

Holly Elementary | PAC General Meeting January 24, 2023

Attendees: Rachel McInnes (Co-Chair), Rachel Siu (acting Co-Chair), Julie Herndier (acting Secretary), Bonnie Nelmes, Jacquie Von Shulmann, Kristin Brind + one parent in-person and six parents on Zoom.

Regrets: Julia Melish (DPAC Re), Erica Ediger (Treasurer), Cindy Ghashghaee (future Treasurer)

Rachel McInnes commences meeting at 7:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes (October 18th, 2022) - Rachel M approves the minutes from the previous meeting

Approval of Agenda - Rachel M approves the agenda for the night with the additions proposed by Julie Herndier.

Principal's Report - presented by Bonnie Nelmes & Jacquie Von Shulmann - click [here](#) for full report.

Note: Hot lunch on March 9 will have to be moved to Mr Humara's room or Ms Park's Science Room.

Teacher's Report

Ms Brind commented that the Teacher's Report was covered in the Principal's Report.

DPAC report

With the last minute date change, Julia advised she was unable to attend but provided a thorough report to be read at the meeting. Rachel M read out.

Full DPAC report can be found [here](#).

[Note to Parents from the Secretary: What is DPAC?

DPACs are the legislated parent voice at the school district level, representing the collective views of school [Parents' Advisory Councils \(PAC\)](#) in a school district.

DPACs advise the board of education on any matter relating to education in their school district. DPACs advocate for parental involvement in the education system and give input into the development of education policy. As an official stakeholder, the DPAC is offered seat(s) on district committees such as policy, finance or budget etc.

You can learn more about what DPAC does [here.](#)]

Treasurer report

With the last minute date change, Erica advised she was unable to attend but provided a thorough report to be read at the meeting. Rachel M read out full budget. Full report can be found [here](#). Highlights include:

Beginning cash balance is \$39,784

Income (cash in) is \$23,553

Total Expenses (cash out) - \$7,224

Ending Cash balance \$56,113

Rachel would like to add Purdy's income was \$179.00.

Gaming Acct: \$13,121

Income \$7,729

Expenses \$8,525

Ending cash balance - \$12,325

Overall we have a healthy PAC fund.

Co-Chair's (President's) Report (Rachel McInnes)

Executive Voting

Unfortunately, the PAC lost 2 members due to extenuating circumstances mid-year. Due to this, a vote is held to replace them.

Rachel M would like to hold a vote. Rachel Siu has stepped up for Co-Chair and Julie Herndier has offered to fill the role of Secretary.

Rachel asks voting members to vote yes or no to Rachel Siu taking Co-Chair..

Rachel M says all votes were YES.

Rachel M asks voting members to vote yes or no to Julie Herndier taking Secretary.

Rachel says all voted Yes.

Motion passes for both Rachel S & Julie H to take their new roles.

Treasurer vote will be handled in a special meeting.

Hot Lunch

A Hot Lunch Coordinator will be needed in September 2023. If you are interested, please email hollyelementarypac@gmail.com. Elana is willing to finish the year but is seeking a replacement for next year.

The Hot Lunch Coordinator role includes:

- Selecting dates (in partnership with School Admin) for hot lunches
- Selecting and liaising with vendors for hot lunch items
- Managing Munch N Lunch electronic ordering for hot lunches
- Coordinating each hot lunch, including food pick up and distribution into divisions
- Coordinating hot lunch volunteers

Volunteers are encouraged to come out to help with Hot Lunches - dates can be found in the PAC calendar here. It's a great way to get a glimpse into Holly life and kids are always so excited to see their parents deliver their classroom hot lunch. Email hollyelementarypac@gmail.com to get more hot lunch volunteering information!

Fundraising

1. Spring Fair:

Former Coordinator provided best practices from previous Spring Fairs. Holly needs lots of volunteers. It is a big job to bring the full Spring Fair experience back to Holly after a pandemic and a 5 year fair hiatus.

Right now we are looking for someone who can head up the 50/50 draw, Games, Volunteer Coordination and the Silent Auction. We have lots of existing resources for those folks.

