee, Bonnie, Janet, Cory, Jeanne, Margherita, Julee

- 1) Call to Order at 6:06pm
- 2) Adopt minutes from last meeting, Rachelle motioned to accept and Margherita seconded it.
- 3) Introductions by Val
- 4) Officer's Reports:
  - a) Treasurer's Report by Val (Allie is away): Ask Allie if she has paid Janet for the teacher's discretionary fund (\$1275). There is approximately \$13,000 left in our account. Thank you to Allie for doing such a great job at keeping track of our money this year!
  - b) President's Report by Val: Yoga Kids event coming soon, Anxiety Workshop coming soon. Ask Val for more info.
  - c) Fruit and Veggie Report by Bonnie: Mini sweet-peppers were the last veggie of the year and were handed out this week. It went over well, the kids enjoyed them! Julee is training alongside Bonnie this month as she will be taking over in September. Bonnie is almost done getting everything set up and ready for September. Thanks for doing a great job Bonnie!
  - d) Fundraising Report by Julee: We made approximately \$3200 at the Fun Fair in May. Awesome! We made around \$9,000 total for the whole year of fundraising. There is only one outstanding fundraising account that still has a balance owing. This family will be contacted and asked to pay their balance owing before the end of June. Thank you to Julee for doing such a fantastic job with the fundraisers this year!
  - e) COPAC Report by Cory: All of the executive positions have now been filled for next year's COPAC group. Shelley is the new president and is also on the BCCPAC. They discussed virtual field trips and different groups that come to the school and make presentations. The Vancouver Aquarium has an opening next spring. If we are interested in having them come to our school, it'll cost us \$1400. Janet suggested that we look it up online and talk about it as a group and decide if we want to spend all of that money or not. Janet mentioned some other options, like a science field trip, that also comes to the school. There are some great options that don't cost as much as the aquarium. There is still time to think about it and make a decision later for next year. Bussing fees are going up to \$200 next year (instead of \$100). Bussing is actually a privilege, an extra service for the kids, so we shouldn't take it for granted. If you have a complaint, the school district just wants to remind you that they do not have to provide bussing. They are offering this service for a fee, but they do not actually have to provide it. More discussion about safety and security took place. Ever since the Belgo Elementary lockdown situation, schools and PAC groups have been talking about procedures and drills and what they would do if it happened again. We discussed what would happen if there was a dangerous situation at our school. There was also some discussion about the needle situation in Kelowna. There have been a couple of instances lately of needles being found at parks, playgrounds and near schools. If everyone could please be aware and keep your eyes open for more needles. The Greenery in Glenmore has a gift card program, if you buy a \$25 gift card the school gets \$5. A possible idea to look into for next year? Watson Elementary School is already doing it. Action for Cory: COPAC Facebook page, post about the 40 schools. Thank you Cory for being our COPAC rep!

f) Hot Lunch Report by Rachelle: We had a super year! The hot lunch program made between \$8,000-\$9,000 profits this year! So amazing! Rachelle is looking into offering hot lunches on Tuesdays after long weekends for next year. This past Monday, we had a little mishap with our sushi order. Rachelle and Bonnie-Lee noticed that the California rolls seemed really warm. Then they took the temperature of the California rolls and they were much too warm to serve or eat. They called the vendor but by that time it was too late for them to make more and deliver them in time for lunch. Luckily Bonnie was near Costco at the time and was able to go and pick up some new fresh sushi. The vendor did refund us for our order and everything is okay now. No hard feelings. Disaster averted! There are still about 36 outstanding accounts with a balance owing. Rachelle will be sending out an email reminding everyone that if they have a balance owing, to please pay it as soon as possible. Definitely before the end of June. Discussion about if a family has a balance owing they should not be able to order any more food the next month. Not until they have paid what they owe. Action: Dawn, please post on Facebook that people who still owe money for hot lunch orders, please pay asap! Thank you Rachelle for doing such a great job with hot lunches!

