

ECOLE SOUTH PARK PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – May 25, 2016

**CHAIR’S ANNUAL REPORT – 2015/2016:**

At the beginning of this year, the PAC Executive identified two areas where the PAC could improve; parent communication; and parent engagement in the school community.

With these things in mind, the Executive took the following steps in 2015/2016:

- Reduced the number of PAC General Meetings and paired most of the meetings with a Parent Education component to try and encourage increased attendance & participation. This was implemented following a Special General Meeting last June with a motion to amend the bylaws.
- Purchased an upgrade to the Hot Lunch System, allowing the PAC to collect emails and email consent and to broadcast emails directly to parents.
- Redesigned a PAC Welcome Brochure for Kindergarten parents and produced a simple postcard to distribute on the first day of school. This was intended to raise awareness of the PAC and promote upcoming events while we waited for the Hot Lunch system to be set up.
- In lieu of a separate “Welcome BBQ Fundraiser”, we partnered with the school on the annual “Open House” and supplied the food and a scavenger hunt to encourage parents to explore the school & school goals.
- Created a PAC Facebook page to try and encourage more non-formal communication with parents and to promote events, activities and deadlines.

What the PAC Funded:

- The PAC funded the same programs as we have for the last several years at the school. This included supporting several “cultural” activities like Hip Hop, the Drama & Music Programs, Classroom Resources, Library Resources and Noon Hour Activities.
- The PAC funded two “Wish List” items for the school: Fidget Kits for each division and iPad docking stations for the search stations in the library.
- The PAC Executive began investigating other opportunities; a mural project for the outside walls of the school; improving playground accessibility; and additional emergency preparedness supplies. These items need more work before being considered.

How the PAC Fundraised:

- The PAC supported the activities through the annual Poinsettia sale and bi-annual Spring Fair.
- New fundraising initiatives were also introduced; Art Cards, Paint Nite and a Clothing Drive. Some of these were big successes (Art Cards), others were not, or may be something to try again with a few tweaks.
- Thanks to the hard work of our Special Foods committee we experimented by adding an additional 2 Special Foods for a total of 12 this year.

What Parent Education was provided:

- The PAC invited special guests to three PAC General Meetings; Mrs. Switzer and Mme. Schultz discussed social-emotional learning and presented the concept of “Fidget Kits”; Diane Jubinville

explained the importance and changes to the aboriginal component of the new curriculum;  
Constable Atkinson spoke on his role as a police liaison officer and how to keep our kids safe.

- The PAC partnered with the school to provide the Family Math Games Night in January.
- DPAC sponsored a social media safety night and the Delta School District hosted parent info nights on the new curriculum.

Through the feedback we have received, the PAC has continued to evaluate some areas and are looking forward to continue to implement changes next year. We would like to see more parent input into next year's budget process, further improved communication with parents, and to facilitate a more engaged and collaborative school community.

A special thank you to each parent who contributed their time as a PAC Executive Member, organizing the Spring Fair, serving on the Special Foods Committee, as a Class Parent, and those who volunteered time in so many other capacities this year. Your participation is an important contribution to making this such a great school community!

With gratitude,

**Shanna Keen**

PAC Chair

Ecole South Park School PAC