

MINUTES



Homma PAC AGM

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Meeting in person at Homma Elementary

In attendance (6 parents in person; 2 virtual): Ginny Lee (Admin); Derek Cherry (Admin); Jarrod Connolly; Penny Leggo; Miranda Duffy; Jennifer Tham; Spencer Rocky; Anna Reithmeier. Virtual attendees: Jodie Weiler; Corrine Haer

Special guest Ken Hamaguchi (School Trustee)

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
6:00 - 6:10 PM	Update from the PAC Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome / Land Acknowledgement• Approval of minutes from the April 2024 meeting <p>Penny Approved; Miranda Seconded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of agenda• Approval of this list of items to become our agenda <p>Miranda Approved; Jen Seconded</p>	Jarrod Connolly
6:10 - 6:20 PM	First call for nominations for PAC executive positions <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Jen Tham nominated Jarrod Connolly for Chair-Jodie Weiler nominated Corrine Haer for Vice Chair-Jen Tham nominated Miranda Duffy for Treasurer-Anna Rethmeier nominated Jen Tham for Secretary	Jarrod Connolly
6:20 - 6:40 PM	Update from the Homma School Admin Team. Administrative report is in black. Additional comments/minutes in BLUE 1. Mr. Ken Hamaguchi, School Board Trustee visit Mr. Hamaguchi attended the PAC meeting to share some upcoming themes, answer questions and offer ways to support the school and PAC. -Richmond School District in the past few years had a slight surplus. Richmond School Board has been keeping the preschool program Strong Start running whereas other districts like Surrey/New West have started to cut their Strong Start programs. -Ken highlighted some issues Richmond School Board are facing are province-wide such as trying to find enough teachers and EAs to fill vacancies. -Ken is volunteering to help with physical tasks such as making hot dogs/stacking chairs at school events. -Question from Spencer about STEM programs at elementary level? Answer from Ken: Trustees don't get involved in the details of running schools. Derek answered that Applied Design is being done weekly at	Derek Cherry Ginny Lee

Homma. The Maker space room with Osmos is being slowly being built up.

-Ken said enrollment is increasing in the city Centre; at the board level they are looking for spaces for kids and how we are going to get more capacity.

2. Welcome to Kindergarten

On Wednesday, May 15th we will be welcoming about 60 Kindergarten students and their families to Homma. This event provides staff with an opportunity to connect with students and their families. During the event students will be participating in a variety of play-based stations. Families will have an opportunity to ask questions, get resources and learn about Kindergarten at Homma. We are looking forward to meeting our newest members of our school community. Thank you, Homma PAC, for inviting Kindergarten families to join the committee and for helping them to learn more about the PAC and how it support the school.

-Welcoming almost 60 K kids for Welcome to K.

-Corrine and Jarrod are going to represent Homma PAC at this event.

3. Professional Development Day

This Friday, May 17th, we will be having our final Professional Development Day of the school year. During the day, staff will be attending workshops in the morning at various sites. In the afternoon, we will be working together to develop plans for implementing common language connected to Care for Self, Care for Others and Care for place.

-Moving towards care for self, care for others and care for place and away from H.A.W.K.S

4. Band Concert

We are excited to be hosting our first band concert for families since before the pandemic. On May 23rd at 1:00 pm students who are taking band at Homma will have an opportunity to celebrate their learning this year by performing for family members. Thank you, Ms.Yan for your time in preparing the students for the concert. We are looking forward to hearing them play!

5. Class/Team/ Panorama Picture Day

Students and staff will be having class picture day and the school panorama photo day on Friday, May 24th. Team and club pictures will also be taken on that day.

6. Zone Track Meet

We are busy planning for the Minoru Track Meet on May 27th. Staff have been working hard to place students into events, organize rides and

collect permission slips. It is a big job, and we are very grateful for the support and help from the staff. This year, as in past years, we are committed to including all students who would like to participate in track meet in an event, but due to the amount of schools in our zone track group (8), we have only been given one running lane. This will limit the number of events that some students will be in. We are working with other schools, at the meet, to let us know if they have events with less students in them so that we can add students. At Homma, our track goal is to have fun, build community and show outstanding sportspersonship.

-Every student will be in 1 event. No try outs except for high jump, long distance running.

-Question from Jodie: Do kids have some say in the event they really want to do? Derek answered that it is hard to place 274 kids in events. If kids aren't feeling comfortable, then they should speak to classroom teachers. Thank you to parents for picking up and dropping off kids for the Track meet.

-Question from Penny: Are parents allowed to drive other children as long as the other parent(s) have given permission? Derek answered Yes. All kids need to check out at the end of the day and identify who they are going home with.

-Rain out day for Track meet is May 30th.