5) Principal's Report by Janet: All parents and siblings are invited to attend the monthly school assemblies. They are usually on Thursday at 12:10. Janet is encouraging more parents to attend next year! Now there are 410 students registered for September. There is only room for 15 more students and then our school will be at capacity. The last day of school is Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be an end of the year assembly at 8:45am on the last day. The last day will also be a full day of school. Regular dismissal time. Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, there is no school.

It truly is a year we can celebrate proudly. With the delayed start, our entire community rallied together, and created the best possible positive learning year for all of our students. The children at this school are amazing – caring, helpful, friendly, and genuinely empathetic towards others. The staff is also as amazing professionals – who all have wonderful skills which complement each other so well, and I feel very privileged to be working along- side them.

I loved working with the students – I love having students lead assemblies, and taking initiatives that are important to them, and helping facilitate their wonderful ideas into something great for the school. Having a monthly assembly has been well received this year – and next year, I do hope to see more parents come out and enjoy our 'group learning' time.

With regard to specific curriculum and learning resources, I support all learning initiatives brought forth by my staff. We increased our technology this year, and purchased new updated furniture and resources for classrooms, and our library. Our goals this year have been building in collaborative time for teaching teams, and reintroducing our school library as the learning commons. We surpassed our expectations with these goals.

Next year, we will continue to embrace the language of our attributes, and move forward with the teachings of the seven habits put forth in Covey's work entitled, "Leader in Me". I would like to invite two parents to our professional workshop on September 1, and 2 to learn more about this program.

I am so proud of the work the parent group has done this year – the meetings were all very effectual, and focused, and for that I am thankful. You all have made a huge difference and impact for our students and community. Please know that we are indebted to your generosity of personal time, and skills.

Finally, I am proud of the communication this year, and the ability to keep everyone informed of items on a need to know basis is essential to the operation of a school. I welcomed the student input for our Feb. survey, and will move forward next year with de-segregating our school playground. It will operate much the same as our 'sledding' hill which works well based on cooperation and respect.

Thank you to our outgoing PAC. And welcome our new leaders. Please know that I will continue to welcome more of your insight and perspectives next year.  
Thank you for supporting a GREAT year at BME!!

6) Ongoing Business:

a) New PAC Representatives

7) New Business:

a) Welcome Back Snack – Originally it was just a welcome back for parents and then it grew to handing out coffee and having a PAC sign-up sheet, and then also handing out snacks for the students, and then it grew to setting up two stations in two different areas, and then it became a really big deal with coffee, muffins, fruit, juice boxes, etc, etc, etc... it has become too complicated and too expensive. We want to simplify it for next year and keep it more affordable for the PAC. We need a way to entice new parents to join the PAC, either with a magnet, a car sticker, a button, or something tangible, and then maybe have them bring it to the first meeting and get their name entered into a draw to win something. Janet will give Val the information for the magnet making guy. We could also put something on the Facebook page and/or the hot lunch website... If you come to the first meeting you will have a chance to win! Val and Bonnie-Lee will take care of figuring this out. We should have balloons as well as a sign or something to make sure all parents know where our PAC table is and also an information board. On the Thursday before the September long weekend, Val needs some volunteers to help set things up for our welcome back snack and also get things ready for the first day of school. Please contact Val if you are able to volunteer or help out!

Actions Items for Welcome Back Snack:

Starbucks Coffee Donations: Val

Juice Boxes and Fruit to Go Donations: Bonnie-Lee

Muffins (150 or more?): mini muffins/cinnamon rolls from Costco?

Volunteers for the Thursday before the long weekend: contact Val if you can help

Signage: Use BME banner, other ideas?

Volunteers at the PAC table: contact Val if you are willing to be at the table

b) Hillcrest Café Letter – They approached Julee asking for a letter from us, thanking them for all of the support they have given us during this year (teacher luncheons, apple donations, etc). A “thank you for your services letter”.

c) Days and times for next year’s PAC meetings

Next PAC meeting: September 17, 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month)

Minutes prepared by Janelle Schultz