

Kootenay Orchards Elementary School Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting Minutes
Monday September 13, 2021

Call to Order: 6:00pm

Agenda: no additions

Attendees: Jo, Kim, Amanda, Paula, Marifer, Lindsey, Marie, Brittney, Julie, Stephanie, Nicole, Hayley, Sarah, Judi Poole (Principal), Wendy Turner (Trustee), Kim Lutz (Teacher)

Approval of June 7th minutes: Transferred over to the October meeting

President Report:

- Introduction of PAC executives to the new parents that joined the school
- Amanda will be stepping down as Treasurer at the end of this school year. Marifer put her name in for next year

Treasurer Report: *see attached*

Principal Report:

- The year has gotten off to a good start – we have 219 students this year, a new Youth Care Worker – Ms. Robyn Graham and Carol Jarvis as our counsellor until May when Mrs. Dol returns.
- Although we still have to adhere to Covid protocols, to ensure the safety of all, the students and staff are happy to have a full school recess and lunch as well as no longer having the specific cohorts. This and this alone is a welcome to us all! There is nothing better than having our intermediate students become leaders to our young ones again and we look forward to having clubs and buddies working together in a cross grade level capacity.
- We had our first full welcome back to school assembly outside on Friday, September 10. To see the whole school together was a treat! This certainly brings me joy!
- We are returning to having a fruit and veggie program at school this year – our first delivery is plums on September 21.
- A big thank you to Kim Carruthers for helping us navigate how to handle food preparation safely. Kim obtained her Food Safe certificate this summer and we are looking forward to having her help us this year with all things food related.
- Orange shirt day will be celebrated more as an Orange Shirt Week. Our Aboriginal Education support worker, Shayannah Johnson is working in collaboration with classes so that we respectfully acknowledge our First Peoples and truth and reconciliation.
- We are continuing with our morning announcers who are presently comprised of Gr. 3 and 4 students. We are also starting up our Gr. 6 Helpers again so as to build leadership capacity among the intermediate students.
- We are starting to plan our Terry Fox trot that will take place at the end of the month. More details are to follow.

Teachers Report:

- The whole school is on the same recess and lunch schedule
- Grade 6 will be able to help out this year with the kindergartners
- Terry Fox run is on September 24. PAC will be providing students and staff with popsicles

Trustee Report:

- Director Tichauer continue to be the School District 5 representative on the HARBIR Community Consultation Committee.
- The board discuss the Canadian School Board Conference further at the June Board meeting on June 15, 2021
- The board of education accept Policy 5.4, Student Bus Service, with the revision to the section Ridership Eligibility. The routes will be reviewed and adjusted as needed through the administrative Procedure Manual. Transportation services will be available for those students enrolled in the district and will be defined by the community in the Administrative Procedure Handbook.
- The Board write a letter to Minister Whiteside in support of the February 3, 2021, BCSTA letter to Minister Fleming and Whiteside regarding safe routes to Schools.

New Business:

- PAC is looking at a few big-ticket items that we can fundraise for this year. PAC is currently talking with staff and the school district about making our playground to be more accessible and upgrading the playground equipment

Next PAC meeting: October 4, 2021

Meeting adjourned: 7:26pm