

**PAC General Meeting – September 25, 2023**  
**Location: Weir Elementary Library Commons & TEAMS (Virtual Option)**  
**Time: 6:30-8:00pm**

**Attendees:**

Alex Yong – Chair	Maggie Ho
Jackie Quiring – Co-Vice Chair	Victor Wong
Kent Dai – Co-Vice Chair (virtual)	Angel Xu
Isadora Lin – Treasurer	Mona Biring
Gloria Yong – Secretary	Varinda (Jo) Sahota
Denise Hayes-McCoy – Webmaster	Winnie Yeo
Michelle Chien – Hot Lunch Leader	Nikki Rai
Jennifer Yong – Fruits, Veggies & Dairy Leader	Iris Rodrigues
Indu Bhagat – Book Exchange/Book Fair Coordinator	Amy Freeston
Selena Po	Jeffrey Chau
Gloria Terry	Yulanda Ng (Virtual)
Faiz Ahamed	Ada Law (Virtual)
Jameena	Aurdrey Low (Virtual)
Lisa Mah	Jeremy Lian (Virtual)
	Karen Chieu (Virtual)
	Angela Hollett (Virtual)

**Agenda:**

Welcome & Opening Comments  
Introduction to Executive Committee

- Fruits & Veggies: first delivery was today (Sept. 25)
- Next delivery expected October

**Fundraisers:**

1. Sun-Oka Fruit Farms: Apples
  - Order between Sept. 22-Oct. 7, 2023
  - Expected pickup – Week of Oct. 17
  - Parents are responsible for pick-up arrangements
  - Unclaimed orders are donated as there is no overnight storage at the school available
  - Share the online link with friends, neighbours, etc as anyone can purchase
  - Everyone picking up must have proof of email confirmation
  
2. Hot Lunch
  - Hot lunch orders are now open!
  - All orders are conducting via munchalunch
  - Key Dates:
    - o Every Thursday
  - Questions from parent:
    - o customizations? Only one available at the moment is Subway
    - o food-safe/recalls? We only use approved vendors

Staff “welcome back” event at 8:30am on Sept. 29: 2:45-3:30pm

- Light breakfast (donuts, bagels, coffee) will be provided for Staff
- Small token of appreciation for all Weir staff for all they do for our children

Friday Sept. 29 2:45-3:30: PAC Orientation outside the multipurpose room

- Table set up with info from PAC exec for parents who want to find out more

### **Principal Riley’s Updates:**

Orange Shirt Day Assembly – Friday, September 29 @ 1:00pm

- Orange ribbon will be given to each student to end the assembly where students will decorate the outside gate

Terry Fox Run – Friday October 6 @ 1:00pm

From HUB - Ride the Road – Gr. 6/7 Bicycle training course: Oct. 19, 23, 24, 27

- Great program; students will learn by the end how to fix their bike, hand signals, etc.

Meet the Teacher: TBD

Killarney St. Construction Project

- Riley is in contact with the project manager every 2 weeks to get updates
- Please direct all concerns to [schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca](mailto:schoolactivetravel@vancouver.ca) or call 3-1-1
- A parent: has reached out to 3-1-1; elevating to emergency status, following up tomorrow (Sept. 26)

Proficiency Scale

- Describes learning in a different way
- Analogy: getting a driver’s licence: learning rules of the road, safety rules, practicing driving
- Emerging, Developing, Proficient, Extending: will take time to understand

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) – taken in October

- Partly on paper, partly online
- Fraser Institute misuses information to rank schools: a private conservative think tank organization – have no effect on our school’s funding in any way
- Gr. 4 & 7 students
- Standardized assessment
- Helps schools and district monitor student growth and achievement in core academic skills
- Administered by students’ teachers
- VSB students core quite well but typically very low student participation (especially among Indigenous and ELL students)

Reasons to exempt students:

- Level 1 and 2 ELL students
- Students with IEP's whose learning goals vary from age-level peers by two years or more
- Students with extended absences or extenuating circumstances
- Parents excuse their child

VSB School Board Policy 17: SOGI protests

- Main concern is for the safety of all kids; that all children have a right to be safe in schools and be visible

VSB Food 4 School Program

- Designed to help children who require nutrition services at school due to financial barriers with food access
- Students are determined by the school Principal based on need
- Food preferences/special diets are not accommodated although vegetarian options are offered each day

**Parent Questions:**

Utensils Shortage from veggie program day: PAC will have a meeting to discuss purchasing some common items (cups, plates, etc.)

Bringing food into school: pre-packaged foods are ok

Strings Program Update?

- Summary from Riley: during seismic upgrade, Killarney strings and choir teacher taught the 6/7s when students were physically at Killarney
- Mr. Dodds & Ms. Korf are the music teachers: all students are getting music education
- No extracurricular program at the moment run by PAC

Are there extracurricular language programs?

- No

Proficiency scale: what was the thought process from letter grades to scale?

- False sense of security with grades
- Scale: more descriptive of the skills students are able to do
- Ministry put out a pilot 5 years ago
- Values PROCESS over PRODUCT: promotes understanding of the material over putting emphasis on the end result
- The scale is flexible enough for diverse learners: neutral of the task that shows the thinking

Split classes

- Teachers teach to where the kids are at; even if it's a straight grade class, there is still a wide spectrum of abilities within the same grade

- Benefits of a split class: leadership roles for the older students, classes are balanced due to many factors

#### Cross country team?

- No cross country team
- Volleyball & track and field (grades 4-7)
- Looking for a volunteer soccer coach for grade 6/7s

#### Healthier food choices for hot lunch?

- PAC is looking for vendors and looking into different options

#### Why the cost increase?

- Food vendors' prices have all gone up
- PAC will monitor the volume of this first round of orders

#### Assemblies – can parents attend?

- Last year was the first year back onsite at Weir, and was first year being student-run, therefore Riley didn't want to advertise openly but parents are always welcome
- Riley will include assembly dates in the newsletter email
- Recognition assemblies happen every month on a Wednesday

#### Weir red t-shirts: available for new families and Kindergartens?

- The red "Weir Together" tees were a one-time PAC gift to all current students & staff members last year to celebrate students returning to the new Weir building
- There are no red t-shirts available for sale
- PAC will have a meeting to discuss a Weir spirit wear fundraiser for families to have opportunity to purchase Weir clothing

Meeting Adjourned: 8:10pm

Next Meeting: TBD