-Primary students will be doing a primary track event in the afternoon of May 27th at Homma with different stations. Thanks to Homma staff for organizing this.

7. Sports Day

Mark your calendars, Sports Day is scheduled for Friday, June 7th. The rain out day will be Friday, June 14th. This year's theme will be the Four Seasons. More information will be shared shortly.

-Kids will be participating at pep rally and family teams events.

-Penny offered to procure a Sports Day snack and fruit (pears and bananas) funded by PAC.

- **Grade 7 Farewell**

-Information was sent out today to Grade 7 parents. Fri Jun 21 is the assembly for Grade 7 Farewell. Derek said that in the past feedback was to hold luncheon and assembly on different days.

-Luncheon on Wed Jun 26th.

-Yearbooks are given out on the 26th so students can connect with teachers and other students to get the yearbooks signed.

-On last day of school Grade 7 students will go around to say goodbye to whole school.

-\$2,000 provided by PAC for Grade 7 farewell (Luncheon, balloons and flowers).

-Homma admin will be looking for parent volunteers to set up tables, help with lunch and decorate the gym.

- **Appreciation pizza lunch for student recognition.**

-Thursday Jun 20th pizza recognition for 5,6,7 students (SHHH this is still a secret!). PAC has also funded this lunch. Ginny asked at a minimum for

students to sign up for 3 weeks of each task (gate keeper; primary lunch monitor; office monitor; morning announcement; hot lunch helpers).

- **PAC Purchases**

-Derek is showing the Mipro speaker that the PAC funded. Can be used for Sports Day, Derby, Welcome to K events which are happening at the end of the year and will get a lot of use for the school for many years to come.



-The PAC also made a donation of \$2,000 for literacy materials. Staff asked for guided reading materials. These are on display for students to borrow and use on carts in the library in English and French. \$7,000 from school budget and \$2,000 from PAC to purchase these.

6:40 - 7:00 PM

Treasurer's Report

- Review of our current budget

-Miranda drafted a budget for next year. This is hypothetical as year end is May 31. We have not spent all the money we planned to spend so far.

- Gaming grant application

-Miranda is working on the gaming grant application and is aware of the June 30th deadline.

-Some teachers have not fully optimized their annual grants. Ginny will put out a reminder to the teachers to spend by Fri Jun 14th. Anna suggested to try to move the deadline to May 1 for teacher's grants in the future so that all spending can be wrapped up prior to May 31st year end.

-Spencer asked what the surplus is so far? Miranda answered \$84,125. Miranda provided some examples of spending which is in the budget but not paid out yet: \$10,000 on Hot lunches, Pinewood Derby expenditures.

Miranda Duffy

McMath scholarships (\$1,000 last year and this year), outdoor education, library learning commons (\$30,000).

-Jen asked if last year's McMath scholarships were awarded? Anna answered that Vice Principle and leadership teacher didn't respond last year and this year they have reached out. Last year's leadership at McMath switched so they are starting from scratch.

-No money was dispersed to McMath last year. \$1,000 was budgeted for this year.

-Jarrod offered to help Miranda with Gaming Grant.

- **Vote on next year's budget (deferred to the June meeting)**

-Derek has included staff in conversation regarding budget asks. This was not past practice.

-Learning enhancement list to be submitted for PAC consideration.

- 1) Sand Northrup (one woman circus) bilingual instructor. Each class will do 2 workshops.
Potential for PAC fundraiser for the circus equipment they use at wholesale prices with a minimum order of \$300. Suggested price list also included.
10 days = \$6,720 fee.
-Focus on resilience with learning new skills.
-No parent concert for circus skills as this will cost more.
- 2) Guided Reading materials:
Cost \$3,000-\$5,000 (from school budget). This is a lower priority.
- 3) iPad refresh:
Need to give back 130 ipads to district because they are outdated with no security backups. The school budget for technology goes towards laptops.
Admin is asking for approximately 30 ipads x \$500 = \$15,000
Derek will ask about leasing them instead and a cost for leasing option.
Anna was contacted by the chair at Westwind elementary regarding \$45,000 their administration was asking for iPads. The district is pushing for schools to choose a leasing option.
Westwind opted for a lease option. The Richmond school district deals directly with Apple for a better price. The leasing option makes more sense as Tech services can help with issues and breakage and outdated iPads will be obsolete and iPads get broken and the leasing option can take care of all of these issues.
- 4) Gaga Ball Court (A request from Div 5 kids). A proposed Gaga court will mean less kids on the playground, kids can teach each other how to play Gaga ball. It is an Individual game. Derek asked Homma staff and they are in favour of this.

-Pricing from Ginny who built a Gaga court at Mitchell Elementary before she left was ~\$993 USD. Ginny was able to pay the District to assemble the Gaga court. It can be put on blacktop or grass.