The date of the Spring Fair is May 5 from 5-8 pm.

We will have Musical Treats as an alternative to the Cake Walk which will still involve yummy cakes and musical fun.

Jars will not be used this year mainly due to the workload already in place just to bring the Spring Fair back.

Rachel Siu has volunteered to be Spring Fair Coordinator with the caveat that enough volunteers step forward to help with the amount of work. An email will be sent to the parent population requesting volunteers (Rachel S & Bonnie to work on)

2. Gift Card Fundraisers:

Rachel M shares that Rachel Siu has mentioned the idea of gift card fundraisers. Group decides to wait until Sept and Oct.

At the last Executive Meeting, PAC proposed that fundraising mainly focus on Spring Fair for the time being. The parent population is overwhelmed with fundraisers so the group agreed to streamline fundraising a bit.

3. *Cookies Ice Cream Fundraiser:*

Cookies Ice Cream offered every school in Delta the chance to participate in a Fundraiser wherein 20% of their sales will be donated to the Holly PAC. Date: June 10/11. No action required by PAC. Cookies will have sprinkles in Holly colours and we'll encourage families to visit Cookies that weekend in an email closer to the event. Thank you, Cookies Ice Cream!

PAC Spending / Projects

1. *Undercover Area* - Last year the PAC discussed this initiative with the previous principal.

Rachel M says PAC hoping to ignite that conversation again.

Rachel M is inquiring whether the District would help PAC pay for the undercover area. In fact, the project was discussed at length last year and Mrs Von Shulmann was able to shed some light that the project was put on hold due to the scope of the project, the expense, the lack of outdoor space and concerns that it would draw vandalism.

Rachel M asks if there are grants. Mrs Nelmes does not know of any.

Bonnie proposes that the PAC re-evaluate this item. Concerns over the under cover area attracting vandalism or garbage. Two parent voice that it's not a useful use of time and money. Undercover area discussion to be pinned for the next PAC Executive Meeting.

Rachel M invites parents to make suggestions of funding projects.

Mrs Nelmes proposes that our Intermediates would love a Gaga ball court (it's a handball game). Build a platform arena.

PAC will investigate with another school who recently installed one (English Bluff)

2. *Greenhouse:* Rachel M asks which teacher is responsible for the Greenhouse project.

Mrs Von Shulmann comments that the leadership of the Greenhouse is in flux due to staffing changes, however, they have teachers interested in taking on plantings in the Spring and evaluate if the Green Team could play a part. Holly will definitely be continuing with the program, in it's next phase, in the Spring.

Jacque says Parent roles will be evaluated once the Staff revisit the 2.0 plans for the Greenhouse. Parents who are eager could send a message to the office or contact hollyelementarypac@gmail.com.

Rachel M asks for additional topics. Per the agenda request, Julie Herndier puts forward a motion for Gifts as a line item in the PAC Budget.

Consider a line item for Gifts and Honorariums - for example for retiring teachers and departing PAC Executive Members. Each member of the PAC who retires gets a \$50 gift card. PAC Executive to discuss with Treasurer and make a recommendation at the next General Meeting.

Bonnie brought forward the question of PAC volunteer recruitment and how to draw people into the PAC. For example: on Kindergarten registration date, PAC will have a coffee or just a person chatting about what happens in PAC. Encourage parents to be engaged and supportive of the PAC.

Rachel Siu is working on a letter to go home to primary parents.

A parent comments that they signed up in September 2022 to be on a PAC Volunteer list but never heard from the PAC. Action item for PAC: locate the parent volunteer names that were collected on the first day of school

Rachel M asks Bonnie if there are Wish List items for PAC funding. Mrs Nelmes points out that PAC funds are having a significant impact at Holly, for example this year alone, PAC has paid for a new (much safer) paper cutter, a butterfly program for student and a praying mantis program (Ms Brind comments that these have been wildly successful and educational among students). School Admin will continue to brainstorm ideas of projects for the next PAC budgeting cycle.

Rachel M adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm. The next meeting is being held on Thursday, Feb 16. Thanks for joining.