



Homma PAC Meeting

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Virtual, MS Teams

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#) (the link has also been posted on the school website)



[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

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

Attendees: Derek Cherry (Admin), Valerie Carriere (Admin); Carole Wilson (Guest retired teacher librarian); Jen Tham; Corrine Haer; Heather Hong; Ingrid Veilleux (current teacher librarian); Miranda Duffy; Penny Leggo; Rebecca Rubio (From School Board); Anna Reithmeier; Sharmila; Clinton Fok; Carla Day; Linda Waithman; Meg Ronaghan

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
6:30 to 6:40 PM	<p>Update from the PAC Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of minutes from the January 24, 2023 PAC meeting <i>Sharmila approved; Penny Seconded</i> Review of agenda Approval of this list of items to become our agenda The Homma AGM is planned for Tuesday, May 16 (in-person) Next PAC Meeting – in person instead? TBD 	Anna Reithmeier
6:40 to 7:00 PM	<p>Update from the Homma School Admin Team: Derek</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report cards (Written Update) to be provided Mar 9. Can be viewed on MyEd. Encouraging families to log in to view. Starting next year families will not be providing print outs. Thank you to PAC for supporting White Hatter workshops for kids and parents. Derek encouraging parents to go to White Hatter website for resources. Parent workshop only available for 48 hours after the presentation. Unable to see how many families/parents viewed this presentation. Basketball for Grade 6/7. Great community building. Big thank you to the teacher coaches for basketball who stepped up in January. Questions: Anna asked why Homma girls only are playing in 4 games vs other teams playing in 10 games. Answer: Derek said it was due to the availability of coaches. Derek said as a district, we may move to a co-ed model in the future. Sue-Ann: Advocating at Trustee and school board level to reinstate the job for athletic director to be able to provide relief for teachers to be able to schedule a season of games and provide equity across the district. Linda comment: In the Volleyball season, Homma kids only played 2 games vs other schools who have played 10 games. Derek: It comes down to availability of staff to be able to do the games after school. Linda asking if parents/McMath students can coach? Derek said every practice/game would need to have 	Derek Cherry Valerie Carriere

a teacher/staff to sponsor. Will bring it back to staff for discussion.

- Carla comments that she is a teacher at another school district and said in the past 95% of kids were coached by students and now 95% of kids coached by external coaches. Feels as though staff can be doing work in the office next to the gym while someone else coaches (parents/McMath students).
- Val: Thanks PAC for sponsoring the drumming session with students working 6 full days with the external teacher. 2 classes are working together at the same time. 60 drums in the gym for 6 days. Teaching about rhythm and musical literacy. Small performance in gym on Thursday and will try to record and post.
- Val: March 8th is International Women's Day.



Mr. D Cherry
Principal/Directeur

Mr. K. Vines
Vice Principal/Directeur Adjoint

PAC Admin Report

February 28, 2023

1. Welcome Rebeca Rubio, Ingrid Veilleux, Carol Wilson - Library Learning Commons Update

Ingrid Veilleux (Homma Teacher/Librarian), Carole Wilson (Retired Homma Teacher/ Librarian and Rebeca Rubio (District Librarian Consulted) presented information about the Library Learning Commons renovation that will occur sometime next fall. Libraries have changed over the past few years and the way the space is being used has evolved with these changes. Libraries continue to be the hub of a school community where literacy is a primary focus. School libraries have become rich environments, where students can engage in experiences that push them beyond book reading and signing out books. Moving forward into the fall, there will be an opportunity for PAC to provide financial support to cover costs for furniture needed for flexible learning. If you would like to learn more about the Library Learning Commons at Homma, please connect with Ms. Veilleux, Teacher Librarian. Thank you Homma PAC for providing time for the presentation.

2. Term 2 – Written Updates

On March 9th families will be receiving term 2 written updates. Paper copies will continue to be provided, but we will be moving towards publishing these reports in MyEd starting next year. We are encouraging families to use MyEd to look at their child's written update for term 2. If families have questions about their child's written update, please reach out to the classroom teacher.

3. White Hatter

Thank you Homma Pac for supporting the White Hatter workshops last week. The topics discussed were informative and engaging. For parents looking for additional resources please visit their website at <https://thewhitehatter.ca/>

4. Basketball Tournament at McMath

Starting tomorrow, March 1st our Grade 6/7 boys and girls basketball teams will be playing in the McMath feeder basketball tournament. A big thank you to Homma Basketball coaches for the time and commitment that they have put into basketball this term at Homma. Our students have really improved and are having fun. They have represented our school community in positive ways and have showed amazing sportsmanship.

5. Jordan Hanson Drumming Sessions – March 2 – 9th

We are excited to be welcoming Jordan Hanson to the school later on this week to provide each class with an opportunity to participate in drumming workshops. Jordan has traveled the world to learn about music. Student will actively participate by playing their own drum to learn about beat, rhythm and African culture. On Thursday, March 9th, students in Grade 5, 6 and 7 will perform for the rest of the school. Thank you to the Homma PAC for providing partial funds to support this amazing workshop!

6. March 8th is International Women's Day

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day is also observed in support of taking action against gender inequality in the world. This year's theme is embrace equality. If you are interested in learning more about International Women's Day please visit the website at <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/theme>

7. Spring Break

On behalf of Homma staff, we would like to wish Homma families a wonderful Spring Break. We hope that families are able to do some of the things that they enjoy doing together over the break. Spring Break starts on March 13th and ends on March 24th. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on March 27th.

