

Association des parents d'élèves de l'École André-Piolat

General Meeting

via MS Teams

Wednesday, April 17th, 2024, 8:00PM.

Minutes

ATTENDEES:

Julie DÉZIEL, President
Melissa POWELL, President
Lily WU, Treasurer.
François PROULX, Secretary
Julien HÉNON, Director
Ginette MILLS, Director
Annick VACHON, Director
Sarah McCURDY
Anaïs FERRARI
Andrée RICHER
Aurélia MÉRADOU
Katherine HUME
Roja BAGHERI
Natasha WALLACE
Jean LAUZON
Rose HOLBROOK
Rachid NAYEL
Patty NAYEL
Marta TOESEV

GUESTS:

Monica MARTIN, Principal
Audrey COCQUERY, Teacher Rep

REGRETS:

Tim ROBERTS, Vice President
Nathalie CHALOIN, Director

1. The meeting was called to order by Melissa POWELL at 20:05.
2. Land acknowledgement performed by Melissa POWELL.
3. **-> Agenda adopted as circulated, proposed by Melissa POWELL, seconded by Julie DÉZIEL.**

- 4. -> Minutes from February 21st 2024 Minutes adopted as circulated, proposed by Aurelia MERADOU, seconded by Julie DÉZIEL.**
5. Presidents Update.
- a. Julie DÉZIEL shares about plant sales, 6th grader graduation and 12th grader graduation ceremonies, both the CSF one and the in house André-Piolat one for grade 12, details to be determined.
 - b. Julie shares that Friday June 14th will be end of the year community celebration, potluck / picnic, as well as dance with DJ.
 - c. Julie also shares that a parent from École Norval-Morisseau seeks to form a CSF racialized parents group, first meeting on Wednesday May 07th. André-Piolat parents that are interested should email PAC.
6. Principal Update.
- a. Monica MARTIN shares about Student Learning Survey: this was mentioned many times in school memos, but André-Piolat response rate only 2% so far, parents invited to fill that.
 - b. Monica shares upcoming school year tentative classes spread with attendees. Recruitment for teaching staff starting April 25th. Some positions will be posted for recruitment, eg one mat leave in elementary school, and some high school positions.
 - c. Monica says IB diploma offered again this coming year in high school, French classes may be shared between grades, less likely for Maths.
 - d. Monica shares about upcoming school activities and events. Théâtre de la Seizième coming thanks to grant applied for by PAC, Métis culture event, and school track and field also coming up. Earth Day Assembly to be facilitated by students.
 - e. Lily WU wishes for some pics of Théâtre la Seizième event, as this is a requirement from the federal grant programme.
7. Teacher Rep Update.
- a. Audrey COCQUERY says high school student council planning an Earth Day outing for clean up. Exam prep under way.
8. Student Rep Update.
- a. No Student Rep in attendance.
9. CECRÉA Rep Update.
- a. No CECRÉA Rep in attendance.
10. Comité des partenaires Rep Update.
- a. Roja BAGHERI updates on work being done on school's Code de vie.

- b. Roja says that suggestions for educational project presented to CSF, their response is pending. Monica MARTIN says that review with CSF's Directeur de l'instruction is planned for this coming week.

11. Hot Lunch Programme.

- a. Melissa POWELL thanks Aurelia MERADOU, Anaïs FERRARI and Rose HOLBROOK for their service on the Hot Lunch programme.
- b. Melissa says that all 3 are moving on next year, so new volunteers are needed to steer programme.
- c. Julie DÉZIEL emphasizes the importance of the Hot Lunch programme. Julie says that there is a need to onboard new volunteers before end of school year to ensure good transition. Julie invites people to contact PAC if they are interested.
- d. Anaïs says that her children will still be at school this coming year, so she can help out still this coming year to facilitate transition. Anaïs says no volunteers are needed for lunch distribution per se Tuesdays and Thursdays, as school now ordering subway.
- e. Aurélia also offers to facilitate transition. Aurélia says many process improvements have occurred to facilitate work on Munch a Lunch or with suppliers. Aurélia shares her cell if members want to contact her. Aurélia says parents requests that volunteers need to field are much less since improvements, so checking emails is less demanding.
- f. Rose also offers to facilitate transition. Rose emphasizes need for volunteers to distribute lunch during noon hour.
- g. François PROULX points to Hot Lunch programme being by far biggest source of income for PAC, and is grateful for parents volunteering for this. Anaïs wishes for more education about financial importance of Hot Lunches for PAC to be provided to members. Sarah McCURDY also emphasizes need for this information to be provided to members.
- h. Anaïs shares her views that some parents taking advantage of school meal support may not truly be in financial need of it, and that this leads to losses for PAC, as those meals are sold at cost to the school. Monica MARTIN shares that school has obligation to help families in need with lunches, received a grant for it, and is thankful for PAC collaboration on that. Monica says 40+ families on that list. Monica says she does wonder whether all families are in need of that. Monica says drawback of this programme being low barrier to access is that some families that will ask for it may not truly need it, and will still get it.
- i. François invites more parents to volunteer for Hot Lunch distribution, as this is a good way to meet other parents and spend time in school.

