

Kootenay Orchards Elementary School Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting Minutes
Monday February 10, 2022

Call to Order: 6:06pm

Agenda: no additions

Attendees: Kim, Amanda, Anneli Schadeli (Teacher & Principal report), Carla, Nicole, Jill, Stephanie, Candice, Ben

President Report:

- Email will be going out to parents about the PAC positions that will be available for the next school year
- Mom's Pantry fundraiser goes until February 11. We already have \$3,700 ordered
- Pink Shirts will be delivered around February 17

Treasurer Report: *see attached*

Principal Report:

- Although January did have an increase in absences due to illness, we did not experience a functional closure, which was indeed positive for school morale.
- With regards to health and safety, Rapid Antigen tests have been delivered for staff. As well, we continue to maintain a 2-hour day custodian on top of our evening custodian, ensuring touch point cleaning of the building where and when needed.
- Next month we will be forming a Playground committee for parents who are interested in delving further into examining the financial feasibility of the acquisition of playground equipment. Our action plan will be predicated on examining both the comments and results of the survey, formulating scenarios based on budget and research regarding costs of selected equipment. Please stay tuned for further details.
- Basketball continues up until March break. Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Poole share the practices at recess and lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mrs. Potter also supervises the floor hockey at lunch on Fridays! We are so grateful for her dedication to ensuring that our students are able to enjoy sport on a weekly basis!
- Skiing this year will take a different twist. Due to bussing times and the limited ski terrain available at the Kimberly ski resort, downhill skiing will not be offered this year. We will be exploring Nordic track skiing as a result, in early March for classes who are interested. As well, a few classes have also been having fun snowshoeing – which gets the heart pumping if anything!
- On Friday, February 25, we will be having our Class Connections whereby our classes pair up and buddy read. Our reading will be moody flashlight reading, which is always a fun way to share books!
- Our kindergarten registration ran smoothly. A big thank you to parents who registered on – line and of course to Cathy, our secretary extraordinaire, who made sure that our l's were dotted, and t's were crossed, and parents were contacted if anything needed clarification or updating.
- As mentioned in the February newsletter, Valentines Day will look a little more normal this year. Students are allowed to exchange cards and food from 'food safe' sources will be allowed in classrooms. We encourage individually wrapped items and if not, teachers will be the ones handing out the goodies in a safe way either using tongs or plastic gloves.

- Science fair preparations continue as the students delve into the scientific process with Dr. Ingram. Having access to her expertise and having her model scientific habits of mind allows our students to experience science
- This week and for the next month, Year 4 EKTEP (East Kootenay Teacher Education Program) students will be embarking on their practicums with their assigned teachers. We would like to thank our teachers for being mentors to these students as they are soon to embark on their teaching careers. As Principal of Kootenay Orchards, I am so proud to showcase the solid teaching skills of our staff as they collaborate and guide the preservice teachers in their practicums.
- Last, but not least, get ready for a potentially curvy ride, as Mr. Flegel and his class in collaboration with our SD5 design guru Mr. McKenzie create their luge run outside in the outdoor classroom area. The students have undergone much planning, measuring, comparing and contrasting hill slope and gradient, as well as creating mock – ups of luges runs. We also anticipate the collaboration of UVic students in early March as they will help with the reflective piece to the luge run creation, asking questions regarding what if, how and why the luge run iteration had the results it did.

Teachers Report:

- Playground committee needs to be set up and email sent out to parents. Carla said she will possibly chair the committee

Trustee Report:

- Wendy did not attend the meeting so there was no Trustee Report

New Business:

- Nothing

Next PAC meeting: April 4, 2022

Meeting adjourned: 6:37pm