



Upper Lynn PAC Meeting

September 16, 2019

7:00pm

PAC Executive in attendance:

Mary Ann Bell
Sandee Sangha
Leslie Jaremchuk
Rita Vilensky
Victoria Kelly
Caroline Chambers
Susanna Wilson Smith
Jess Sprowson
Jacquie Kydd
Megan Renzitti

Absent with regrets:

Natallia Dzmitryieva

1. Mary Ann called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
2. Mary Ann introduced the PAC Executive and gave a brief description of each position.
Secretary: shared by Susanna Wilson-Smith and Caroline Chambers
Hot Lunch Coordinator: shared by Leslie Jaremchuk, Rita Vilensky and Victoria Kelly
Treasurer: shared by Jess Sprowson and Natallia Dzmitryieva
Co-Chairs: Mary Ann Bell and Sandee Sangha
3. Mary Ann reviewed the agenda.
The May 27th PAC AGM minutes were reviewed. There was a motion to adopt the minutes.
Moved: Leslie Jaremchuk
Second: Jess Sprowson
CARRIED
4. PAC Name Change
A motion was made to change the official name of Upper Lynn's Parent Advisory Council from "Upper Lynn Elementary Parent Advisory Council" to "Upper Lynn Parent Advisory Council" in order to bring the name into alignment with the name on the ULPAC bank account and on record with the Ministry of Finance.
Moved: Jacquie Walker-Kydd
Second: Usman Rashid
CARRIED

5. Message from School Administration

Administration Update

Randy Holman, Upper Lynn's principal, introduced Upper Lynn's new Vice Principal, Lise Grendel and a new school psychologist, Veronica Kenny. Kirsteen Buchan is back from maternity leave in her LST position. Upper Lynn has a new basketball and cross-country coach, Frank Romeo.

Upper Lynn is still sourcing an ELL teacher and NIT.

Randy noted the following dates:

- Meet the teacher curricular night is this Wednesday, September 18th and encouraged parents to attend.
- School photo day is this Friday, September 20th.
- The Terry Fox Run is on September 26th at 1:00pm. Parent support is encouraged. The route will be the same as last year.
- There will be early dismissal for Collaboration day on Wednesday, September 25th.
- Orange Shirt Day is on Monday, September 30th.
- Student Council will continue this year. Campaigns and elections are coming up soon.
- The Black Dog String Quartet will be performing on October 10th at 1:30pm.
- BC Shake Out Day (a school-wide earthquake drill) is on October 17th.
- Grade 6 immunizations are happening this year on November 19th. Students participating are encouraged to wear short sleeve shirts.

All of these dates are posted on the PAC calendar and on the school calendar.

6. Financial Update

Jess reviewed highlights from the 2019-2020 budget.

There are three events that show no profit: Drive In Movie Night, Pink Shirt Day and Talent Show. The PAC Exec decided to allocate any revenue from the Drive In Movie Night and Talent Show to the Argyle PAC fund. The Argyle PAC is aiming to raise \$250,000 for the new school.

Any child who would like to participate in band but whose parents do not have the budget for the \$480 fee can join band for \$75 by applying to the school board for a bursary.

ULPAC is encouraging all teachers to spend their allocated teacher funds.

There was a motion to approve the financial report.

Motion: Tricia Eidnani

Seconded: Susanna Wilson-Smith

CARRIED

7. Special Events

Drive In Movie Night

Lucy Ana announced that this year's movie will be Lego Movie 2. It will be playing on the Upper Lynn field on September 26th, rain or shine. All families are encouraged to attend this fun annual event. There are lots of volunteer positions to fill to make this event a success; please sign up.

Hallowe'en Party

Megan noted that she needs a committee to help her plan the event.

8. After School Programs

Mary Ann noted that there are two after school programs running in the fall: Sewing, which is now sold out; and Chess Club. Both programs have been very popular in previous years. There is talk of running an Ultimate Frisbee session, but nothing has been finalized yet.

Typically ULPAC runs more after school programs, but due to the loss of the Multipurpose Room ULPAC does not have the space in the school to run programs.

9. Hot Lunch Update

Leslie introduced the Hot Lunch program, which has a similar format as previous years. This year's vendors are FreshSlice; Sushi Katsu; Cobs Bread and TCBY Frozen Yogurt; Foodie Kids; Hot Dog Day; Subway; and Magic Lunch Box. Each day has a Hot Lunch leader.

