

## **January 25, 2021 – Ecole Marlborough PAC General Meeting**

### **CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM. A quorum was established.

### **Introduction**

- Ms. Lily Sharma, PAC Chair, offered welcome introductions and went over the agenda.
- New Year well wishes offered and First Nations Recognized.

### **Speakers and Reports**

Ms. Karen Floyd, Principal:

- Introduced and welcomed Ms. Francine Giacomazza, the new Vice-Principal of École Marlborough Elementary, who took over from Ms. Sheila Rawnsley about 2 weeks ago.
- With participation of every school division, there were great farewell celebrations and pages made for Ms. Sheila Rawnsley who is starting her new school in the beginning of February.

Ms. Francine Giacomazza, Vice-Principal :

- New modifications to Marlborough School web site were made. A slider was added as a new feature.
- Parents page and PAC info is being organized on the web site. In addition, there is information specific to parents: A quest for rest! General information about how sleep promotes well-being, learning and cognitive activity.

Ms. Karen Floyd, Principal:

- Registration: if you have siblings/children born in 2016, they need to register to kindergarten at Marlborough.
- Applications are only processed from February Feb 1<sup>st</sup> through Feb 26; this year everything is online.
- Registration is always based on birthdate, there is no wiggle room to this rule. Either the child or child(ren)'s home address needs to be in the catchment area. All documentation is sent home.
- District language programs, such as late immersion also needs to be registered in February. These programs are not for all learners.
- Grade 5 parents need to register for Grade 6 late immersion, please call Ms. Karen Floyd should you have any questions.
- Kindergarten district registration: Make sure you apply for English catchment and then apply for any language program.
- There is also a computerized random lottery to determine 40 Kindergarten spots and 30 in late immersion. Please call Ms. Karen Floyd should you have any questions.
- Grade 7 parents: There is a transition process to support you. As part of that, there is parent evening session regarding which secondary schools to attend. Meetings are now virtual but each

school representative talk about what their schools they offer. Every secondary school is in touch with every Grade 7 teacher This information is on the Marlborough School website. Please feel free to call Ms. Karen Floyd if you have further questions.

- Administration of Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) tests for Grade 4 -7: The FSAs are marked by Burnaby teachers and administrators, and results will be sent home early spring. The assessment is not used for any reporting purposes and are not part of term 2 report cards. Tests cover reading, writing and numeracy. All grade 4 & 7s are required to take these tests except for English Language Learners and students with special needs. If you wish your child to not participate in FSAs this year, please contact Mme. Floyd by email so she can exempt your child from testing.
- Student Learning Survey (used to be student satisfaction survey): This is done for the Ministry of Education. This is a type of census regarding daily life. Nothing gets marked and it is used for planning purposes each year.
- Report cards: The First formal report is coming up. Report cards will be sent home around March 10-12 and will look like report cards from the last year. Upon receipt of their report, parents who wish to meet with their teacher can do so either virtually or by phone.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> informal would normally be in April. Normally parents come in to the school and kids show off their work, but we do not know what to do this year. We will talk about it after this period.
- Snow Day: Please check the district web site for information on school closures due to snow. We will also post information about closures on our site. Local Radio or TV will have the information as well.
- 'Carnaval' (Carnival) is virtual this year: Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> - Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, we will wear different costumes every day: Vinyl shirt, crazy hat, etc. A virtual assembly and individual classes' activities, around Quebec Carnaval will take place. PAC will purchase Maple Cookies, handed out by Bon Homme. We have to be very careful how we hand out cookies, as such; teachers will be wearing gloves, no sharing and passing around. It will be in the afternoon; we can have teachers cook/bring food. If you have any concerns, please give Ms. Karen Floyd or Ms. Francine Giacomazza a call.
- Ms. Jaclyn Cummings will continue as the Acting head teacher until the end of June, her student teacher has taken over her former teaching role.
- Ms. Adriana Constantinescu, DPAC Representative, inquired about grade 7 activities of the previous year.
  - Ms. Karen Floyd, Principal, advised that a photo shoot was organized but no formal assembly was done. Having another virtual assembly like last year is likely. This needs to be discussed. Grade 7 parents need to form a committee to hash out options to organize some form of assembly. Parents will not be allowed to participate, and students will need to remain within their learning group.
- CPF, French Film Festival: Benefits of having the film festival in classroom will be explored.
- Lily Sharma, PAC Chair inquired about the status of stone benches.
  - Ms. Karen Floyd, Principal, advised although it is still early, we will hear from the City of Burnaby.

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

- DPAC meeting was held on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2021. Updates from Gina Niccoli-Moen, Superintendent/CEO, Burnaby School District, indicated that exposure was the highest in December and that Fraser Health doing well with contact tracing,
- Nick Christofides, Vice Principal Safe and Caring Schools at Burnaby, presented material on mental health and which is identified as the main cause for disorders in children. There will be a mental health team to meet every other month.
- An anti-racism presentation for February was reviewed.
- A “Stop the Spread” poster was reviewed, and it will be made available to those who want to have a copy of it.

Mr. Patrick Hung, Treasurer presented the 2020-2021 Budget:

- The current year’s budget is a smaller budget than last year’s because of limited to no source of funding. BC gaming grant is the where the majority of financial sources originate from.
- With a last-minute additional expense update of \$400 for school garden, the budget was MOVED/SECONDED unanimously and CARRIED.
- The expected funds on-hand at the end of the period will be either \$3,710.15 or \$7,710.15, subject to obtaining the City of Burnaby outdoor playground grant.

Ms. Lily Sharma, PAC Chair:

- PAC Committees Parent volunteers needed.
- PAC social media communication: Helping PAC with ideas on how to improve communication, Katherine Kwan graciously offered support and will reach out and work with PAC. Some of the ideas floated were: Husky on the mask, similar designs on the school web site, etc.

School Traffic Safety:

- Key topics are: Walk signs, inclement weather, school parking signs, surge in traffic.
- We should think about how we ensure school parking is able to handle increased load and traffic.
- More volunteer parents are expected. Only one nomination received so far. Please send email to PAC/DPAC so that we can begin our activities.
- Better ways to educate repeat offenders is deemed critical.
- Parking on Nelson cannot be used by parents, except grade 7 band, limited times. This lot is for Burnaby School District employees only (on Nelson) until quarter to three PM. All parents and families are kindly urged to respect that.

School Capacity Planning:

- New apartments with new families in the catchment area raised the question whether the school could run into capacity issues.
- The school district has a statistician who works in close cooperation with building constructions, townhouses, etc. and projections are made. After spring break, all registration information is collected and if the family is a resident within the prescribed catchment, then a spot is identified which also drives how many teachers will be staffed. In case of overflow, the school would be

re-routing to a near by school. Since January 4<sup>th</sup>, 21 families (at least 21 children) have moved out.

- Ms. Karen Floyd, Principal, will announce projection when it is ready. District has a good handle on the process. Burnaby is increasing elementary and decreasing secondary school capacity.

## Q&A

Mr. Diego, a grade 7 French immersion Parent, expressed optimism about having a full-fledged graduation if vaccine is received and administered by then.

Ms. Karen Floyd advised she does not expect that to happen. However, if a working committee can be formed, there is a potential this may happen to certain extent, provided health and safety guidelines are followed; currently we cannot have more than 30 people but unless that changes, we are unable to have a graduation. Accordingly, and as a result, no Camping and no Quebec trip was done.

## Termination

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was terminated at 07:34 PM. General Meeting had 36 participants at its max.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 at 6:30 PM PST.

## With Attachments:



PAC GM Jan 25  
2021.pptx



PAC Budget -  
2020-21 - Approved.