

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

RAPPEL: Réunion en présentiel à la bibliothèque de l'école le mercredi 16 octobre

2024 à 19h

- Collations fournies

**Mercredi 16 octobre 2024, 19h**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE :

*Lily WU, treasurer*

*Etienne LESSARD, secretary*

*Roja BAGHERI, director*

*Ginette MILLS, director*

*Kathryn FOWLES, director*

*Michelle JICKLING, director*

*Marta TOESEV, director*

*Andrew ROBINSON*

*Anne-Sophie RODET*

*Caroline LOUI-YING*

*Dagmar TIMMER*

*François PROULX*

*Jennifer FLEMING*

*Katherine HUME*

*Kenny St-Hilaire*

*Neda MOEIN*

*Patty NOYEL*

*Roland FLUTET*

*Sébastien Crespin*

*Sebastian KINDSVATER*

*Shawn COOK*

GUESTS :

Michel TARDIF, principal

René-Joseph LITALIEN, teacher union representative

Magalie LARIVIÈRE, school librarian

Théodore ROBINSON, student counsel

Eva PALOMO CASTRILLO, student counsel

Eliam CRESPIN MIRAFANOL, student counsel

Nathaniel VIPOND, student counsel

## 1. Call to order at 7pm

## 2. Greeting and First Nations Acknowledgement:

- Ginette Mills: Gives the welcome and overall purpose of the meeting today.
- Roja Bagheri: Performs the First Nations Acknowledgement

## 3. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda:

- A paper copy of the meeting agenda is shared at the meeting.
- The meeting agenda is adopted (Francois Proulx proposes; Lily Wu seconds)



Ordre du Jour

## 4. Adoption of the last Meetings Draft Notes:

- The meeting minutes to be adopted at the next meeting

## 5. Word from the APÉ (Parent Association)

- Activity update by Ginette MILLS: We are planning a few activities but nothing concrete yet. People are interested in a Halloween event but no date seems to be suitable. The high school students are planning a few activities. Next activity will be wine and cheese for parents. We might have a movie for the kids.
  - Michelle JICKLING suggests having a calendar of all the events for the year. Raises the point that the sugar shack is very popular.
  - Response from Ginette MILLS: We will try to get it going but there are many details to arrange, including getting snow for the maple syrup, finding people to cook, etc.
- Fundraising by Ginette MILLS. Need to engage with the community. A mother has organized an activity with Purdy's. Other fundraising activities planned include selling plants and working with Chef Enrick for meat pie sale. Watch for emails announcing activities.

- Survey: The APÉ is planning to send out a survey to evaluate the interest in different activities.

## 2. Update from the school administration

Michel TARDIF, Principal, addresses concerns:

- Implementation of Technology in the Classrooms:
  - Understands that there wasn't a lot of communication about implementing the technology at the school and hopes that the notes of the evening will reflect the information that he will share
  - There were some concerns about the strategy to implement technology at school, that the tools would be used as time filler.
  - Research shows that using technology in classrooms can have benefits. It highlights that technology can target reward centres in the brain, which is both positive and a potential risk to cause addiction. This is widely acknowledged by the Ministry the CSF and the school administration. Research also shows that the light from screens is not conducive to sleep. Video games can be good to learn dexterity etc. but can also entail negative repercussions
  - Suggests that if a parent is concerned about a situation, that the parent should try to get the whole picture from the kids and the teacher. In this way we can clarify whether technology is being misused.
  - Comments the petition that was received. Some elements in the petition showed that there were misuses. However, the CSF has several tools to limit missuses. Among these: there is a firewall called Palo Alto. Certain websites and apps are restricted, suchs as Youtube. The safe search on Google is enabled.

