

MEETING MINUTES

École Secondaire Hugh McRoberts Secondary School

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 8th, 2025

Location: McRoberts

Library Time: 7 pm

Attendees: Tasneem Damji (Co-Chair), Amir Mahani (Co-Chair), Colleen Howu (Secretary), Wynne Lam (Fundraising), Anne-Marie Willcox (MAL, RDPA), Pinky D., Slava K., Jodi H., Tingzhen X., Corinna N. (online)

School Representative: Aviva Vaughan (Principal)

Regrets: Hajira Hussain (Treasurer), Bonnie Leung (Treasurer)

- 1) Welcome and Introductions: Chair Tasneem opened the meeting by welcoming everyone at 7:05 pm.
- 2) Motion to approve last meeting's minutes. Moved-Anne-Marie Second-Wynne
- 3) **DAG Report:** Jodi. There are 216 Gr.12 graduates. PAC will support \$10 per student. DAG committee has done a few fundraising events. DAG and PAC will coordinate fundraising events so that we are supporting each other and not competing with each other. Upcoming events: JJBean, Bottle Return, Krispy Kreme, Purdy's. DAG Committee is seeking more parent volunteers.
- 4) **Guest Presentation:** Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) by Marlyn D. and Renata M. from School District (SD38). SWIS helps newly arrived students and their families to adapt to the school system, provide language support, and make connections to school and the community. For more info, please visit <https://sd38.bc.ca/services/settlement-workers-schools>. Members of PAC Executive will be invited to speak to newcomer parents at a later date to share the benefits of being part of the PAC.
- 5) **School Administration Report:** Ms. Vaughan. Innovation Grants 2024-2025. These are grants from SD38 to support teachers for their collaboration among teachers/ staff/ students to help students to be successful in four categories- Social-emotional learning, Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI), Numeracy, and Student Voice. McRoberts teachers have applied and received these grants for the past 7 years for events and classroom learning.
- 6) **Dates to remember:**
 - Jan 7-14: Grad photos by appointment
 - Jan 24: Last day of Semester 1
 - Jan 27: Pro-D day (no school)
 - Jan 28: Semester turn around day (no school)
 - Jan 29: First day of Semester 2See school calendar (<https://mroberts.sd38.bc.ca/school-calendar>)

7) **Committee Reports:**

- a) **Treasurer Report** –Hajira shared (in an email) the balance for each account:
1) Operating account: \$3,366.33
2) Gaming account: \$24,624.59

Since we have already committed \$23,425.42 to the teachers' wish list/DAG, the actual balance available in the gaming account is \$1,199.17.

- b) **Secretary Report** – no report.
- c) **Dry Grad Report** – see item (3) above
- d) **Fundraising Report** – Wynne. PAC raised \$815 from Purdy's and \$94 from Samosa sale. Jan 30 – Krispy Kreme and Samosa sale. Need more parent volunteers in each fundraising event. Please contact PAC if parents are available.
- e) **RDPA** – RDPA moved the meeting date to Jan 13, 2025. No report.

8) **New Business:**

- a) Pinky: Post-secondary Fair in November was on the wrong date on the calendar. Most students missed the event. School Response: The event organizer insisted on hosting it during school hours despite warning from the school staff that students were in classes.
- b) Pinky: Do Gr.9 students have to complete their volunteer hours within the school? School Response: No. Volunteer hours can be within or outside the school. If a student is working for the service award, all volunteer hours need to be done within the school.
- c) Pinky: Concerns about DAG entertainment. 1. Coffee bar- Caffeine is addictive. She is concerned that DAG is introducing addictive substance to students. 2. Casino play with fake money- This process and action of gambling is worrisome. Gambling can be habit-forming and problematic. School response: DAG is a parent-organized event. School does not get involved. Another parent suggested that concerns can be voiced in the DAG chat group and DAG committee meeting, which Pinky did.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Next PAC Meeting: February 12th, 2025