

General Meeting : April 27, 2023 - 7:00PM

Location: Blueridge Elementary School Library

Present: Rachel Harper, Jen Dickson, Katie Garrett, Mika Ling, Kim Cairns, Daviana Moore, Elham Nasseri, Brigitte Gerandol (Principal), Courtney Johnstone(Vice Principal), Maryn Quarless (Teacher Rep).

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING BELOW

1. Welcome - Rachel Harper opened the meeting as Chair at 7:03,pm. Katie Garrett was the Recording Secretary.

2. Approval of Agenda/Minutes - Minutes from the previous meeting approved and seconded by Jen D. The Chair convened the Meeting by welcoming the members and thanking them for attending the Meeting.

3. Outside Guests :None

4. Principal/ Vice Principal/Teacher Rep Report- Brigitte Gerandol, Courtney Johnstone, Maryn Quarless

A. **Principal Report**- Brigitte introduced herself. Brief History of where she was before coming to Blueridge Elementary. Was previously principal at Dorothy Lynas and before that Queen Mary and is a large supporter of Argyle cheer program. In addition, prior to moving to role of principal Brigitte worked as a math teacher at Argyle Secondary.

B. **Vice Principal**- (Courtney) - gratitude to Susan for everything she has done and wishes her well.

- **Track and Field** - taster occurred a few weeks back. This is the first week of practice. Schedules were sent home. The final meet will not be at Swanguard this year as it is being resurfaced. Instead, it will be split and the track portion to be held at Sutherland. The Field final meets will be held at Blueridge Elementary on May 25(Gr. 4/5) and 30th (Gr. 6/7). There will be ribbons awarded on those days respective of the grades competing. Sutherland track qualification meet is on May 23rd. Sutherland track finals on June 6th (8-12 am)

- **K orientation** - June 9th -(2 sessions) info has gone out to families and we are looking forward to meeting everyone.

- **Scholastic Book fair** - May 15-18 . In order to continue with the theme of equality and especially equitable access to books, processes have been put in place to allow all children the ability to participate regardless of economic ability. Proceeds from the spring fair go to the library. Maryn

hopes to use the proceeds this year to go towards coding. Successors have been found to take over for Fran Rattray.

- Upcoming events:
 - How Raven Stole the Sun - May 19th - storytelling k -7
 - Children of the Street Society - organised by school counsellor . 2nd session 4-7 . Topics around general safety social media, internet , good choices around
- Staff Shoutouts/ Thank you's (Brigette)
 - **Primary Staff** - for getting KM club off the ground.
 - **Gr 4 team** - for not only surviving outdoor school but doing an excellent job.
 - **Stream of Dreams** - The fish are up! And they are beautiful. Thank you to the staff for getting it all done and also to the parents who came out to help put them on the fence.
- Communication: (Brigette)- School to parent community news format has changed. Sway has replaced SMORE. This program is still a work in progress but has the ability to have the teachers add to it as they feel necessary. Updates will be monthly and go out mid month. In addition, there will continue to be updates via email regarding specific events/info to appropriate groups.
 - Student led announcements - students are now doing morning announcements. Ms Masons class will be doing the May announcements.
- Staffing Update - (Brigette)continues to be a work in progress. Currently there are 13 divisions for next year, which is the same as this past year. Class placement request link has been sent out for parents to fill out and send back. Staff will continue to share updates as they are able.
- Attendance- currently there are many ways in which staff are receiveing notice of student absenteeism. The preferred/main method is through the app SchoolMessenger. Another info email will be sent out with directions on how to download this app and admin staff will continue to direct phone calls to the app. Process: Once a message has been sent through the SchoolMessenger app, Wanda will input this into myed, which will then be forwarded to the teachers. For simplicity and to ensure that the correct people know your child will be absent/late/ leaving early,please use SchoolMessenger.
- New reporting method - as per the info sent out by the district earlier in the year. This new program is about to roll out. A parent webinar ran last Tuesday. More will be available as we get closer to the start date. As of Sept 2023, focus will be on proficiency scale vs grades. Student progress updates will be called a written update vs report card. Grades K-9. Province wide. Template will be shorter and easier to read. More info to come. Stay tuned.
- Spirit Week- June 12-15- run by Grade 7's in lieu of Sports day. One station per day. Daily themes. Supports Grade 7 in a leadership roll.

More info to come

- Stream of Dreams- both the new and old version are well attached on fences at the back of the school. Instead of removing the old fish one idea is to repaint them during this years spirit week.
- Next year - planning underway. Want to expand diversity and inclusion within our community. There will be 2 planning sessions coming up dates to be determined and would really like to have parents involved. A parent voice is very important. This is a great way for the parent community to get involved. More info to come in the fall

(Please continue to check the Blueridge School Calendar and communication emails for all upcoming events)

- Recent past events- no update this month
- Culture and Performances - (Maryn) - see above upcoming events.

