

MINUTES (Final)



Homma PAC Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 6:30 pm

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

In-person at Homma library.

In Attendance (29): Jarrod Connolly; Corrine Haer (K and Gr 2); Miranda Duffy; Jennifer Tham; Jerry (K); Pat & Iris (K); Gizem (K); Joanne (Gr 2); Carla (Gr 2 and 5); Sabrina (Gr 4); Yalda (Gr 3); Sophie; Edmond; Sophia; Ryan and Amina; Ryan (Grade 2); Leo and Avis (Gr 1); Avery; Adrian (K); Eric and Caylee (K); Tina (Gr 5); Penny; Mark and Ginny (Admin). 2-3 unnamed parents who came late.

| Time | Topic | Speaker(s) |
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| 6:30 - 6:45 pm | <p>PAC Chair Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome / Land AcknowledgementApproval of previous meeting minutes <p>Corrine approved and seconded by Miranda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of agendaApproval of agenda <p>Corrine approved and seconded by Miranda</p> | Jarrod Connolly |
| 6:45 - 7:00 pm | <p>Homma School Admin Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Updates from Admin <p>Mark David Bio (Principal): First 2 years of teaching at Homma and now coming back as Principal. Richmond born and continues to live in Richmond and has 2 kids at McMath. Comes from Gilmore/Thomas Kidd as a Principal. Mark has an open door policy and is looking forward to parents introducing themselves and will be teaching some blocks of gym.</p> <p>Ginny Lee Bio (Vice Principal): FI teacher and graduate. Ginny has been a Vice Principal at Mitchell, and this is her 2nd year at Homma.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A reminder to parents to fill out the Homma forms package and to return them as soon as possible.Library Learning Commons Video highlighting space and whiteboard flip tables. Thank you, PAC!Meet the Staff Night (Thurs Sep 19). Most likely most classrooms will have an Open house concept. Some teachers might speak about their classroom at the beginning of the night.Friday Sep 20 Professional Development Day. Staff will be speaking about care for self, others and space.Oct 16-18 Grades 6 and 7 are going to Camp Jubilee. This trip happens every 2 years. | Mark David Ginny Lee |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark and Ginny presented a purchase request for an AV inventory list. 4 classrooms don't have any AV systems working. Approx \$2070 per classroom x 4 = Approximately \$8280 total to prioritize those 4 classrooms. We are currently using portable AV projectors, but they are also failing. • Ginny recommends we prioritize Apple TV approximately \$800 x 4 classes. Approximately \$3200. • Laptop leasing (3 year lease) is where the school's technology budget is going. <p>Carla asked: Why is the district not providing funding for AV technology? Mark answered: Schools get budget per student. There is not enough funding from the district to cover all these AV requests, so that is why admin is asking PAC for additional funding.</p> <p>Mark suggests highlighting where the money is going and suggests highlighting the need for fundraising for AV equipment this year to add to the school's wish list.</p> <p>Mark: Grade 4 and 7's will be doing the FSA test (Reading, writing and Math). Written and online portions. This will be taking place in October. Everyone does the FSA in English.</p> <p>Ginny: The results go towards the Fraser Institute ranking. Mark: English Language Arts only starts for FI students in Grade 3. Results are not reflective of the students report card/learning update.</p> <p>Ginny: FSA test doesn't take into account if the child is having a bad day, or is sick etc.</p> <p>Jarrod: PAC Exec were aware of the Principal change when we voted on the budget in May at the AGM. There may be changes and we anticipated that we would get new requests in September from the new admin team.</p> | |
| 7:00 - 7:20 pm | <p>Treasurer's Report (please see attached document at the end of minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget update • The budget is a living document and is adjusted/amended as priorities change. • \$5,636 leftover in gaming fund. \$7,776 in contingency fund. • This year we hope to receive ~\$10,680 in the gaming fund. Notifications about the results of Gaming Grant applications will be sent out by the Gaming Branch on or before September 30th. • Fundraising was successful last year, especially the Hot lunch program which we estimated would make \$7000 and fundraised ~\$12,000, so \$5,000 more than we anticipated. • However, only \$3,447 was raised from the Derby, which was lower than anticipated. • Total fundraising last year was \$21,024 (estimated \$16,000). | Miranda Duffy |

