

SEPTEMBER MEETING 13/16

12 SEPTEMBER 2016 / 7:30 PM / LIBRARY

ATTENDEES

Tom (President), Kelly (Vice-President), Kara (Treasurer), Jen (Secretary), Sloane (Past President), Chris, Shauna, Michele, Joanne, Shannon (PEC Chair), Carla, Patrick, Lorna, Andrea, Bob Cowie (Vice Principal), Allie Hassin (Principal)

1. Welcome/Opening Remarks:

- Introduction of all members of Parent Advisory Council
- President Tom Peever gave overview of PAC email for inquiries, questions and communication with PAC members and General Vanier community. Access to WunderList portal/app available to all for updates, tasks and communication among PAC members/volunteers.

2. Motion to Accept Minutes from prior PAC Meeting on May 17th, 2016: motion passed

3. Introduction: Allie Hassin, Principal and Bob Cowie, Vice Principal:

- Principal Allie Hassin officially joined General Vanier staff August 2016.
- New staff members at General Vanier for 2016/2017 School Year: Leslie Bridges appointed to Full Time position, Mavis Moran appointed to Full Time position
- General Vanier welcoming fourth and fifth year student teachers.
- 224 Students enrolled at General Vanier for 2016/2017 school year. 25 new students in Kindergarten, 35 new students at General Vanier
- Focus on shared vision for General Vanier among teachers/staff this year along with more professional development opportunities for Educational Assistants and focus on ongoing URIS training.
- Upcoming Professional Development sessions with a focus on Mindfulness.

- School Planning and continuation of Divisional goals of improved literacy, numeracy, engagement and citizenship will be ongoing throughout the school year.
- Middle years will be expanding their exploration of more arts based education and blending into other disciplines such as language arts.
- An improved Parent Portal will be introduced on the General Vanier website allowing parents/guardians log in access to see their child(ren)'s progress and all information for parents in one spot.
- Volleyball and Cross Country started shortly after the start of the school year.
- Canteen opened September 14th
- New Band teacher has been appointed to General Vanier, opportunity allowed by staffing changes and overages

4. PAC Business:

1. Year Planning at a Glance:

- Plans for upcoming Fundraising initiatives for the 2016/2017 school year include: Family Fun Night September 30th (organized by Sloane Funk), Wine Raffle kicks off in November (organized by Shannon Peever), Glenlea Plant Sale in May (organized by Shannon Peever)
- Organizer needed if PAC plans on running another Rummage Sale
- GV Secretary Karla De Caigny handles most indoor permits for the school, partner in regarding liquor permit for Wine Raffle
- Movie permits: can General Vanier take on more responsibility/cost. To be looked into with Wendy Wakeman and Allie Hassin
- Movie Nights for this year will be on November 18th, January 20th and March 10th. Discussion raised into possible admission cost for movie night will remain free admission as goodwill and community gesture.
- Other fundraising options to be explored this year may include: Subway lunches (Sloane), Spirit Week (eg Hat Day: pay a toonie to wear your hat all day, to be collected in advance)
- Discussion on School Dances tabled to be discussed at a later date.
- Kelly Guile to continue to co-ordinate pizza lunch orders for school year. Sloane Funk to organize and send out first order form of the year. Will support Kelly and help organize volunteers for Pizza Days

2. Family Fundraiser:

- Letter going out soon requesting annual donation of \$40. Different options discussed to encourage improved response and fundraising.
- Last year 66 families out of a possible 147 contributed to this fundraiser.
- Explanation needed to highlight what this fundraiser does for the school, where do the funds go and to highlight that there will be other fundraisers coming up throughout the school year and why we do this.
- Possible lowering of fees or sliding scale of fees based on what families can contribute
- Letter to be drafted and discussed further at next PAC meeting and with Allie Hassin, Principal's approval pending.
- Letter will be sent out in both hard copy then followed up by email copy.

3. PAC Care Fund:

- Brought forth after a recent tragic loss to one of the General Vanier families
- Funds to be made available quickly to help in a crisis under direction and needs of family in crisis, to be approved by President and admin.
- ICE funds made available for gift cards, meals in support of family in crisis/loss
- Kara Machinski has agreed to take on this task which makes sense as our treasurer.
- Motion made by Tom Peever to approve: Vote unanimous in Favour of allocation of PAC Care Funds

4. Family Fun Night, September 30th 2016:

- Event being planned and coordinated by Sloane Funk
- Volunteers needed
- Social Prizes needed
- smaller committee for event to meet

5. Playground Committee Report:

- Grant applications underway using a generic template to be altered and customized to fit individual applications

- Letters of support for Playground Enhancement Project coming in from local government offices of our City Councillor, MLA and MP for the area.
- PEC open to fundraising ideas
- Our PEC was approached and encouraged to apply for the Rick Hansen Foundation grant opening on September 19th after application to the Kraft Foundation
- Survey on playground available on www.generalvanier.com More feedback needed, get word out on survey and encourage as many as you can to fill it out.
- Computer requested for Family Fun Night to encourage people to fill out survey on site.
- Quotes coming in from Landscape Structures, Henderson and Quest. Landscape has been very open and on top of communication with PEC and offering rewards and prizes for fundraising initiatives.
- Upgrades will be broken down into different phases
- Approach small businesses and encourage as tax donation for funds/prizes.

6. Treasurer's Report:

- Tom and Sloane to meet regarding passing over of information, funds etc
- June minutes needed for bank approval
- Cards for deposit and debit of account will be in possession of the Treasurer

7. New Business:

- Residual given to Music Program
- Residual funds given to General Vanier were allotted last year but not used; will be re-allocated as needed for General Vanier possibly on an as needed basis to be voted on by the PAC for approval
- Funds to remain in place for annual requests such as camp and Grade 8 Grad.
- Teachers will be encouraged to provide Wish Lists to be presented to the PAC with a letter explaining their purpose then to be voted on by the PAC for approval

Next PAC Meeting: Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00pm