



Parent Advisory Council

Minutes of CMS PAC Meeting

Date: January 18, 2023

Location: Library

Attendance: Carson Tonn, Saskia Battersby, Patty Glover, Karlene Dawson, Rhona Stanislaus Terri Marshall, Jeanette Watson, Lisa Teasdale, Jim Knittig, Sarah Watson (Regrets)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM

Adoption of Agenda

1. Approval Meeting Minutes – November 8, 2022 – Motion to defer to next meeting:

Patty Glover, 2nd Jeanette Watson

2. Administration Update

a. Principal Update (Refer to appended report)

b. Vice Principal Update (Refer to appended report)

Archery purchases have started to arrive. CMS may be able to add Archery as an Enrichment offering. Great feedback has been received on the November Winter Market. Hot lunch subsidies have started to roll out. Canyon Cup has begun with a lot of excitement and will continue until Spring Break. Winter Enrichment Term 2 has started and includes some very cool options. Mr. Smith from the Deer Community has been placed at KLO Middle School as Vice Principal. CMS welcomes Callie Miller, a student teacher from the fall, back to replace Mr. Smith. February is a busy month with various recognitions including Black History Month; a guest speaker has been lined up. OKM Course Selection has begun. A Counsellor will be visiting CMS to assist students with course selection. Parent night is upcoming at OKM. Grade 7 students and parents will be invited to provide feedback on CMS. A link will be included in the WAGG. Students will have the opportunity to provide feedback during the school day. All

feedback is anonymous. Carson has recently provided several Learning Walks for parents. A link for parent sign-up is available on the school website. Patty will include a link on the PAC Facebook page.

3. Treasurer's Report (Karlene)

Approximately \$7k of the \$44k budget from the last school year was carried forward to this year. This year's minimum fundraising goal is \$20k. Year-to-Date fundraising results include: Hot Lunch - \$32k, Plants and Basil Cooper - \$1.1k, Winter Market - \$4.6k, Purdy's - \$1k and Spirit Wear - \$0.7k for a total of approximately \$39.4k. A cheque has been written to the school for \$16k.

4. Co-PAC Update (Jeanette)

Discussion around e-School being an impressive option for families to consider.

5. Fundraising (Patty)

a. Purdy's Fundraiser (Saskia)

The Committee discussed the logistics of taking on an Easter Purdy's fundraiser. Saskia will check with the office to confirm they are okay with parents picking up orders from the office. A key learning from the last Purdy's fundraiser was to plan the Christmas fundraiser for earlier in the season so that orders are picked up before Christmas break.

b. Spirit Wear (Jeanette)

A Spring Spirit Wear fundraiser will include shorts and t-shirts. A suggestion was also made by Karlene to include knee-high socks. The discussion also included offering t-shirts in community colors.

c. Hot Lunch (Patty)

Tuesdays are great for volunteers however Thursdays are challenging. There has been some recent cross-contamination of products. The Fatburger supplier changed the buns resulting in a sesame allergen issue. The sushi supplier Fresh Box upped prices suddenly by 30% and we also experienced a cross-contamination issue with cucumber rolls. Discussion took place around whether we have enough people to consistently support the hot lunch program.

The subsidy program for Hot Lunch is now available. A boy recently expressed excitement about having access to the Hot Lunch program now. Patty has engaged with the Learning Resource team to help identify kids that could be part of the hot lunch subsidy program. The terms of the Affordability Fund were discussed with regard to the applicability to the Hot Lunch subsidy program. More information to come on what qualifies under the Affordability Fund. Karlene suggested applying for Affordability Fund this year. If we are successful great, if not, we can use the PAC budget to fund the subsidy. Further work is needed to determine the appropriate level of subsidy required to support students. There is also a need to determine when year-end activities start in June due to the number of field trips and kids being absent; this affects the hot lunch schedule. New vendors including Vegetarian Butcher will be brought on for Hot Lunch in the last term.

d. Winter Flowers (Patty)

The Winter Flower fundraiser was not a positive experience and will not be something the Committee will consider in the future. The Committee discussed the possibility of encouraging kids to sell flowers at the Spring Market.

e. Winter Market (Patty)

Positive feedback was received from Winter Market vendors. Vendors are keen to return to participate in the Spring Market.

f. Spring Market (Patty)

Patty proposed that the 2023 Spring Market be held the last weekend in May. A planning committee will need to be formed. The Spring Market will include silent auction baskets. Pricing for vendor tables is proposed to be the same as the Winter Market. Tents would be useful for the market. Karlene will take on the purchase of the tents in collaboration with CMS Administration with the goal of securing them in time for the Spring Market.

New Business

a. By-law Updates (Saskia)

Saskia provided an overview of proposed changes to the Bylaws. Feedback from the rest of the PAC was requested. The Committee will vote on the changes at the April Meeting.

b. Library & Literary Circle Book (Patty)

Parent Jim Knittig joined the meeting to discuss an issue related to his daughter (grade 6) having a book recommended to her through the Literacy Circle program. Mr. Knittig views this book as wildly inappropriate for his daughter. This book is typically available to mature readers. Jim read a passage aloud and communicated a strong concern about such content being available and even in some cases recommended to CMS students. Discussion took place around the books available in the library and around how and who makes the decision. Varying views were expressed on the content. Discussion also took place around the processes that are in place to control who does and does not read the books/

Carson will connect Jim with the librarian to learn more about how books are selected at a Provincial level. The Committee and Administration also offered to connect Mr. Knittig with the relevant decision-makers to allow Mr. Knittig the opportunity to get involved with the decision-making process.

c. School Dance (Patty)

Patty was approached by some parents and kids about having a dance. Two parents have since offered to be part of the dance committee. Ticket sales were considered to cover the costs and it was determined that such an event would depend on the participation of parent volunteers. Carson expressed a preference for the dance to be held during the school day and is happy to help organize it, especially with the help of parent volunteers. Night-time dances are challenging when soliciting teacher supervision outside of the regular school day. Possible timing was

discussed for April or May. Parents interested in organizing can connect with Carson.

d. Workshops (Patty)

Ideas for possible parent/student-focused workshops were discussed:

- Transition from Middle to High School
- Executive Functioning
- Developing Positive Study Habits
- Locating Resources for Kids
- Learning Disabilities
- What to Do When Your Kids Are Struggling

Rhona to work on organizing workshops to be offered over the course of the year.

General Discussion & Questions

a. Sister School Contribution of \$1,500

Discussion around the status of the cheque. It was determined a cheque still needs to be written to Rutland Middle School PAC.

Next meeting: February 15th

Discussion to include Community Learning Structure and how CMS is preparing students for High School. The President and Vice President of COPAC have been invited to attend.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm

Motion: Patty Glover, 2nd Karlene Gordon