



Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School

7350 Laurel St.  
Vancouver, BC, V6P 3T9

Phone: (604) 713-4925  
Fax: (604) 713-4927

## Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School Minutes of Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting

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**Date:** October 24, 2023 (Tuesday)

**Venue:** Hybrid - In-person (Laurier)/Zoom

**Present:**

Geri Gruft (Principal)  
Bill Martin (Co-Chair)  
Carolyn Yeung (Secretary)  
Margaret Lung (DPAC representative)  
Natasha Harry (Treasurer)  
Aly Woodward  
Cathy Wong  
Debra Locke  
Cameron Clow  
Cheki Salabet  
Chun Yin Li  
Emanuel Saucedo  
Gabriel Sevilla  
Haridra parents

Henry Leong  
Jocelyn Balladares  
Karen  
Kelly  
Kenneth Wong  
Martin Esnaola  
Muza  
Ping Zhao  
Reggie Cheng  
Tina Wang

The meeting was called to order by Bill Martin at 6:40pm.

	Agenda Item	Executive	Details	Action Item
1	Welcome, Land Acknowledgment	Bill	I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples – Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Səlílwəta?/Selilwitulh (TsleilWaututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations. Brief round of introductions.	
2	Approval of meeting agenda	Bill	Moved by Bill, seconded by Tasha. Motion carried.	Agenda approved.
3	Approval of last meeting minutes	Bill	Moved by Bill, seconded by Tasha. Motion carried.	Minutes approved.

4	Principal's Report	Geri	<p><b>Principal's Report.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Earthbites have been underway, field trips - Pumpkin patch visits</li> <li>2) Orange Shirt assembly - introduced the Coast Salish anthem.</li> <li>3) Remembrance Day assembly coming up.       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) no parents allowed at assemblies due to increased student population and staff.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4) Goal setting conferences will be coming up this week. Will help to guide teachers' planning and report cards, and identify next steps for each child and the class.       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Using 4 point scale: Beginning (some early knowledge), Developing (practicing), Applying (needing less guidance), Extending (can take skills and apply skills in different settings independently).</li> </ol> </li> <li>5) Report cards will come home December 7.</li> <li>6) Questions from PAC members:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Any changes to student numbers?           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) All classrooms are full. No space for new students (397 students).</li> </ol> </li> <li>b) Any staffing changes?           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) We still have 2 SSA vacancies.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Wendy has a permanent position.</li> <li>(2) Junifee (sp?) has also accepted a permanent position as well.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> <li>c) Any feedback re: Saleema Noon presentations?           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) No feedback/followup yet from teachers.</li> <li>ii) For future reference, October tends to be busy and is not a great time for hosting these sessions.</li> </ol> </li> <li>d) Any updates re: timing of lunch, and eating lunch in classrooms:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) No changes yet regarding lunch time supervision. No updates yet re: timing of lunch recess and eating.</li> <li>ii) We have 2 supervision aides currently; trying to have 3 supervision aides. and also trying to teach kids about mindful eating.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e) Any infrastructure updates still in progress with South building? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Still trying to connect the PA system and bells</li> <li>ii) Pathway between the buildings is prepared for paving but not paved yet</li> </ul> </li> <li>f) Any chance to add spaces to the Sparetime program? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Spare time program rents our space. Would need to speak directly with Sparetime re: openings.</li> </ul> </li> <li>g) Any update on the Annex? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) No updates/information.</li> </ul> </li> <li>h) Can kids wear costumes for Halloween? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Yes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>7) Reminders re: safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Safe arrival times are 8:45-3:15pm</li> <li>b) Traffic signs were put up; there is a new sign put up by the city. We are trying to promote walking to school.</li> <li>c) Ms. Geri will try to set up some sessions for road safety reminders.</li> </ul> <p>8) DPAC - discussed reintroducing police liaisons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) School liason officer for Laurier is Josh Chen based out of Churchill.</li> </ul>	
6	Treasurer's report	Natasha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) We received \$38000 in Hot Lunch payments - there were some late payments in October. Vendor payments approx \$28000. Not sure what profits will be like until December.</li> <li>2) Payment of \$7k was made to Earthbites.</li> <li>3) We did not receive the Gaming grant until October. We received \$6540 for the Gaming grant - usually set aside for Earthbites and Grade 7 graduation.</li> <li>4) Deposits were made to our general account for field trips. Reminder that field trip payments are made through School CashOnline.</li> <li>5) Classroom FTE - \$7222. We budgeted only \$6100.</li> <li><b>6) Motion moved by Bill to increase FTE funding from \$6100 to \$7300. seconded by Margaret. Motion carried.</b></li> <li>7) A few asks/requests for PAC funding support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 2 musical performances - indigenous performance, and Vancouver-based band, about \$1000 each.</li> <li>b) new projector for use in the gym for assemblies.</li> <li>c) timer clocks for each division \$50 x 17.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Motion moved to increase classroom funding to \$7300 - motion carried.</p> <p>Motion moved to approve \$3500 spending for school/teacher requests. Motion carried.</p> <p>Motion moved to increase the Earthbites budget to \$14000 - motion carried.</p>

			<p><b>8) Motion moved by Bill to approve \$3500 spend for requests from the school/teachers. Motion moved by Bill, seconded by Aly. Motion carried.</b></p> <p>9) There is a finance committee (made up of teachers) and there is a shared spreadsheet to make requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Focus on Universal Design for learning. - aiming to try to have classrooms have more of their own technology.</li> <li>b) Hopefully by January there will be some definitive requests.</li> </ul> <p>10) Earthbites - We budgeted \$13k this year, but the invoice comes to \$14k. Last year's estimate was based on student/division numbers from before. Cost is approximately \$35/student for the year (\$8/workshop). Perhaps we can consider looking at alternative ways to fund Earthbites. Discussed different ideas about how to fund it, and ways for parents to learn about the program itself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Activity fees would be due in April 2024, if we want to adjust how we fund it. (i.e. possibly including an Earthbites activity fund).</li> <li>b) Option is also open to consider other special learning initiatives in the future if that is the preference of the school community.</li> <li><b>c) Motion moved by Bill to increase the Earthbites budget by \$1000 to match the invoice, seconded by Natasha. Motion carried.</b></li> <li>d) Is there information available from Earthbites to educate the parents about the program?</li> </ul>	
7	PAC Programs, Events & Fundraising	Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Hot Lunch - No updates on the program. Ping thanked all the volunteers helping the program run smoothly.</li> <li>2) Friendship list - There were only 10 responses received so far. The contribution period will be left open for a bit longer. Bill will arrange a reminder to all parents of the list with an extended due date.</li> <li>3) Purdy's - Email about the fundraiser can be expected soon to launch the fundraiser.</li> <li>4) Movie Night - Email expected to go out the first week of November. Planning for the movie night is underway for an evening in late November.</li> <li>5) DPAC update - Discussions at the district meeting reminded all PACs about the City of Vancouver Walk Run Roll grant (application</li> </ul>	

			<p>due Nov 3). Parents also discussed the re-introduction of school liaisons from the VPD, and SSA resourcing challenges across the district. Next DPAC meeting is October 26, 2023.</p> <p>6) Laurier Shirts Sale – Orange shirts were sold at cost. Another order will be put in for t-shirts and sweatshirts in all available colours, not just orange/pink.</p>	
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Motion to end the meeting was moved by Bill, seconded by Natasha. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 21 @ 6:30 pm on Zoom