- Apps that a teacher would like to make accessible, are reviewed by the Board. There needs to be a pedagogical and content creation aspect to the app.
- Maicie Lee is the teacher who has been chosen for the Apple education programme. She will be providing regular updates
  
- Other activities:
  - With the updated schedule that gives more time at lunch, the highschool students have time to work on the associations. For example: they are preparing many activities for the younger students, and they have brought in speakers to share their lived experiences.
  - Sportswise: volleyball teams have been organized and we had 45 kids participate in the cross country run
  
- Bullying:
  - The approach the administration is taking to bullying is to develop social relationships in the school rather than focussing on limiting bullying. Some activities include:
    1. Race and bullying program
    2. RCMP visits
    3. In February, pink shirt day and the be nice day
    4. The kids use the [enfantsavertis.ca](http://enfantsavertis.ca) website to learn how to protect themselves online.
    5. They use mindfulness to develop collaboration
    6. Conseil jeunesse presents workshops

7. Health & Career and Physical Education classes have development activities

- English teacher:
  - A full-time teacher of English has been hired. She has many years of experience with French immersion in grade 3 and grade 4 and she started today in M. Franz's teacher
  - Parent asks if she is certified in English
  - Answer from M. Tardif: while she does not have a degree in English arts, she has the required teaching certifications and experience.
- Code of conduct:
  - The "Comite des partenaires" has had a first meeting and done an initial review of the Code of Conduct.
  - Roja BAGHARI: Roja is part of the committee representing the parents. The committee is reviewing the "code de vie" as there was concern about security of the kids. Currently, the Code does not mention anything about consequences or steps on how to address issues. Other schools are being consulted on how they are building their code of conduct.
  - Parents: Ask if there is a timeline given that the discussion has been ongoing since last year.
  - M. Tardif: the consultation has already happened with secondary students and the draft, when done, can be shared with the parents who can have their say.
  - M. Tardif: Reminds parents that there is a policy f400 that deals with all acts of aggression, which can lead to a suspension, and in extreme cases leads to calling the RCMP. All Boards of Education in BC are required to have one. However, for the CSF specific one for our school, the intention is to create document

with a more compassionate way to respect each other and live together.

- M. Tardif: The next meeting on this subject is October 28.
- Parent: Finds that it is taking a long time to address those aggressions that are not quite at the extreme level. Parents and teachers have a hard time with what to do when the current approach doesn't work.
- M. Tardif: There needs to be a scenario where people know where cannot go beyond. If we can put this in place, it reassures students and parents. It is a difficult today because things have evolved and now things are less defined, there is less structure and people can express themselves as they want.
- Ginette MILLS: Suggests having more supervision and asks if all of these interventions recorded on the student's files. She cites one parent who had maintained an excel sheet to record all the instances of aggression.
- M. Tardif : With 440 students, it is not possible to take note of everything and it is not possible to witness everything that could happen. The student will bring the scenario home, but it might not be the full picture. It is important to engage with the teachers to get the full picture and create action plans. However, we have started to keep records to help us with the review of the Code of Conduct.
- Technological Security:
  - Lily WU : Is thankful for the answers. It's reassuring that the school administration does have an understanding that there are positives and negatives. Would like to know if there is a timeline for updating the security measures for the use of the technology.
  - M. Tardif: Reports that the Technology Director has a good attack plan to address the negative uses.

- Lily WU: Expresses concern that the same levels of security are applied across younger and older grades while there are many things that younger people should not see that might be more appropriate for older teenagers.
- M. Tardif: This is difficult as there are always ways to get around security measures. The other aspect is teaching and we need the help from the parents.
- Parent 2. I'm not an expert but I know that there are ways to get around. I think there should be a strict follow up.
- François PROULX: Expresses satisfaction with the answers given.
- Sebastien KINDSVATER: Mentions that 65 parents signed a petition about technology usage and M. Dufresne will present at the CSF. He recognizes the usefulness of Palo Alto but Google safe search, who controls it? As evidence, he knows that kids saw momo that encourages kids to commit dangerous acts and have watched the horror movie Chuky.
- Parent 2: There is a need to configure Palo Alto. Is it possible to get the tech specialist to present the details of the configurations.
- Marta TOESEV: Suggests only allowing a few students at a time to use the iPads so there is more control.
- M. Tardiff: Teachers have tools to view what students are looking at.

