

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

In-Person Meeting Wednesday January 22nd 2025 @ 7pm

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE :

Ginette MILLS, President

Kathryn FOWLES, Vice-President

Lily WU, Treasurer

Etienne LESSARD, Secretary

Roja BAGHERI, Director

Michelle JICKLING, Director

Marta TOESEV, Director

François PROULX

Caroline LOUI-YING

GUESTS :

Michel TARDIF, Principal

Frédéric BILODEAU, Vice-Principal

Théodore ROBINSON, student counsel

Nathaniel, student green committee

1. Call to order at 7:14pm

2. Greeting and Acknowledgement:

- a. Ginette welcomes everyone and performs the land recognition

3. Adoption of the Meeting Agenda:

- a. Michelle proposes and Marta seconds the meeting agenda

4. Adoption of the last Meetings Draft Notes:

- a. Ginette proposes Dagmar seconds the notes from the meeting that took place on November 20th, 2024

<https://andrepiolat.csf.bc.ca/parents-eleves/ape/proces-verbaux/>

5. Word from the APÉ (Parent Advisory Committee)

Ginette MILLS gives the update:

- a. The next big event will be the sugar shack on March 7th 2025, which needs a lot of organising. Orders will be made over munchalunch, with adult and kid menus.
- b. Coming up, we will also organize a Fun Run fundraising activity. The race will have different distances, prizes, food. Tentatively scheduled for the end of April.
- c. A final activity at the end of the year is still in planning.
- d. Roja will organize a Nourouz event on March 13th.
- e. We want to build a volunteer list so that we can invite people to participate in organizing different activities
- f. Kathryn says we want to have a Spring fundraiser with Two Rivers, Purdy's and a mini photo sessions for families
- g. Growing smiles will have another fundraising

6. Update from the school administration

- a. Expected numbers next year are 425 students.
- b. There is often high attrition rate between grade 7 and 8 and they will work on this over the next year.
- c. Will have parent-teacher meeting in March

- d. Frédéric Bilodeau organized a liaison with RCMP for bullying. Bullying is not a big issue at the school but there are some recurring situations that need to be addressed.
- e. The code of conduct that includes guidelines on technology and bullying has been completed. It will be shared with everyone once it has been approved by the Board.
- f. Many activities have been planned for March.
- g. Student volleyball continues.
- h. A recognition event for grade 6 is being held
- i. Grade 12 graduation ceremony is in the works

7. Update from student council

Théodore :

- We have started to identify specific days in the calendar for which they want to organize activities
 - Valentines day will be organized by the decoration committee
 - Earth day by the green committee
 - Talent show for High School
 - The end-of-year outing
 - Next year's election
 - St-Patrick day
 - Francophonie day
 - There will be a supper for staff, families and students
 - They have decided it's too much to do activities for the whole school and will focus on High School
- Nathanael
 - The Green Committee has joined forces with the Student Council
 - Planning an outing for High School to go pick up garbage either at the beach or in a park.
 - There will be other activities to make it more interesting,
 - The compost situation at the school is discussed
- Suggestion from Marta to eliminate invasive species as an activity

8. Update from teachers' representative

No one present

9. Update from the CECRÉA

There will be a meeting next week for CECREA.

10. Update on the Schoolyard Renovation project

- Marta is almost done the update of the information for the website. Has gotten the estimates and prepared phasing.
- Has a thermometer poster to shows 6 different sections for the school yard project to capture fundraising efforts
- New strategy to go piecemeal instead of waiting for financial
- Difficulties with digging because of utilities. We can go ahead and create a space with mulch and to put tables on it
- CSF can't give their final agreement until there is a detailed plan.
- Discussion around needing to validate the project with parents
- Nathaniel suggests incorporating a community garden

11. Budget review :

- Lily asks about the basketball nets that had been purchased
- Frederic found them and they are doing a community activity to get them installed
- We have \$181K in bank account, of which 93K is for the schoolyard
- There is \$14K in the gaming account
- The reason for the amounts is that we were not spending during Covid
- Étienne presents the situation around the parent activities being on pause due to lack of documentation and insurance requirements. Different options have been identified. For the purposes of the budget, Étienne proposes \$2,700 as a ceiling for insurance. François PROULX seconds.
- Kathryn presents a project by a parent who wants to organize the lost and found, asking for \$250. François proposes and Ginette seconds.

12. Parent section

a. Nuts presentation Caroline Loui-Ying

i. Presentation

1. Peanuts are a legume with the benefits from superfood
2. Nuts have many health benefits.

3. Good for picky eaters
 4. Many children have allergies
 - a. Nuts give the same allergic reaction as any
 - b. Severe reactions can only be through ingestion
 - c. 2.4% of Canadian children have a peanut intolerance
 - d. 1.6% for preserved foods
 - e. Small proportion will have a severe anaphylactic reaction
 - f. By the age of 10, 20% outgrow allergy
-
- ii. Unreasonable to have a school-wide policy banning nuts. Policy should be by classroom.
 - iii. M. Tardif – policy at one school had it by class. Will review if there is a policy and get back to the APÉ.
 - iv. Marta – put it on the table last year. One parent underlined that school was the only place that their student was safe.
 - v. Théodore reminds everyone of the importance of making the space safe for everyone, and is concerned that a class by class policy might create accountability issues.
 - vi. Tardif – in high school it is trickier because we switch classroom.
 - vii. Francois Proulx – should be addressed as medical accommodation. Make sure to include parents of children with allergies.

13. Meeting adjourned (9:10PM)