7:00 to
7:25 PM

Presentation about the Library Commons Project

Carole Wilson is retired Homma librarian and put together proposal for library commons project to support students and learning last year. Homma was approved for \$30,000 grant from the school district.

Rebecca: context for vision of libraries in Richmond school district. LLC stands for Library Learning Commons (LLC).

- 1) Innovation
- 2) Collaboration
- 3) Open learning Space
- 4) Literacy and technology.

Library is like a kitchen, come to innovate and work with others with all of the tools so that you can create and inquire and learn.

Library learning commons, books are pushed out to walls so there is open space in the middle. Books are on caster wheels so things can be pushed out of the way. McNeely, Mitchell, Blundell, Garden City have had renovations recently. Cozy and innovative seating. Better ways to display resources. More integrated pieces of technology is promoting equity so all students have access to new technologies.

Lots of interesting furniture and different materials to make the LLC more inviting.

Carole: Overarching inquiry question: How do we accommodate our space for increased student engagement? The whole project will take more than 1 year. Canvassed students and other teachers for their ideas.

Ingrid: Promote literacy and reading. Literacy is front and center of the project. Examples of things that happened in the library today: Kids can buddy read; Small groups working in aisles. 1:1 conferences with kids researching Heritage Fair and students audio recording themselves for a podcast. Want to shrink current circulation desk.

Maker space lab in the back of the library is currently being gutted and transformed.

Derek: \$30,000 grant from the school district doesn't get us a lot. The furniture is very costly and asking for PAC to support.

Question from Miranda: "will there continue to be a quiet space in the library?". Answer is yes.

Question from Corrine "Who will project manage the project?" Answer: Carpentry Team from the school board will be doing work with consultation with librarians, Derek and school board. Creating a space which has longevity.

Question from Jen: "Do we have an estimated cost of furniture?". Answer: Tables \$585 each. Only 1 company which is approved by school district to provide the furniture. Estimating \$10,000-20,000.

Question from Anna: What is the timeline for this project? Answer: Fall of coming school year in 2023 will be the projected start date. Carpentry covered by grant and furniture should be ordered in the fall to time for Spring reopen.

Ingrid Veilleux
Carol Wilson

	<p>Question from Linda: Are there any parent volunteer hours that can be offered to offset any labour costs? Answer: No as carpentry is CUPE union.</p> <p>Question from Carla: Will there be a temporary library while the construction is occurring? Answer: A mobile library can be offered room to room for check out of the most popular books. Library may be closed for 2-3 weeks in the spring for when books are getting put back.</p> <p>Question from Jose: Will children be able to sit down on this furniture and read a book before checking out a book? Answer: Yes.</p>	
<p>7:25 to 7:50 PM</p>	<p>PAC News</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events (Bingo Night feedback, potential spring event) <p>Anna: Sent out a parent survey today to gauge interest in volunteering for a Spring Event (previously known as Carnival). As of 5pm today maybe only 30 volunteers have come forward.</p> <p>Penny: Good feedback from Bingo night. Spring Fair will be more low key this year than in previous years due to low volunteer engagement and changes to school board rules regarding inflatables etc.</p> <p>Anna: Carnival was a big project and hasn't been run since 2019. Whatever happens next will not be the same. Inflatables are no longer allowed from parent groups. Plus there is a new focus on inclusion and sustainability. We are just under 3 months away and a lot of work/planning needs to be done.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising (West Coast Seeds pick up on Thursday after school, 74CO5) <p>Anna: Fundraiser feedback. Corrine: We are on hold for a bit as orders have been down. Freezie sales will hopefully happen in the spring. We will hold off on pub night and car wash for now due to fear of fundraising fatigue.</p> <p>Question from Sharmila: Are we doing hanging baskets this year? Answer: No, based on low orders from Growing Smiles last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and community engagement (Facebook community group and Kindergarten Welcome Package) <p>Linda: We want to put 1-2 pages into the Welcome to Kindergarten Package. To Email admin in April to get it in the pack for May.</p> <p>Comments: Sue Ann: Brain storming idea. Can we ask for a French consultant position to be involved with planning of the spring fair? Offered to meet with French teacher consultant once a week to try and meet inclusivity criteria for the Spring fair.</p> <p>Anna: Wants to acknowledge Spring Fair is parent driven event.</p>	<p>Penny Leggo Corrine Haer Anna</p>
<p>7:50 to 7:55 PM</p>	<p>Update on Hot Lunch Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term 3 dates will open after spring break • No hot lunch will be served during Ramadan (March 22 to April 20) <p>Sharmila: Has gotten a lot of positive feedback about the decision to abstain from hot lunch events during Ramadan.</p> <p>Boston Pizza feedback: Pasta was good, chicken strips not good due to condensation/sogginess. Likely will not order chicken strips from them again. DQ can be chicken strip provider.</p>	<p>Anna Reithmeier Sharmila Lakhani</p>

	Sharmila: asking about feedback from Fresh Slice for Bingo night. Anna said slices were challenging to hand out and invoicing was difficult. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions: None	
7:50 to 8:00 PM	Other business and questions	All

Next Homma PAC Meeting: Tuesday, April 18 via MS Teams – would there be interest in hosting this via in-person instead? [TBD](#)

Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.