### **3. Update from teachers' representative**

- M. Litalien: Clarifies that he is not the teachers' representative. He is the union representative. However, he is here to speak about funding for the Brackendale outing. The Brackendale outing was approved with 44 students this year. The costs are not fully known yet, but it will likely be around \$25,000, which is about \$500 per student. The trip includes 2 nights and 3 days. He brings up that there are typically



three sources of funding: The CSF and the School, The APE and the parents of the students who are going. There are a few constraints to consider: The CSF has a limited budget but cannot ask parents to pay too much.

- Lilly Wu: Last year, we provided nearly \$4,000 in funding for the 62 students who attended last year. Monica (the principal last year) was able to find some additional one-time funds.
- Parent: Proposes we do more fundraising
- Parent: is there a directive from the CSF as to how much parents should contribute?
- M. Tardiff, it is not clear. We need to minimize costs to parents, but even APE money is parent money.
- François PROULX: my kids have enjoyed it. As parents in this board, we have to either decide to whether we do it or we forego this activity. The \$4,000 will bring the cost by student to \$520 which may be partially covered by the school.
- Ginette: We should get the grade threes get excited about this.
- Parent: My daughter did it last year and it was just such a great experience on so many levels. It seems like most kids on the north shore do it. Most parents pay \$300 or \$400 per student. So, I was pleasantly surprised that it was so cheap.
- Marta TOESEV: this will be something that they will remember. The kids in Vancouver do tons of fundraising.
- M. Litalien: I've been organizing this for years. We have been targeting \$200 to \$280 from parents since 2006.
- M. Tardif: If a family is not able to pay, the school will make sure they go.
- M. litalien: I'll finish off the budget and propose it to the director. Then I can send it to you. We've paid the deposit.

- Lily: we need to finalize the budget today. After that, we can vote max \$1,000 per meeting.

#### **4. Update from the Students' representatives**

- Members:
  - Nathaniel: Representative of the green committee
  - Eliam:
  - Eva: Co-secretary
  - Theodore president: we represent all the students. We are partnering with the green committee.
- Nathaniel: We don't have anything planned yet. We have brought up ideas that the students really appreciated. Three main ideas: halloween competition to decorate doors. Doors are judged by the student committee. A new suggestion is a murder mystery. A Halloween party. No date yet. We are in charge of organizing the haunted house for the whole school.
- Eva: Aurealia in 10<sup>th</sup> grade was interested in an after-school party with the help of the APÉ.
- Theodore: We have a meeting tomorrow to try to organize this.
- Nathaniel: there will be the Halloween parade the day of.
- Marta TOESEV: Proposes that the Haunted House be a fundraising event.
- Nathaniel: Brings up the topic of having composing at school. There have been many attempts to bring it but it has never been a success.

#### **5. Update from the CECRÉA**

- Nobody present

#### **6. Update on the Schooyard Renovation project**

- Marta TOESEV: She has recruited Patty to help with the planning. They are reviewing the costing and phasing. Will meet with parent who is a contractor to review the costing analysis. Thinking of starting with smaller projects. Need a meeting with a fundraising committee. Plan to write a grant to get the government to get match. We are at 100k in funding, how do we get to 250K. One fundraising idea would be to do some advertising of business from the community who could donate a % of the sales.
- Patty:
  - Suggests becoming a non-profit. We qualify but someone needs to do the application. Getting the charitable status will make it so much easier to get donations. There are basic account requirements.
  - CSF has money for all the schools and many schools have more urgent needs than a schoolyard.
  - Need a funding conversation. Trotin has earmarked some money for the yard.