12. Executive for 2024-2025

- a. Melissa POWELL says that herself, Julie DÉZIEL and Francois PROULX will not be seeking re-election.
- b. Julie DÉZIEL says she would like to stay on executive, and will facilitate transition. Julie emphasizes benefits of volunteering on PAC executive, invites attendees to spread word about this opportunity, and reminds us that elections will be held during June Special General Meeting.
- c. Marta TOESEV suggests educating membership about executive roles to assuage worries and generate interest, including at eg upcoming community events. Julie says no such events planned until end of the year event in June, but education could be provided to membership through other means.

13. 6th Grade Graduation

- a. Ginette MILLS asks Monica MARTIN about hoodie to be designed by 6th graders. Monica says this is happening, this is an André-Piolat 6th grade tradition, parents to pay fee, schools will pay for families in need. Monica says there will also be a ceremony with ice cream.
- b. Sarah McCURDY wonders if Yearbook budgeted \$1,000 is expected by 12th graders? Monica says that school could cover expenses needed for grade 12 yearbook.

→ ***Ginette MILLS proposes that \$300 currently allocated for Yearbook be allocated for 6th grade graduation event (so \$600 total be allocated for 6th grade graduation). Lily WU seconds.***

14. Schoolyard Reno Project Update.

- a. Marta TOESEV says that consultants have prepared draft plans which were circulated with school reno committee members, still expecting feedback.
- b. Marta hoping that cost estimate to be ready by May PAC General Meeting.
- c. Marta says committee plans to update website.
- d. Marta acknowledges that PAC members wish for a progress update. Melissa POWELL wishes for a memo update for members.

15. Treasurer Update.

- a. Lily WU shares budget update. \$6,704 spent so far, \$23,660 available.
- b. Lily says per class division funds for teacher far from fully spent, hopefully teachers will send bills by May.
- c. Lily says 12th grade graduation and scholarship money handed over to school. Yearbook money not spent yet.
- d. Lily says teacher appreciation day funds not spent. Melissa POWELL says this is planned at end of year.

- e. Lily says that librarian teacher project fund for new books spent, as well as theater project money.
- f. Lily says Brackendale money not spent yet, bit confirms it is there. Lily reminds members that parents will be charged an additional individual fee. Monica MARTIN says there was uncertainty about Brackendale outing this year re. M. René LITALIEN was on leave. Monica says CSF must approve the outing, but that CSF policy actually prohibits overnight outings for grade 3 and below students, a derogation is needed, but there has been precedent at our school for that particular outing. Rachid NAYEL deplores that only info about outing communicated with grade 3 parents was through PAC minutes.
- g. Lily says \$5,095 grant for hot lunches received.
- h. Rachid asks about current cash reserves. Lily says main source of income is Hot Lunches, but is not sure how much money raised this year.
- i. François PROULX asks about recipient of grade 12 scholarships, criteria being used, and selection process. Monica says that recipients not known yet, re PAC has yet to communicate criteria. Audrey COCQUERY suggests using criteria that would go beyond grades or academic results, and that would recognize involvement in school community. Julie DÉZIEL says 3 scholarships allows for different criteria. Lily suggests results, effort, school involvement. Monica suggests inviting application. Andrée RICHER asks whether there are non PAC scholarships from CSF, sponsors, etc, but Monica says no. Andrée remembers certain students participating at community events and at PAC meetings. Andrée suggests input from EAs to select recipients.

→ François and Julie DÉZIEL will meet with Monica to establish scholarship criteria.

- j. Melissa inquires about basketball nets previously voted. Annick VACHON says this could come from BC gaming funds.

-> Lily proposes that \$450 be allocated from line 17 "TBD" for purchase of chess board, to be used by this coming school year's new after school chess teacher. Need to order in June to get it by September. François seconds.

- k. Lily reminds us that PAC mini budget must be presented to membership by September General meeting. Annick reminds us that teachers should present their bills for division funds by end of May.

- a. Anaïs FERRARI asks whether there will be a fun run this year, Julie DÉZIEL says PAC has yet to decide whether this will be held this year, versus doing a bigger run this coming year. Ginette MILLS supports doing it this coming year with better prep.
- b. Sarah McCURDY suggests that 12th grade graduation be allocated an amount from the beginning of the school year, to facilitate planning. Melissa POWELL says that September mini-budget could set aside an amount for grade 12 graduation.
- c. Lily WU informs us that our future afterschool chess teacher will accompany our group to a chess tournament June 01st and 02nd at TWU. Interested grade 1 to 12 parents can register to tournament independently, and accompanying parents will also be needed.

17. The meeting was adjourned at 21:46 by Melissa POWELL.

François PROULX,
Secretary