-Jen had a question about what type and size of balls are used for gaga ball? Derek answered Regular rubber balls.

-Derek suggested 2 gaga ball courts given the size of the school.

- 5) Uzme Taiko Drumming lessons. No cost yet. Spring 2025?
- 6) \$2,600 for 3 D printer. Asking for 2nd one in addition to the school district one which is on loan to Homma.

	-There is no motion to vote on a budget, this is deferred until the June meeting.	
7:00 - 7:30 PM	<p>PAC Planning and Participation Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pinewood Derby (Anna) <p>-Calls for donations needed and calls for volunteers (Ticket sales; Ticket pick up for Triple O's).</p> <p>-136 cars in the race. A few people have reached out asking for more cars as there are 6 lanes and there are an even number of races. Consensus in the meeting was that there was a lot of communication around this for parents (stand alone email; WAAG weekly reminds for 3 weeks; Facebook; WhatsApp reminders) and there will not be another car order. This will allow us to finish within the allotted time.</p> <p>-Triple O's truck financial risk as there is a minimum order</p> <p>-Other activities for the evening: Photo booth; Balloon artist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff Appreciation Lunch - Tuesday, June 18th (Jenny & Camille) <p>-2 parents (not in PAC) are organizing it with admin. \$200 from Homma PAC in the budget.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hot Lunch Program <p>-Jodie: Keeping Pizza Factory; DQ and Takeya sushi for next year. Jodie will chat with Derek about roughly the same number of Hot Lunch dates Scheduled for Fridays next year.</p> <p>-Jodie asked if Miranda would like education from the Hot Lunch platform regarding how to use their platform. Miranda accepted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Freezie Fridays <p>May 24 and June 6 freezy sales. Jen commented that we got a lot of volunteers through the WhatsApp Homma Parents chat in a few minutes for the May 24 date. Joanne will run the May 24th sale and Andrea will run the June 6th sale. Thanks to both!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other <p>Penny is suggesting a skate night at Minoru to be held in lieu of the Holiday Craft Night. The space (Minoru) is already decorated, and the \$700-800 rental fee includes skate rentals. Most schools hold this as a free event but suggested to maybe sell hot chocolate. Winter wonderland is usually held at the end of November, typically in Dec. Jen asked about capacity numbers at Minoru? Penny said she will find out.</p> <p>-Miranda is asking if we have the money to do this?</p> <p>-Jarrod said it is close to Halloween Dance and in general is a busy time of year.</p> <p>-Corrine asked if it is in the evening? Penny answered yes. Corrine is in support of this.</p> <p>-Spencer commented/suggested that PAC can charge admission for this as many families do this anyways and can be a fundraiser.</p>	PAC Executive
7:30 - 7:40 PM	<p>Second call for nominations for PAC executive positions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vote <p>Jarrod Connolly for Chair Corrine Haer for Vice Chair Miranda Duffy for Treasurer Jennifer Tham for Secretary</p> <p>All members of the Homma PAC executive elected by acclamation</p>	Jarrod Connolly

7:40 - 8:00 PM	<p>Other business, Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of volunteers and PAC meeting attendance <p>-Miranda: Asking parents to pledge 30 minutes of time in the next school year and suggests sending it out to invite parents to help PAC with anything.</p> <p>-Miranda: Asking for a survey monkey “if there are barriers to you as parents participating, can you identify what those are”. Perhaps we can gauge what’s keeping people from helping PAC?</p> <p>-Jarrod: People are afraid to try once because they don’t know what things are.</p> <p>-Anna: We switched days of PAC meetings to alternate Tu/Wed and none of the people who asked for this came anyways.</p> <p>-Spencer asked if babysitting was offered? Anna said she paid her kids to babysit other children so parents could attend and when this was offered only Corrine’s kids came.</p> <p>-Derek comments that this is a district wide problem. Knowing ahead of time for parents is helpful. Derek said this is the 5th school he’s worked at. Homma events get a lot of parents who want to help (Fair and Halloween Dance).</p> <p>-Anna commented we can change how meetings are run and we could change meetings to include more discussion. Jarrod said we can do smaller admin meetings for the dry stuff.</p> <p>-Anna commented that PAC used to include a form in the Back to school form package and suggested that perhaps this is worth a couple of hours of data entry for next year to get more parents involved and their contact information.</p> <p>-Penny commented that some parents don’t speak English well and are always asking her what is happening at the school. Derek asks if they can access the Homma website and suggests there is a google translate function on the website. Derek said Homma PAC is doing an outstanding job with weekly communication, the best he’s ever seen.</p> <p>Derek: Thanks PAC parents for getting involved and for our time.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned: 8:09pm</p>	All
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Next Homma PAC Meeting Virtual: Tuesday, June 11, 6:30 - 8:00 PM