

**ÉCOLE SOUTH PARK ELEMENTARY
PAC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
January 25, 2017**

7:00 – 9:00 pm South Park Library	
Item	Summary
Attendees:	<p><u>Executive:</u> Shanna (Chair), Natalie (Vice-Chair), Mel (Secretary), Avery (MAL), Sol (DPAC Rep)</p> <p><u>Absent:</u> Terri (Past Chair), Jen (Treasurer), Catherine (MAL), Jason (MAL), Lynsey (MAL)</p> <p><u>Administration:</u> Ms. Kapil, Ms. Potter, Ms. Henderson</p> <p><u>Other Members:</u> 7</p>
1. Welcome	
2. Approval of Minutes	MOTION MADE (Natalie, with Vanessa seconding) AND CARRIED to approve the minutes from the last general meeting of the PAC held November 16, 2016.
3. Old Business	<p><u>New Report Card Format</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited official feedback to date, but casual conversations suggest positive reception by parents. • District committee meets regularly to consider feedback and make recommendations for improvements – feedback on the new format continues to be welcome. Minor changes only anticipated for the next set of report cards. <p><u>Learn to Curl Fundraiser</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tickets are now available for purchase on the hot lunch website. \$30 for one ticket, \$50 for two tickets.
4. Executive Reports	<p><u>Chair (Shanna):</u></p> <p><i>Since the last meeting -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Special Foods • Helped to facilitate the Grade 7 pancake breakfast (proceeds to Grade 7s for their legacy gift) • 1 after school movie • Supported band / choir concerts • Poinsettia / wreath sale • Theatre Sports special event booked for the school

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	<p><i>Coming up -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next after-school movie: February 3 • 3 Special Foods with new menus <p><u>Special Foods (Shanna for Catherine)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received 279 / 304 orders so great participation by parents this term • Feedback on new items is positive, but some miss the old standby items (pizza).
<p>5. Treasurer Report</p>	<p>Shanna for Jen reviewed the latest financial statements, which are attached to these minutes.</p> <p><u>Library Funds</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion around unspent library funds given that South Park no longer has a librarian. Ms. Kapil advised that a new part-time, interim librarian will be starting shortly; the interim librarian will determine the allocation of remaining funds following an analysis of current South Park needs. <p><u>Field Trip Contribution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAC previously approved a motion to allocate \$10 per student to a field trip fund. • Ms. Kapil advised that the office is now including a note on every field trip notice indicating that the field trip is possible with the help of the PAC; the per-student amount is not necessarily directed to a specific trip. Sue Gordon in the office is keeping a spreadsheet to track field trip expenditures to ensure fair and equitable distribution. • Primary students are expected to attend the VSO this term (intermediates went in the fall). • Every school notice requesting funds includes a note that financial hardship cases can apply to the principal for relief. The school keeps a fund to pay in those cases, or to buy necessities for children going without. • Concern was raised about the cost of purchasing guitars for intermediate music lessons. Ms. Kapil advised that school guitars are available for use as well as rental instruments from various organizations (including Tapestry). • Ms. Henderson thanked the PAC on behalf of the teachers for the field trip funds and the teachers' yearly discretionary funding allocation. She indicated that this money allows her to do special events and explore special learning opportunities in connection with holidays, current events and other matters of interest (e.g. Chinese New Year). <p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason is still working on his assessment of the school emergency bin and related equipment. As the school is currently reviewing its bins, ensuring class lists are up to date, checking batteries for flashlights, etc. it would be good to coordinate with

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	<p>Jason's efforts to the extent possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natalie will send out a request for volunteers once we determine what needs to be updated in the bin. A suggestion was made that comfort kits should form part of the emergency bins.
<p>6. DPAC Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 meetings held since last PAC meeting. Visit from Joanna Angelidis, Director of Inclusive Learning – talked about the District's vision and progress in respect of inclusive learning. Upcoming parent education events (see DPAC website for additional details): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 15: Dr. Charlotte Peterson re Mindful Parenting – raising compassionate, competent kids (Eagle Quest Golf Course in Surrey). February 7: Terry Small re giving kids a head start with study skills (Equinox Theatre).
<p>7. Principal's Update</p>	<p><u>Replacement for Mme Newall</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mme Newall took early medical leave – left the school scrambling a bit for her replacement. South Park advertised in Delta and Province-wide, but French immersion teachers are very hard to find, particularly mid-year. <p><u>Additional Staff Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Park asked for and has received a 0.6 FTE increase for teaching staff. Intention is to hire a school-based enhancement teacher. Once hired, best use of this new resource will be determined, whether it is team-teaching, working with early language learners, etc. <p><u>Sports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 25 was the first day of introductory lacrosse at the school. The club is returning in March to teach another session. Everyone will participate in the sessions – K-7. Basketball has started – joint effort of teachers and parents to coach. <p><u>Project Pickle</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Henderson shared some information on Project Pickle, in which a few teachers at the school are participating. The objective is to teach sustainability, pass on agricultural knowledge, and help students learn about growing food they can eat. Gardens in the church yard down the street from the school. <p><u>French Immersion Registration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten French registration has started – deadline is February 3. So far 16 families – way down from prior years. Please remind friends and family considering French

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Immersion!</p> <p><u>Stream of Dreams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artistic fish similar to those on the front chain fish. • Cost is \$15 per student – total cost is \$5k. Pacific Salmon Foundation has a grant which Ms. Potter is working on. Letters of support needed for the grant. If we get the grant, the cost comes down to \$3 per student (\$1,400 in total). There is also an educational piece as the students will be taught about the local watershed. • Deadline for grant application is mid-February. The school is looking for the PAC to cover the cost if the grant comes through. The school will not commit unless the grant comes through. Vanessa suggested putting the fish on the outside wall to beautify the school (and replace the idea of a mural which had to be abandoned because of the poor structural quality of the wall). • Funds would come from the School Spirit Fund in the PAC budget (current balance is \$1900). <p style="color: red;">MOTION MADE (Shanna, with Natalie seconding) AND CARRIED to spend up to \$1500 of the School Spirit Fund in the budget toward the “Stream of Dreams” if the grant is received and the project proceeds.</p> <p><u>Special Upcoming Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada’s 150 birthday in July and South Park’s 40th birthday this year – if anyone has ideas or time to champion / assist with a special celebration, please contact a member of the PAC, Ms. Kapil or Ms. Potter.
<p>8. New Business</p>	<p><u>Santevia Power Sticks Potential Fundraiser</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santevia (local company) has offered to donate \$8 to the PAC for every \$20 power stick sold through our hot foods website. • The sticks can be placed in a water bottle and contain minerals that ensure the water is alkaline. Each stick lasts for about 3 months. • Seems like it could be a great fundraising opportunity for the school. • Questions: are there independent test results to support the product and what is the retail price? Concerns also raised about promoting private business in this way and progressing further along the spectrum in terms of the PAC’s relationship with commercial enterprise. What about other local businesses wanting to promote their products via the PAC? • The school has funding to install one filtered water fountain; perhaps a Santevia fundraiser could be launched to raise funds for another water fountain. This may allay above concerns to some extent. • PAC Executive to further consider and report back on options.

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	<p><u>Parent Ed Seminar: Anxiety in Children</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lynn Miller unavailable to provide an anxiety seminar for parents – she has recommended Christine Yu of the LEAP Clinic in Vancouver.• Cost is \$700 – a DPAC grant is available if we invite other schools.• PAC Executive to identify a date with the school (for the gym) and Christine and see if other schools are interested in attending.
9. Adjournment	9:00 pm