- \$30,000 was to pay for the library learning commons furniture and equipment.
- PAC also paid for Karima Essa (Bollywood dance); Motown performers (for Black History month); Dragon Dance (for Lunar New Year).
- PAC also made available to all Teachers a \$300 classroom grant, and \$200 grants for resource teachers/librarians.

New School Year:

- Gaming fund estimation \$16,316
- Operating \$38,000 (realistically)
- In May (AGM), we had to broadly make a 20% cut across the board to meet our current budget. We could restore the previous 20% cut to the categories without any negative consequences.
- Gaga ball court (student's request) ~\$1500. Miranda is unsure if it can be funded by the gaming fund and will need to confirm with the Ministry.
- We have some opportunities to meet some more funding requests from the admin team.
- We need to table Taiko Drumming as everyone (admin included) agreed that the AV requests are more important.
- Admin is asking for additional funding for the AV requests on top of the money PAC is already giving for the ipad lease.
- Miranda: \$4349 was given to school (non ipad related). Admin reports they are using this to fund laptops.

Corrine: Motioned for the PAC to spend \$8,000 towards the AV budget. Sabrina was first to support the motion and Yalda seconded. The motion was voted on and passed with a majority vote.

Carla: Advised for PAC to approve Gaga ball court as it is \$1,500. Jarrod: we need to know if it is coming from the operating vs gaming fund. Carla is a teacher and asking why the district is not helping with the cost of the AV equipment. Mark answered that technology budget can vary for every school. PAC funding for the AV equipment will just help expedite the purchase instead of the school using the technology budget to slowly replace the AV systems over time.

Question (sorry did not catch the name of the parent who asked): How long will new projectors be anticipated to last? Mark answered he's not sure and will get back to parents. Another question: How quickly can approved projectors be up and running in classrooms? Mark answered as soon as possible.

Miranda: Moved to restore the 20% cut previously made to the operating budget. Corrine was first to support the motion, Yalda seconded. The motion was voted on and passed with a majority vote.

Miranda: Moved to move gaga ball court cost from the gaming fund to the operating fund. Carla was first to support the motion, Sabrina seconded. The motion was voted on and passed with a majority vote.

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| | <p>Support for Taiko drumming is tabled for next year. Discussion about the PAC paying for 1 woman circus was also tabled as the AV equipment has taken priority.</p> <p>Miranda: Move to move the back to school social to its own line item on the budget and currently is budgeted for \$500. Corrine was first to support the motion, Jen seconded. The motion was voted on and passed with a majority vote.</p> <p>Miranda: Moved to increase PAC's discretionary fund to \$500. The motion was voted on and passed with a majority vote.</p> | |
| 7:20 - 7:50 pm | <p>Planning and Participation Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fundraising Update <p>Corrine: Pub night; poinsettia/Purdy's around Christmas time; Freezy Fridays (3 days in late Spring/summer); Photoshoot; Mabels Labels.</p> <p>Please let us know if you have fundraising ideas and want to run fundraisers! We would love your help!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteer Pledge <p>Please pledge 30 min to help PAC throughout the year. A little help from a lot of parents goes a long way to support the school for fundraising and community building activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Halloween Family Dance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monday, October 28 (<i>tentative</i>) ○ Event leader <p>WAAG advertising for event leaders. Tickets will be sold online via the Hot Lunch website and WILL sell out fast.</p> | All |
| 7:50 - 8:00 pm | <p>Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please join the Whatsapp and FB groups. Open call for a volunteer to post/maintain the Instagram page. ● Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:16pm | All |

Homma PAC Executive:

- Jarrod Connolly, Chair
- Corrine Haer, Vice-Chair
- Miranda Duffy, Treasurer
- Jennifer Tham, Secretary

Next Homma PAC Meeting: Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 pm (Virtual) (*tentative to be announced in the WAAG/social media when we have more information*).