Leslie noted that the last day to order Hot Lunch is this Wednesday, September 18th.

ULPAC currently needs a FreshSlice (pizza day) leader. There are eight pizza days throughout the year, seven on Fridays and one Monday. Interested parents can contact Leslie or Rita.

There was a question from the floor about financial assistance for Hot Lunch. Leslie noted that there is bursary money available for families who need it. Bursary money can be requested through the school office. Jess noted that there is also bursary money available for Outdoor School, after school programs, field trips, etc. The aim is to have every child have the opportunity to participate in all activities.

10. Class Rep Update

Mary Ann thanked all Class Reps for volunteering this year. There are two classes who still need co-class reps: a rep for Mr. Backie's Grade 6 class and a rep for Ms. Slykerman's Grade 3 class.

ULPAC is working towards streamlining communications through a centralized email system rather than distributing information through class reps.

11. NV PAC Update

Jacque introduced herself as ULPAC's representative to the NVPAC. She is also the NVPAC's Treasurer. Jacque encouraged all parents to attend NVPAC's meetings, which happen approximately every six weeks.

12. New Business

Speaker Program

Lucy Ana introduced this year's focus on youth mental health and anti-bullying / bystander empowerment.

Bullying Ends Here is booked for two presentations, one for parents and one a couple of days later on October 23rd at 9:00am for Grades 6 and 7.

ULPAC intends to run iGirl, iGuy and iKid again this year; dates TBA.

ULPAC intends to run Body Science with Saleema Noon this year; dates TBA.

ULPAC intends to run Drag Queen Story Hour is a 45- to 60-minute presentation. The intent in bringing this optional presentation to Upper Lynn is to promote tolerance and acceptance of others despite perceived differences; date TBA

ULPAC intends to run a SafeTeen presentation for parents, covering topics to do with verbal, emotional and physical challenges for students in and outside of school; date TBA.

ULPAC would like to book Colleen Drobot to do a presentation for parents at the February PAC

meeting called Making Sense of Anxiety. In March she could present The Making and Un-making of Bullies to parents. Teachers, staff and parents are encouraged to attend.

There was a question from the floor regarding how the presenters are picked. There was some concern raised regarding the Drag Queen Story Hour presentation. The concerns raised were the appropriateness of the content for elementary-aged children; the intended purpose of the presentation; and whether or not the content would be redundant if it was covered by the other presentations and therefore provided good value for money. Several parents expressed support for the presentation. At the conclusion of discussion regarding speakers, it was agreed that the information about all proposed speakers would be posted to Facebook for parent information and feedback. The PAC Executive will take all discussion into consideration and will make final decisions on speakers.

Emergency Management

Veronica Bartlett is the chair of the Emergency Management Committee. She would like to do an emergency management presentation and asked if there was interest in making a presentation about preparing homes for emergencies. There was general interest in a presentation.

Veronica noted that she would prefer to have a combination lock rather than a key lock on the container on the field that contains emergency supplies.

The Committee is checking all emergency kits for expired or missing items. The Committee is confident that all expired items and water have been either removed or, in the case of expired water, labelled for washing only.

Veronica noted that a significant amount of Upper Lynn's equipment will expire in 2021. Jess noted this for next year's ULPAC budget.

Teacher Request for Jesse Miller

Kelly Blaker (Grade 4/5 teacher) asked if Jesse Miller could be booked as a future speaker. Lucy Ana said that ULPAC could consider this sometime this year.

Jacque noted that there was a focus on LGBTQ2+ presentations at the NVPAC last year and this year they are continuing this topic.

MunchaLunch Shadow

Leslie noted that she needs a MunchaLunch volunteer for events. It would be best if this person was sourced while Leslie is still in the position to shadow the role. Mary Ann will post information on the ULPAC Facebook page.

Technology Spending

There was a question from the floor regarding ULPAC spending, specifically what happens to technology funds and why ULPAC continues to fundraise for technology. Jess explained that technology becomes obsolete so quickly, and Upper Lynn is still behind in terms of optimal ratios of technology, i.e. iPads to students. At this time Upper Lynn has a ratio of one iPad per 15 students; the optimal ratio is 1:7. The Technology Fund has been created to address this ongoing need to add and replace technology.

Facebook Page

There was a question from the floor regarding the ULPAC Facebook page. All parents are encouraged to join and check the Facebook page regularly.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.