

MINUTES

Approved at the October 18, 2022 PAC meeting



Homma PAC Meeting

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

In-person, Homma Library

Please send agenda items or questions to contacthommapac@gmail.com

Attendees:

Mr. Cherry

Mr. Vines

Anna – Grade 6

Corrine - Kindergarten

Mindy – Grade 5, Grade 3

Penny – Grade 5, Grade 3

Shadi – Grade 4

Carla – Kindergarten, Grade 3

Joanne – Kindergarten

Yelda – Grade 1

Sabrina – Grade 2

Emma – Grade 1

Lisa – Grade 1

Beth – Kindergarten

Andrea – Kindergarten

Shamila – Grade 7

Miranda – Grade 7, Grade 3

Tiffany – Kindergarten

Christina – Grade 1, Grade 6

Amy – Grade 5

Linda – Grade 7, Grade 5, Grade 2

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
6:30 to 6:45 PM	Update from the PAC Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome to a new school year and the Homma PAC<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ First Nations Land Acknowledgement○ Overview of Homma PAC• Approval of minutes from June 2022 meeting<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Moved by Penny, seconded by Linda• Review of agenda• Approval of this list of items to become our agenda<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Moved by Miranda, seconded by Yelda	Anna Reithmeier
6:45 to 7:15 PM	Update from the Homma School Admin Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updates can be found attached to this meeting• Additional items:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Could look into coordinating Deborah MacNamara to speak to the PAC in November○ Photo day scheduled for Monday, October 24○ Admin team recognizes that the transition for Kindergarteners and Grade 1 was a little tougher than expected, feedback was received and Admin team will work on improving this for next year○ Library Commons Project	Derek Cherry Kevin Vines

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School received a \$30K grant, looking to the PAC to help fund a reimagined library ▪ Might be an opportunity in the future to create a parent committee to help with the design of the project ○ Homma Wear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Admin team looking to offer Homma wear this year with the help of PAC to distribute the clothing upon arrival • Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No questions 	
7:15 to 7:30 PM	<p>Chair's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced Homma PAC Executive • Welcome Back Reception was a success • Hot lunch program is released, this takes a lot of work in the backend (coordinating, responding to emails, etc) • PAC volunteer opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Looking to form a committee to come up with fundraising ideas for the school year. ○ Looking to form a committee to come up with a plan for events this upcoming year and the future. And to help run the events moving forward. ○ Looking to form a committee to work on communications to the school community, how do we get more people involved? • Communication to school community/families <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Admin office is working to upload all the forms in the system, but in the meantime there is a PAC contact form where you can sign up to be on our email list and sign up to volunteer. ○ Looking to learn about how to improve communications through the school year with the help of a PAC committee. ○ Currently we use the website, social media channels (Instagram, Facebook), email (contacthommamac@gmail.com) • PAC meetings will be updated on the school calendar – there will be a mix of virtual and in person (February and AGM expected to be in person) • Succession planning is required, two on the PAC Executive will be moving on at the end of 2024 • Future PAC Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Library Commons Project will likely require PAC support in addition to the \$30K grant ○ Homma Playground will require an upgrade of the older portion, there may be opportunity to work with the School Board to get funding in future years (2028/2029) for the older structure replacements • Scholarship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ McMath Scholarships (\$250 each) were received by: 	Anna Reithmeier

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joanna – going to Waterloo (to study Engineering) ▪ Sylvie – going to Kwantlen (to study textiles/fashion) ▪ Ashley – going to UBC (to study Kinesiology) • Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there an opportunity to do a swap of old Homma Wear when people purchase new sizes? Potentially informally. 	
7:30 to 7:45 PM	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Walked through the PAC Approved Budget from May 27, 2022 AGM to explain each line item to the attendees • Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None 	Anne Reithmeier
7:45 to 7:50 PM	<p>PAC participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of fundraising and events committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Events (Penny led) ○ Communication (Anna led) ○ Fundraising (Corrine led) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shadi ▪ Mindy ▪ Linda 	All – Corrine Haer and Penny Leggo
7:50 to 7:55 PM	<p>Update on Hot Lunch Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue once a week, with 23 divisions a lot of time and effort goes into making the hot lunch program a success • Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will check to see if its possible to add allergen potentials on the hot lunch form 	Anna Reithmeier, Sharmila Lakhani
7:55 to 8:00 PM	<p>Other business and questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive and Admin Team will convene and discuss the idea of Parent Rep for each division and how that works logistically if it were to move forward. 	All

Homma PAC Executive:

- Anna Reithmeier, Chair
- Corrine Haer, Vice-Chair
- Marcie Beggs, Treasurer
- Jennifer Tham, Secretary

Next Homma PAC Meeting: Tuesday, October 18 (Virtual, hosted on MS Teams)

ÉCOLE ÉLÉMENTAIRE TOMKICHI HOMMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Mr. D Cherry Mr. K. Vines

Principal/Directeur Vice Principal/Directeur Adjoint

PAC Admin Report

September 27, 2022

1. September Start Up and staffing update

Welcome everyone to our first PAC meeting of the year. We are grateful and appreciative for your time and commitment to being involved.