5. Review and Discuss (ongoing agenda items):

- A. **Treasurer's Report**- (Mika) - Please see the budget attached. Mika broke down the school year to date's financials to update the new principal. Revenue continues to come in via bottle drive. Hot lunch continues to be the primary revenue generater. Mika highlighted operating expenses to staff to make sure that they get their expenses in. Fiscal year ends at the end of June. Each division gets \$400. Library gets \$2500. Kids books now is set up with BPAC. There is still money left for speakers and workshops. The PAC has approved Melanie Black's request to cover a speaker for the K class.

Items of note:

- **Family Movie Night -1101.69**
 - **Grant money**- still have money in this fund. Stream of Dreams still needs to come out of this so the total is far less than what is reported on the budget sheet for this month.
 - The second popcorn machine has now been paid off.
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- B. **FOS** - (Jen D) - Windsor, Seymour Heights and Dorothy Lynas attended. Everyone seems to be doing the same things wrt to fundraisers. Sharing ideas. One member attended the general safety meeting. There is a movement to bring back Elmer the Elephant. Windsor has had a high incident of sexual assault reports as of late. To deal with this they have a speaker coming in to speak to the student body about this topic.
- C. **Windsor Scholarship Request**- This year the PAC exec agreed to give 2 scholarships of \$750/each. The only requirement is that they attended Blueridge Elementary. Windsor will decide who will be the recipients. There will be no Blueridge rep at this ceremony.
- D. **First Aid**- Div 1 and 2- a request for \$1288 was received by the BPAC to cover the cost of a first aid course for Div 1 and 2. In previous years BPAC has covered \$600 for a First Aid course for the Gr 6 class. Therefore has budgeted for \$600 at this time. Div ½ has both Grade 6 and 7 students. Going forward the plan will be to keep \$600 and allocate this to a specific grade Div ½. Current rate is \$23 /kid. ***At this time a Motion was put forward by Jen Dickson to increase the budget allowance from \$600 to \$1400 going***

forward. Rachel seconded. Voted on and approved by general attending members.

Action: to allocate \$1400 for current year and going forward towards First Aid Div ½

- E. **Track and Field Meet- bus request-** funds to cover the cost of a bus to transport students to upcoming track and Field events was requested. The executive team agreed that the BPAC would fund a bus for the qualifier event as it would include more students. Staff coaches are looking into availability.
- F. **Blueridge Good Neighbour Day-** June 11- This year the BPAC will run the popcorn station at Blueridge good neighbour day. We will also keep the profits from sales. Traditionally , Blueridge Elementary has run a Tombola Wheel station with candy. This was run on the day, by the vice principal and Grade 7's. Current BPAC exec unsure as to where the money went to, if it went to BPAC or Gr 7 Grad fundraising. This year the Grade 7's declined this event. Jen D to ask if Gr 6's want to run this year as their first grad fundraiser.
- G. **Emergency Preparedness-** PAC exec went over the information from the district as well as asked the attending staff for more clarification as to what needs to be done at Blueridge to comply with the new rules. Currently, all teachers have a small grab and go bin with all the immediate necessary emergency supplies. All extra but still essential items have been re-organized and sorted into the emergency bin on the field. At present, everything is organised and up to date. **We are looking for a parent who is passionate about emergency preparedness to step up and take on the lead role in this initiative.** This parent will be the point person going forward. The role will be to ensure all supplies stay in date and replace as needed. Anyone interested in this should contact BPAC chair Rachel Harper as soon as possible. ***** Aside : This conversation brought up another coming change to the emergency release drill : this will be changing to make a more efficient and streamlined release. Children will now be released from their classrooms. More info to come.
- H. **Current Fundraisers/Events - (Rachel)**
- a. **Grade 3 Staff Appreciation Lunch May 26th** - this is the first time it has been run by a grade. Run in the library from noon - 12:45. More info to come. Grade 3's to organise. Staff present requested that any prepared food must be made by someone who has food safe. Rachel to follow up with grade 3 reps.
 - b. **Growing Smiles-** Order closed today. Pick up May 11 at Jen Dickson's house.
- I. **Upcoming Fundraisers/Events**
- a. **Ice Cream Social-** Allison is looking into sponsors to donate to cut down on cost. Early June. Will look a little different than previous. More info to come.
 - b. **Grade 6 Parent Social June 2nd - 6-10 pm.** Planning underway. Will be held at the school. Paper flyers to go home. Logistics are still in discussion. Looking for auction items as there will be a tombola jar, silent auction. Next year - decide to include money collection at the beginning of the year to bring back the grade allocated baskets. Ticket sales open next week. Rachel to put in the bulletin.

c. Neufelds- (Mika) will look into possibility of another spring date

7. Call for other business (time permitting):

A. No other business.

8. Adjournment of Meeting

Upon motion duly made by the Chair and seconded, IT WAS RESOLVED that the meeting concluded at 8:11 pm and there be no further business brought before the meeting. There will be no BPAC meeting in March. The next meeting will be the AGM and will be held on May 25, 2023 at 7pm.

CHAIR

RECORDING SECRETARY