Treasurer's Report

Homma PAC Meeting, September 13th, 2024

Part I: Summary of Previous School Year (2023-24)

We started the 2023-24 school year with:

- \$7670 in a contingency fund
- \$71,743 in our Operating Account, and
- \$7177.70 in our Gaming Account.

Gaming

Our Gaming grant application for 2023-24 had been submitted six hours late, in error, on July 1st, 2023. This error left us unsure of Gaming funding for the year until further notice.

Fortunately, our Operating Account was healthy, and would allow us to carry out most of our plans if our Gaming grant application was rejected, which it was, on December 12th, because we had been late. Ultimately, we were successful in having our application rejection reconsidered, and we received a grant from Gaming on March 28th, 2024.

This school year (2024-25), our Gaming grant application was submitted before the deadline, so we reasonably expect to receive a grant. We expect to receive a notification about our application on or before September 30th.

Fundraising

Fundraising last year was very successful. We had an amazing uptake in our Hot Lunch Program, generating over 70% more in revenue than anticipated (nearly \$12,000). This additional \$4,965 made up for some lower amounts raised via our Pub Night last November, and the Pinewood Derby we held in June.

Events and Projects Funded

We began last year by holding our annual Welcome (Back) to Homma Coffee Hour for new and returning families on the first day of school. We continued to offer our Hot Lunch Program under the thoughtful leadership of Jeff Anthony and Jodie Weiler, making lunch 20% easier for those families who participated. We built community through a Hallowe'en Family Dance, a Pub Night for parents in November, a Family Bingo Night in February, and a Pinewood Derby, for which we built a new track for the cost of materials. Thanks to outgoing Homma parent Chris Back, who so graciously gave of his time and skills to build the track, so that we can continue to hold this Homma community event in future years.

Over the winter, we held Purdy's Chocolates and Poinsettia fundraisers to mark the holiday season. We supported a two-week residency for Bollywood performer and dance teacher Karima Essa, who instructed all divisions in Bollywood Dance. We also supported other Fine Arts and Cultural presentations such as Lion Dancers during Lunar New Year celebrations, and The History of Motown during Black History Month.

We provided \$9100 in classroom and resource support grants to teachers, so they can have more of what they need to best support our kids.

As a result of several years of fundraising, we were able to provide \$30,000 to help furnish and optimize our new Library Learning Commons, the results of which we can see before us now.

2023-24 Conclusion

We finished last year strong, with:

- \$7,776 in our contingency fund
- \$69,132 in our Operating account, and
- \$5,636 in our Gaming account.

Part II: Start of Current School Year (2024-25)

We begin our current school year with the amounts outlined above in our respective accounts. Our true balance in our Operating account is really more like \$38,000, because we have yet to write two cheques for funds committed from last year:

- \$1,000 for the two McMath scholarships we fund, for former Homma students graduating from Grade 12
- \$30,000 for the Library Commons Project.

Gaming

Our line items budgeted from Gaming had been slightly more generous because we had carried forward some funding from previous years. In June, we cut our estimated Gaming budget by 20% across the board, to bring our budgeted amounts closer to our estimated funding. However, because our Gaming grant application was ultimately successful, we had enough remaining at year end that, for 2024-25, we could safely restore that 20%. We may need to move the funding request for a Gaga Ball court from Gaming to Operating, which would mean the amount remaining in our Gaming budget would be almost unchanged.

Events and Projects Funded

We generated a surplus of \$4,965 in extra fundraising last year from the success of our Hot Lunch Program. With this additional money, we could, for instance, cover much of the cost of a two-week Fine Arts residency in Circus Arts, proposed at the end of last year.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Duffy, Homma PAC Treasurer