

# MINUTES



## Homma PAC Meeting

February 15, 2022

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Hosted on Zoom: <https://ubc.zoom.us/>

Meeting ID: 625 6928 0472

Passcode: 202202

### PAC Executive:

Anna Reithmeier, Chair

Penny Leggo, Vice-Chair

Marcie Beggs, Treasurer

Jennifer Tham, Secretary

In attendance: [Sharmila](#); [Carrie Elder](#); [Tawnya](#); [Amy](#); [Sue-Ann Reidy](#); [Cathy Sichewski](#) plus PAC Executive and [Derek Cherry](#) and [Kevin Vines](#) (Admin)

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
6:30 to 6:40 PM	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome</li></ul> <a href="#">First nations land acknowledgement</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review of agenda</li><li>• Approval of this list of items to become our agenda</li></ul> <a href="#">Sharmila approved. Sue-Ann Reidy seconded</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approval of minutes from January</li></ul> <a href="#">Penny approved. Jen seconded</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RDPA representative</li></ul> <a href="#">This spot is still vacant at Homma. Call out for volunteers.</a>	Anna Reithmeier
6:40 to 7:00 PM	Update from the Homma School Admin Team <a href="#">Derek Cherry</a> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• COVID Health and Safety Protocol. Want to thank families for following the health and safety protocols. Absences less than 10% a day. School is using outdoor entry and exit points. Frequent hand hygiene is encouraged. Students continue to wear masks indoors and are encouraged to wear masks outdoors as well. Capacity limits for student bathrooms in place as well as directional flow in hallways. Current limits to educational staff only inside school.</li><li>• Kevin reminds students in the daily announcements about health and safety protocols.</li><li>• Changes to health and safety protocol on news today but no direction from Ministry of Education or provincial health minister for any changes in schools. School is continuing to follow health and safety protocols that were implemented in Jan.</li></ul> <a href="#">Kevin Vines</a> :	Derek Cherry Kevin Vines

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pink shirt day on Feb 22 and 23. Theme is encouraging kids to implement change through the power of their voice. Kindness and care encouraged throughout the week. Kindness board will be up.</li> <li>• Encourage all kids/staff/community to wear pink on Feb 23 to encourage anti-bullying. On Thursday will have read aloud of book "Say Something". Friday will have age specific virtual presentations (K-3; Gr 4-5 and Gr 6-7) from Michael B a person with Cerebral Palsy. Link highlighting Michael's story will be sent out in Week Ahead newsletter.</li> </ul> <p>Question from Sue-Ann Reidy: Have any staff or families expressed an increase in mental health stress since January protocols? Answer Derek: No people have expressed this directly to admin.</p> <p>Question Sue-Ann Reidy: Will there be a survey for students/parents/staff etc. around the impact of protocols on their learning/experience at school? Derek: Not at this point, survey was given last year from Richmond school board but unsure of plans for this survey to come out.</p> <p>Question Sue-Ann: Why is there only 1 block of PE? PE closely linked to kids' mental health. What has staff done to help reduce anxiety? Derek: Students have 1 gym block, but also have garden time which is good for mental health. Staff take kids for a run around the school and yoga classes as well. Staff respond as needed to manage stress/anxiety of their classrooms. Daily announcement is just an ongoing reminder for health and safety protocols because if they are not reminded students start to be sloppy about following the rules.</p> <p>Sue-Ann would like to give opinion on effects of COVID. Derek will follow up with school district about a survey going out this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derek: Spirit week will take place in the last week before Spring Break. Every day of the week will be a different theme.</li> <li>• Kevin: District convention for Pro D Day. 2 guests speakers Ivan Coyote and Tanya Talaga. Information on speakers sent out in last weeks newsletter.</li> <li>• Derek: Family Day coming up and encourage families to connect with each other.</li> <li>• Anna: Thanks for the help in communication for PAC about meetings/fundraisers etc. Derek asking if Week Ahead newsletter is too much information? Consensus was - yes it's a good amount.</li> </ul>	
7:00 to	Treasurer's Report	Marcie Beggs