## 7. Budget vote :

- Lily WU: during the pandemic, we did not spend on anything and all money raised went to the reno account. We spent 10k on landscaping. We are proposing \$25k. We can help brackendale or put all the money to the reno project.
- Lily WU reviews the line items of the budget and gets agreement
  - Help for families: keep as is
  - Divisional allocation: 300 by teacher
  - Emergency committee: keep but possibly give to Brackendale
    1. Parent says we had to empty the water bottles, and asks for a way to resale bottles instead of having to
    2. Need someone responsible
    3. M. Tardif: Christine reviews the contact list
  - Community events : \$75
  - Decorations: need to refresh current stock → \$350
  - Posters: \$30

- Community events: \$250
- Federation membership: \$50
- Stamps, etc: \$150 keep to buy a square
- BC society: \$40
- Munchalunch: \$350
- Constitution fee: \$40
- Tbd: 40
- Brackendale:
  1. Ginette MILLS propose an amount of \$100 per child.
  2. Francois seconds
- Grade 12 Graduation
  1. Keep \$1,500
  2. Francois proposes
  3. Lily seconds
  4. Everyone agrees
- Scholarship
  1. 3 burseries
    1. Francois PROULX proposes \$400 by student and \$100 for the plaque = \$1,300
    2. Kenney seconds
- Appreciation lunch for teachers: \$500
- Fine arts - removed
- Book purchase for the library: \$2,500
  - Magalie is the educational librarian. She would need \$2,000 to renew the books. 115 missing books over the last year. There is a borrower system but not all books are properly entered.
  - This year, she would like to build a section for students to have workshop to create projects that relate to books. She is asking for \$500.
- Student club :
  1. Francois PROULX proposes to move \$200 to the student committee.
  2. Roja BAGHARI seconds.
- Specialized teachers : \$1,500
- Year book

1. Francois PROULX proposes \$750 high school and \$750 for elementary school
2. Roja BAGHARI seconds
  - Teachers and Parents fund: \$1,500
  - Grade 6 graduation: \$600

Approved budget:

Dépenses prévues de l'APÉ: 2024-2025	Budget final approuvé 16 Oct 2024
Aide aux familles (e.g. sorties de classe, repas chauds)	\$ 1,600
Allocation par Division (discrétionnaires) - 21div x \$300	\$ 6,300
Comité d'urgence (i.e. Matériel pour tremblement de terre)	\$ 1,000
<b>APE Opérations:</b>	
<i>APE- évènements communautaires</i>	\$ 750
<i>APE- Décoration</i>	\$ 350
<i>APE - Impressions pour posters, pamphlets etc. ..</i>	\$ 30
<i>APE - Soutien aux activités communautaires</i>	\$ 250
<i>APE - Fédération Parents Francophones de BC - cotisation</i>	\$ 50
<i>APE - Timbres, Enveloppes, Chèques, Cartouche d'encre</i>	\$ 150
<i>APE - BC Society Annual Report S0046987 APE</i>	\$ 40
<i>APE - Système en ligne pour repas chauds (Munch a Lunch)</i>	\$ 350
<i>APE Constitution Transition Fees</i>	\$ 40
TBD	\$ 750
Camps Brackendale (e.g. Transport scolaire) - plafond	\$ 4,400
Gr 12 Graduation	\$ 1,500
Gr 12 scholarship	\$ 1,300
Lunch appréciation des enseignants (Sept)	\$ 500
Achat livres à la bibliothèque	\$ 2,000
Support au Conseil étudiant	\$ 200
Club des élèves - initiatives des élèves	\$ -
Allocation Enseignement Spécialisé (musique, anglais, sports, etc. ...)	\$ 1,500
Album du primaire/secondaire de type "Yearbook"	\$ 1,500
Propositions parents & enseignants	\$ 1,500
G6 Graduation	\$ 600
<b>Dépenses prévues (Y24-Y25) - Total</b>	<b>\$ 26,660</b>

## 8. Parent section

- *Technology in classrooms*  
No further discussion
- *Bullying*  
No further discussion
- *Tablets usage*

No further discussion

- *English teaching*

- François PROULX reiterates the importance of teaching English and the need for a permanent teacher at the school.

**9. Meeting adjourned (9:50PM)**