

# MEETING MINUTES

## École Secondaire Hugh McRoberts Secondary School

### Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes

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**Date:** Wednesday, November 13th, 2024

**Location:** McRoberts

**Library Time:** 7 pm

**Attendees:** Amir Mahani (Co-Chair), Hajira Hussain, (Treasurer), Bonnie Leung (Treasurer), Wynne Lam (Fundraising), Jun H., Maya C., Slava K, Steph L., Andy W., Noel E., Anna F., Billo P.,

**Members at large:** Colleen Howu (CPF- Canadian Parents for French)

**School Representative:** Mr. Spencer Cook (Vice-Principal)

**Regrets:** Tasneem D. (Chair), Anne-Marie Willcox (RDPA)

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- 1) Welcome and Introductions: Co-chair Amir Mahani opened the meeting by welcoming everyone at 7:01 pm. He opened the floor by introduction, and the reasons you would like to be part of the PAC.
- 2) Review and approval of the last meeting's minutes. Motion to correct a typo in 7) d) Krispy Kreme instead of Crispy Creme. Moved- Noel E. Second- Colleen
- 3) PAC Executive Election: Secretary – Colleen Howu (Catherine McPherson resigned)
- 4) Presentation by South Arm Community Centre Staff– Paula, Joey, Paton, and Lorraine. They introduced various youth programs, volunteering opportunities that counted toward the volunteer hours, youth counsel with leadership opportunity, developmental program for career.
- 5) School Administration Report: Mr. Cook
  - a). Remembrance Day Ceremony at New Gym on Nov 8. Thank you to all students and staff who organized the ceremony. Superintendent Christopher Usih attended the ceremony.
  - b). Diwali Celebration in the foyer which was organized by teachers. There was festive food and music, and henna painting. Students and staff celebrated the diverse culture in our school community.
  - c). Post-secondary Fair was on Nov 7 during PLT in the foyer. Ms E. Tang, our career information advisor, invited representatives from universities and colleges across BC to answer questions from students. This event is open to all grades with the emphasis on Gr. 12 students.
  - d). Out In School presentation. Question from Colleen. Out In School is invited by Career Education Team to present to each grade on different days during PLT. The presentation brings forth topics and discussions via film and media which aims to reduce stigma among the LGBTQ2+ people.
- 6) Dates to remember: Amir encouraged all parents to join the PAC meetings to get

information about school, and any updates about the school. There will be no PAC meeting in Dec. Next meeting is on January 8th, 2025. An early Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everyone.

Please note that important dates as mentioned in the agenda are on the school calendar which is available on the school website

<https://mcroberts.sd38.bc.ca/school-calendar>

## 7) Committee Reports:

### a) Treasurer Report – Bonnie reported the balance for each account:

1) Operating account: \$3272.33

2) Gaming account: \$24,469.52

We approved a total of \$23,425.42 last month on teachers' wishlist and DAG. This leaves us a balance of \$1044.10 in our gaming account. As such, there will not be a second round of wishlist for this school year.

### b) Secretary Report – no report.

c) Dry Grad Report – Anna reported that the committee has planned to do at least one fundraising before year end and is currently looking for more parent volunteers. Jody is the chairperson. They are working on the ideas on the theme of the night. They will have more frequent meetings on Zoom and information exchange on Google drive. \$30000 was raised last year and \$4000 was carried forward to this year's DAG committee. They are working to secure transportation via Richmond School District.

d) Fundraising Report – Wynne explained that our goal is to raise funds for 5 scholarships at \$500 each. We only provided 4 scholarships at \$500 each last school year because of lack of funding. Purdy's fundraising is on but the responses are very slow. We are at less than 10% of target. Mr. Cook will post our Purdy's link to McRoberts Instagram. Billo went to PAC101 and got many new ideas.

e) RDPA – Colleen. RDPA ran PAC101 Workshops on November 5th at Burnett Secondary School to support PAC executives. Four breakout sessions- Chairperson, Treasurer, Fundraising, Dry After Grad.

f) Canadian Parents for French (CPF) - Colleen. No membership fee for students or parents to sign up. Sign up online: <https://bc-yk.cpf.ca/en/>. Members have access to resources, camps, bursaries, and other benefits. Richmond Chapter offers scholarship to Gr. 12 FI graduates and runs activities for members.

## 9) New Business:

1. Motion to add Bonnie Leung (Co-Treasurer) to the Mc Roberts PAC Account (Operating), McRoberts Parent Advisory Council (Gaming) and the Mc Roberts Dry Grad Committee (DAG) Coast Capital accounts as Signing officers.

Moved-Hajira Hussain Second-Anna Fergusson

2. Motion to add Anna Fergusson and Jodi Halsey-Brandt to the Mc Roberts Dry Grad Committee (DAG) Coast Capital Account as signing officers

Moved-Hajira Hussain Second-Wynne Lam

3. Question from Maya: Not enough space/ chairs/ benches to eat lunch. School

response: School recognized this ongoing issue. The school has added benches, opened up a section of the library, and added outdoor areas to accommodate. Due to the age and design of the building, the space is limited.

4. Question from Maya: The price and options of food from the concession is not good. Will the school change the contractor? The food will be better and cheaper if it is prepared by the students who are in the cooking class. School response: School does not have a teaching kitchen nor the culinary program where students learn to prepare meals in mass production. No plan to change the contractor at this moment.
5. Question from Maya: McMath has plans to take Gr.12 students to Costa Rica for 3 weeks to volunteer to build something. Other schools have similar programs that students go on a 3-week trip that costs less than our 1-week trip to Quebec. School response: All overnight trips are organized by teachers. McRoberts has trips to Quebec and New York city. Schools have to book through SD approved agencies. No room to negotiate prices. It takes over one year to plan and lots of paperwork to deal with. Teachers are doing the best they can.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Next PAC Meeting: Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025