<p>7:15 PM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget update or questions</li> </ul> <p>No updates since hot lunches are not currently happening. Budget is super lean during COVID, not much we are spending on. Asking PAC: What is the next big project we are fundraising for? Suggesting subcommittee be formed to answer this question.</p> <p>Question Derek: how much discretionary money teachers are eligible to receive from the PAC?</p> <p>Marcie: Teachers of a specific division get \$300 and librarians, resource teachers etc. get \$200 each. Amount gets set aside in budget for capital acquisitions etc. Get input from admin and teachers on how to spend it.</p> <p>Anna: As a suggestion on the next big project, Tanya Major (previous principal) recommended replacement of the 30 year old part of the playground?</p> <p>Question Jen: Is gazebo fully funded and when will it be done?</p> <p>Derek: Yes, it's been fully funded, will be ready in May/June.</p>	
<p>7:15 to 7:30 PM</p>	<p>Fundraising Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Coast Seeds</li> </ul> <p>Anna: All of the orders have been received. West Coast seeds have reached out to Linda the parent contact. Pick up Thursday Mar 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring plant (hanging baskets)</li> </ul> <p>Sharmila: Wong's nurse won't do hanging basket fundraiser for Homma this year. Growing smiles (who supplied wreath and Poinsettias for Homma) also supplies hanging baskets (\$27 plus tax, recommending selling for \$35). Profit margins won't be as much as Wong's. Since Growing Smiles is a brand new vendor Sharmila is asking for another parent to take it on as she only has 1 year left. Sharmila concerned about longevity of Growing Smiles baskets as they are super grow. Asking consensus for PAC if we should do this?</p> <p>Carrie: Said poinsettias didn't last, but feel Growing Smiles quality was good. Carrie thinks it's a safe bet as everyone is familiar with ordering process and we should try it.</p> <p>Cathy: Asking how many baskets get sold a year? Sharmila answered ~350-400. Cathy is aware of smaller growers in Langley (Glow Rock Gardens?) and Delta and offered to give PAC ideas for fundraising next year and beyond. Gardening Tip: flower blooms in baskets need to be cut back severely to make them last until Sept.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any update from the School Board?</li> </ul>	<p>Sharmila Lakhani Cathy Sichewski</p>

	<p>Sharmila: Hot lunch program on hiatus at the moment. Derek: This is the direction from Richmond School Board. Will let PAC know immediately if there are changes to this policy.</p>	
7:30 to 7:40 PM	<p>Next steps with our Homma PAC Bylaws and Constitution  Anna: Admin has seen the PAC Bylaws and Constitution and have made some changes. The draft with changes have been sent to Richmond district and we are waiting to hear back. Anna is hopeful it will be posted as a draft to be voted on for the April PAC meeting.</p>	Anna Reithmeier
7:40 to 8:00 PM	<p>Other business and questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Device access during school hours? (Cathy S.)  Cathy: Gentle reminder to teachers that students' phones should be secured during school day. Ipads/computers are available at school for academic purposes.  Derek: Is there concern that kids are using technology unsupervised during recess/lunch? This should not be happening. Thanks for bringing it to administrators' attention.</li> <li>• Feminine hygiene products in school washrooms? (Cathy S.)  Cathy: The machine in the girls' bathroom is empty and does not have feminine hygiene products inside. Should 1 bathroom in the school have feminine hygiene products available with supply of pads?  Derek: Richmond school district supplies feminine hygiene products in all girls' bathrooms for free.  Education needs to be provided on how to use this product responsibly and is under the impression that historically this was abused? Kevin reported that Tanya (former principal) removed the products due to misuse.  Cathy: Concerns about awkwardness of asking for feminine hygiene products as well as possibility of children to get teased.  Marcie: Supports this initiative. Wants it to be in all of the girls' bathrooms.  Sharmila: Supports this initiative too and wants it to be in all girls' bathrooms.  Derek: Move forward to have the product available in all bathrooms as per the school district. Janitorial staff to stock these machines at night.  Cathy: When we bring feminine products back can we monitor and see if there is an increase in abuse? An alternative is to have a cupboard in the classroom for the girls to use and access at any time? Derek: Further discussion needs to happen with the staff about inside the classroom products and concerned about issues of access inside the classroom. Will start with dispensers in all the girls' bathrooms.</li> </ul> <p>Amy: Any updates on basketball? Derek: It's a staff discussion right now, Staff currently not feeling comfortable with mixing of kids from different ages in gym. Hopefully there will be opportunities in April.  Carrie: Track training? Can we hold a school event outside for only Homma students? Derek: It is a discussion for staff at large</p>	All

	<p>and it depends on families feeling comfortable having their children participate.</p> <p>Tawnya: Any plans for grad? Anna: Yearbook is being made for grads. Derek: Starting to plan for Grade 7 farewell. Stay tuned post spring break for more information.</p> <p>Cathy: Thanks to admin for bringing back Spirit Day/week. Feels this is important for mental health.</p> <p>Meeting ended: 7:56pm</p>	
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