

ÉCOLE PAULINE JOHNSON PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Agenda

February 13th, 2024 6:30pm-8pm

Location: Pauline Johnson Library. In-Person Meeting

1. **Welcome and call to order:** Claudia Chavez and Barry Nguyen
 - a. Land acknowledgement
 - b. Present: Bartek, Fatemeh, Susy Trevisan, Vicky Rhodes, Barry Nguyen, Claudia Chavez, Puja Suri, Laureline Balzan, Alma Gizamaga, Tayo Ademiyi, Tara Zielinski (first portion)
2. **Approve last meeting's minutes:** (January 19 2024)
 - a. Barry motion, Claudia second
3. **Financial Update:** Bartek Kienc
 - a. Budget Sheet is always available on the PJ PAC website www.ecolepjpac.com
 - b. Fun Lunch: we're on par with where we were last year.
 - c. Gaming funds have been well used this year. We have about \$4000 left and we are on track.
 - d. Waiting on a few last invoices from last year's technology expenses for the school to close the book for 2023/2024.
4. **Principal's Report:** Tara Zielinski
 - a. **Lunar New Year** and Lion Dance were a huge hit
 - i. Lots of generous gifts for district leaders and teachers
 - ii. Whole school participation went really well
 - b. **Fête d'hiver**
 - i. This year was very lively and went really well
 - ii. This year it was decided to do this on a single day instead of a whole week
 - iii. Last year it interfered with student regulation and curriculum
 - iv. Big buddies, crêpes, activities - thank you to all the parents who helped and volunteered
 - v. Community connections
 - vi. School newspaper about Bonhomme - kids are still focusing on the special day; it was a big hit and a memorable experience
 - c. **Learning survey** will be coming soon for parents and students
 - i. We look at it in-depth and it is important info for shaping the community next year
 - ii. Questions about students life, habits, feelings about school ,life, outside activities, sense of belonging
 - iii. It is anonymous - however if students write YES in the last question asking them if they would like an adult to follow up with how they are feeling, then a Principal does this on an individual basis
 - d. **Pink Shirt Day** and assembly - Feb 28 (will be in e-bulletin)
 - e. This month is **Black Excellence Month**
 - f. **Nowruz** coming up - Will start with a performance in the morning followed by activities in library and gym
 - g. **CPF** (Canadian Parents for French)
 - i. French movie matinee day on Canadian National Film Day (Wednesday April 17) - TBD
 - ii. French activities coming up and opportunities for activities in our outdoor space

5. **What's coming up:** Barry Nguyen and Claudia Chavez

a. March 1: **Gelato Friday**

- It's less of a fundraiser and more of a fun activity for the kids.
- TCBY works well because it is individually packaged
- PAC is looking at also providing alternatives, like lollipops (healthy, organic, and cost effective)

b. March 5: **Paula Foran** second session (Virtual only)

- Back by popular demand, Paula Foran will hold a virtual presentation about "supporting kids with anxiety" on March 5 6:30-8:30pm.

c. March 11: **Nowruz** celebration

- Dancing performance, lots of activities
- Mini photo sessions with a backdrop and professional photographer
 - \$35 to pick one photo (from a choice of many pictures)
 - Special pricing for photo packages; about a 50% discount
- We need lots of volunteers for this, about 50 or more. Volunteer sign up sheet is on PAC website.

d. April 1 (last day of Spring Break): **Matinee at Cineplex** (Park Royal)

- Kung Fu Panda 4
- There will be a link to pre-purchase tickets and concessions

e. May 7: **Cari Wilson** "AI tools in education"

- Special speaker on the next PJ Parents meeting.
- Virtual presentation.
- Digital literacy and digital ethics

6. **Discussion Topic:** Barry Nguyen and Claudia Chavez

a. Have you attended any of the Parent Education events? Do you have any feedback?

- Events were useful and well-attended online however there were many technical difficulties.
- PAC is looking into investing in new technologies to help with online meetings.

b. **Volunteering** at Pauline Johnson

- It's tough to get parents to volunteer. Busy with work and other activities.
- Some events will not be able to continue without parent support.
- Fun Lunch was nearly canceled in Term 2 because of a lack of volunteers.
- We can do less events and focus on doing them better.
- We are looking at the concept of an "express" style PAC meeting.
- Events that have the most participation have been when people have something to do like Traffic Blitz, Santa's Workshop, gardening work parties.

c. **Volunteer opportunities:** Barry Nguyen and Claudia Chavez

PAC volunteer opportunities for 2024/2025

- i. Chair(s)
- ii. Treasurer
- iii. Secretary
- iv. Cultural committee liaison
- v. Spirit committee lead
- vi. DPAC representative

- vii. New parent liaison
- viii. Communications lead
- ix. Crew for Gelato Day

7. New business: Barry Nguyen and Claudia Chavez

- a. **Surveys:** Fun Lunch Survey coming soon.
- b. **Spirit Wear:** online shop will be available soon
Logos will be the same (standard design already approved by the district)
- c. **Year-end celebration:** June 13th from 3-6pm.
 - Picnic style. School band and choir will perform.
 - Games that were purchased for the Centennial last year will be used
 - A feel-good, grass-roots, parent-run event

8. Questions and comments: Barry Nguyen and Claudia Chavez

9. Adjournment: Barry Nguyen and Claudia

Motion to adjourn: Barry, Second: Claudia

Next PJ Parents Meeting: May 7 (Virtual only) 12pm-1:30pm

- With Special Speaker on AI: Cari Wilson.