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as we started up and moved students into classrooms. It has been a great start to the school year! We are fully staffed with 23 divisions, and we have welcomed several new staff who are very excited to be joining us. During our first few weeks we have been reconnecting to our school story of identity and belonging. Classes have spent time asking essential questions “Who am I? How do you know when you belong? Or don’t belong?”. We will continue to explore these concepts throughout the remainder of the year.

It was great seeing everybody that was able to make it at Meet the Teacher night. It was wonderful to see families and students inside the school, excited about the start of the year. For some families, it was their first time inside the school.

As we move forward this year, there will be a continuing ease of previous protocols as we shift focus into communicable disease management which includes children and adults staying home when they are sick or showing symptoms, regular hand washing as well as practicing respiratory etiquette. As a staff, we continue to have conversations about bringing forward health and safety protocols that support everyone’s wellbeing. Some families are still feeling uneasy about being in spaces with large gatherings of people, so we are thinking of ways to make students and families feel more comfortable.

As a staff we are discussing having in person assemblies once again as well as access to the school for families in a safe manner. For now, we are asking families to continue to use the current pick up and drop off arrangements for meeting their child’s classroom teacher. Families are welcome to come into the school through the front door if they need to drop off something or connect with the office staff, visit the library or if they are volunteering in the school. Staff find that the current arrangement supports independence and teachers with an opportunity to connect with children on an individual basis. Families as always are encouraged to connect with their child’s teacher. We will continue to look for ways for families to come into the school through community events like Meet the Teacher.

2. Professional Development Day

Last Friday we welcomed Deb McNamara to Homma. **Dr. Deborah MacNamara** is a Clinical Counsellor and Developmentalist, on Faculty at the Neufeld Institute and Director of Kid’s Best Bet, a counselling center for families. Deborah is author of the best selling book Rest, Play, Grow: Making Sense of Preschoolers (or anyone who acts like one), as well as the Sorry Plane. Her focus is on relationships and their connection to attachment, belonging and separation. She

emphasized the importance of children experiencing setbacks, the importance of play and why relationships are at the heart of student growth and development. Deb is interested in coming into connect with the Homma community, if there is interest.

3. Terry Fox Run

Tomorrow we will be having our annual Terry Fox Run. Thank you, Homma families, for your generous donations to such an amazing cause. So far the Terry Fox Foundation has raised almost a billion dollars worldwide for cancer research. Students will be running tomorrow with their buddy classes. We are encouraging them to wear Homma spirit wear.

4. Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day takes place on September 30. Are reminder that this is a commemorative day that honors the children who survived residential schools and remembers those who did not. Schools will be closed on this day. We will formally mark Orange Shirt Day on September 29, by wearing orange as a symbol of our sadness of the stripping away of culture, freedom, and self-esteem, experienced by Indigenous children over generations. We have also put together a video for students and staff to build understanding as well as staff will be doing follow-up lessons with their classes.

5. Student Photo Day

Student individual photo day is scheduled for Monday, October 24th. More in information will be provided as we get closer to the date.

6. Fun Run and Volleyball

Homma will be taking students to the Fun Run at Garry Point on Tuesday, October 11th. Practices will be held next week on Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 am. Volleyball for Grade 6/7 students will begin shortly. Students will sign up this week and we will begin volleyball intramurals after that.

7. Conferences and reporting

Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, October 12th and Thursday, October 13th. Students will be dismissed early at 1:45 pm on both days. Teachers will be reaching out before the end of this week with information on how to schedule your child's conference. If you do not hear from your child's teacher by the end of the week, please reach out to them.

8. Leadership Jobs

At Homma, we have several students in Grades 4 –7 who are participating in various leadership roles throughout the school. It has been a few years since we have been able to do some of them. Students were keen and enthusiastic about giving back to the school. These opportunities help create connection and community. A big thank you to Mr. Vines and our intermediate staff for supporting this opportunity.

9. Foundation Skills Assessment

Each year students in Grades 4 and 7 participate in the Foundation Skills Assessment. The assessment consists of a written and on-line component. Students are assessed in literacy and numeracy. The assessment provides a snapshot of student learning currently and provides the school with information about strengths and stretches in these areas. The assessment results are not used to determine report card comments but do provide families with another opportunity to see how their child is doing. The best source of information, however, continues to be your child's classroom teacher. The assessment runs from October 3rd – November 10th