

November 30, 2020 – Ecole Marlborough PAC General Meeting

CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM. A quorum was established.

Introduction

- First Nations Recognized.
- Prayers offered to those who have been impacted by the COVID-19.
- Ms. Lily Sharma went over the agenda.

Speakers and Reports

Ms. Sheila Rawnsley, Vice-Principal:

- World kindness day on Nov 13, twitter postings, children were reading books about kindness and Lego structures, complimented each other, although parents are not allowed at school, good things are underway and trying to keep everything as normal as possible.
- Students offered cheers on Dover street for essential service workers.
- Professional day: Staff is learning about indigenous day and culture, land acknowledgment is very important.
- We are getting into festive spirit towards the end of the year.
- Daily Activities: Dec 14 awareness ribbon day, some sort of cause, they can advocate for. Tuesday 15th PJ day, Wednesday 16th matching outfit, Thursday 17th Marlborough colors, Friday 18th School wide Bingo, so we can end on a positive note.

Ms. Karen Floyd, Principal, thanked parents, recognized head teacher Francine, and offered updates:

- We did well until this time. Pointed out to COVID-19 fatigue and as such, reminders maybe needed about health and safety rules. We had a positive case.
- Karen advised she receives significant amount of phone calls regarding physical contact; particularly in the line-up, people are too close, kids are close.
- School is working on physical distance. If children are too close, they are asked to wear masks and they are very compliant, the School kindly asks the same from the parents.
- Regular health checks need to be performed in the morning **before** sending children to school.
- Same rules apply to family members, because if the child answers that question, he/she needs to be put into isolation room, situation investigated, and home contacted.
- The positive case happened last Monday at Marlborough (11/23), contact tracing is taking place and is almost complete. Everybody that needed to be contacted have been contacted by now.
- Fraser Health, Statistics Superintendent, PAC etc. contacted, letters sent, if anyone was in that building, all contacted, so far so good, contact tracing almost complete.

Ms. Lily Sharma advised caution about going to park and playground, and use of ATM and offered further updates:

- Signs have been ordered and we are currently waiting for their arrival – Signs alert public to leave the property to children only between the hours of 8:30 and 15:00. Is is further clarified that this is school property, not property of the city of Burnaby.

Ms. Lily Sharma continued with PAC Chair Report:

- Transition from old to new PAC is underway.
 - I. All outstanding payments have been cleared by the former PAC and a healthy budget has been handed over to the new PAC.
 - II. Advised funds available.
 - III. Pumpkin Patch to be paid soon
 - IV. Signing authority is work in progress.
 - V. A simple PAC page on school web site has been updated.
- Stone benches have been planned for the East side. A letter has been written to secure a grant to make this happen.
- It may be critical to contact the Burnaby traffic department regarding a better-timed walk signal. To that end, if more parents join the request regarding traffic signal, we may have a higher chance of getting the desired result.
- Current PAC financial situation is healthy, however it is important to note that all traditional fund-raising options are on hold.

DPAC updates offered by Ms. Manami Calvo and Ms. Adriana Constantinescu:

- Ms. Calvo shared highlights from the most recent meeting and advised that feedback was gathered during work sessions regarding what has been working well for parents this school year.
- Feedback was gathered regarding what should be included in the mental health presentation that the School District will be giving in the new year.

PAC Objectives were presented by Ms. Lily Sharma:

- Increase PAC visibility
- Enhance communication
- Invite ideas from parents
- Generate new/COVID safe fundraising ideas.

Q&A

Q: Ms. Xiaofei asked a question about whether there is a consideration for an online class due to increasingly high transmission numbers lately; late French immersion specifically but also French immersion in general:

A: District reserved a tutor for this, and this option for grade 7, and kindergarten early immersion and grade 6 is very similar and it is hard to do this online, Ms. Karen Floyd will take this up and circle back, but it is not offered for grade 6 at this time.

Q: Ms. Lily Ruan asked a question regarding School District plans for those who have not returned to school.

A: Ms. Karen Floyd will take it up to District and return with further guidance.

Q: Ms. Katherine Kwan made s suggestion: A Facebook page, or different types of platforms might be beneficial in getting more people on board and keep them engaged. People need to know where to go, , she volunteers for setting up a Facebook page, for communication and school events.

Ms. Tatjana Hamovic: Asked about children who stayed home, with no online participation, whether they follow the program (curriculum).

A: The school will do best to get them into online.

In closing, Ms. Lily Sharma advised she will send out an email to those who are interested in regulating traffic light and improve traffic safety.

Termination

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was terminated on time. General Meeting had 43 participants at its max.

The next meeting will be held on Monday January 25th, 2021 at 6:30 PM PST.