

Greendale Parent Advisory Council Agenda

January 15, 2025, 7:00pm
Greendale Elementary School

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

- a. We are privileged to meet on the traditional unceded territory of the Stó:lō people, in particular the Pilalt, Sema:th and Ts'elxwéyeqw
- b. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. That the agenda be adopted as circulated
Jay and Trish
- c. Approval of previous minutes
 - i. That the minutes of the last meeting be approved as circulated
Meagan and Trish

2. Reports

- a. Chair – Tai
 - i. Staff Treats – Feb – Sulette Botha, Apr – Amanda Ternullo, May – Tiffany Wiebe
-No staff treats in March because we have the staff appreciation lunch and it's a short month
-Christmas stuff went well – hampers and spirit week items were all figured out and we were only \$11 over our \$200 budget!
- b. Treasurer – Jaylene
-Jay wrote cheques for One school one book, Scoops fundraiser, hot lunch, hamper and spirit week wear for families in need, bake sale
- c. Parent Education – Trish
-PAC Newsletter to come out once a month, starting in February
- d. Emergency Preparedness – Jacqueline
-Nothing to report
- e. Hot Lunch – Stacia
-Shandhar hut closes today and comes out next week January 22
-Then, Booster juice, then Hot dogs
- f. DPAC – Meagan

Boundary changes proposed:

- Making Imagine High grades 6-12 and removing IAT (Integrated Arts and Technology) from AD Rundle
- Moving locations of French programs (Cheam/CMS EFI to the new school and VMS LFI to Slesse)

Dec 16 at 5:30pm – Meeting put on by the district for parents (or potential parents) of VMS (poorly timed with not much notice (Dec 4th))

-speaking of which, parents are really upset with the district this year and how they have handled changes...the family of schools decision and timing was also very poorly done and upset a lot of people! The wording of this email was bad, too –“this is one option we are considering”...what are the other options, shouldn't we be able to know those too? Unless there aren't any other options...

-fairly well attended with about 30 parents

-Amy Dhanjal and Dave Manuel were present

-Katie Bartel, DPAC President, was also present

-tables had chart paper and noted concerns and questions

Jan 7 – DPAC put on a virtual meeting for parents to attend

Jan 27 is the School Board Meeting (parents can attend and some will be allowed to speak for 2 minutes each)

Concerns that arose from the meetings:

- With this change being proposed for Sept 2027, this would affect the current grade 6 students for their grade 8 year (and current grade 4 students of Greendale). Worth mentioning that these kids were in Kindergarten for COVID (though they are resilient, their school journeys have already been bumpy) Parents don't want their child to have to move to a new school for grade 8, only to have to transition again the following year to Sardis – aren't Transitions and student well-being a huge part of the strategic plan? This feels like a numbers game, not thinking about the kids involved at all.
- The French program has been well-established (resources) at VMS for over 30 years – the whole culture of the school and prioritizing the French language and culture cannot just be plucked from one school and placed in another. Programs, such as band, are heavily populated by French kids at VMS (band teacher was in attendance for the DPAC meeting and confirmed that the majority of her band groups are made up of French kids and her program would suffer this loss)
- The teachers would literally lose their jobs and have to reapply, which is ridiculous. Also, how do they feel about moving schools?! Not to mention, how would the Slesse staff feel? Pushed out? Slesse is not empty – there are portables...we predict that French classes would likely get a "hallway" and potentially displace teachers from their established classrooms and into portables. Will the English teachers feel upset by this and blame the French program? That would not set the school culture off to a good start
- Splitting kids from friends – Connections between LFI and English kids at Slesse would be separated from each other (one of the concerns parents have about Stitos right now too!)

Alternative ideas?

- Since the goal is to increase the number of students going to SS (as opposed to GW), they are "double-dipping" by moving the LFI kids. They will get to fill VMS with English kids that will go to SS AND the LFI kids will still go to SS. The best counter-idea I have heard throughout these meetings is, why not have all of Slesse go to SS. Years ago, that was the track they followed. And SS is actually closer/more convenient for Slesse parents too, I would think.
- I suggested this at both meetings I attended and NO ONE had considered that option before – it took a group of parents one hour to find an alternative. I only hope they take this into serious consideration. From what I see, there are a lot of parents very invested in stopping this from happening!

g. Community School (GESCC)

i. Family Movie Night in February

1. **Feb 7th 6:10 doors, 6:30 movie start**

2. Super Pets

3. \$2 admission, \$1 popcorn, \$1 water bottle, maybe or chips or other snacks?

-should we order pizza?

-Brad has snack boxes gifted from Cottonwood, so maybe we will make a combo with popcorn, water, chocolate bar

4. 3 Volunteers needed:

-Meagan, Tai and Jaylene and Becky

ii. After school programming

1. Gymnastics Jan-Feb on Tuesdays and Thursdays
2. Jan-March (Wednesdays) floor hockey and lego club

iii. Evening programs

1. Karate has started and continues Mon and Thurs (6:30-8:30) in the gym
2. Core class has started and continues Tuesdays (5-6pm) in the library

iv. Weekend rentals

1. Party rentals fully booked for Jan and Feb is filling up quickly
2. Erik and Chelsea each work one weekend day and use office time to prep for upcoming programs

v. Community plans

1. Movie night Feb 7th
2. Committee forming to plan the Greendale Community Party in May

h. Principal – Brad Driscoll

-staffing updates :

-Jenelle Arsenault is back from her maternity leave (M-W-Th) and Mrs Turner is staying on the other 2 days a week

-Carrie Durflinger is back 80% with Brynn Oliver decreasing to 20%

-Miss Jen is doing her long practicum now

-Mrs Deagle is back too

-outdoor classroom update: there has been a grant application submitted to the Indigenous Ed Department and we have partnered with a local artist (Carrielynn Victor) to paint a mural on the cinder-block wall connecting land and space. More info to come!

-January 23rd is Pro D (Assessment and Evaluation Day) – What is this? It is a day to focus on tracking Writing progress in student writing samples and for teachers to look at Next Steps in their planning

3. Current Fundraising

a. Hazelnuts – profit \$586.75 (last year \$390)

b. Bake Sale and Book Fair results - \$437 for bake sale \$4000 in sales, \$2000 in profit

-Do we need to consider another option for volunteering 2-4pm? Another option could be adding a volunteer to watch kids at the park while parent's volunteer?

4. Upcoming Fundraising

a. Popcorn Days

i. Jan 30th

ii. Feb 18th

iii. Apr - TBD

b. Any Spring fundraising ideas?

i. Pies by Cabin Fever (for Easter/Mother's Day?) Info to come at the next meeting

ii. Hanging baskets in Greendale

-Can we pick up individually there? Jay will ask

iii. Or maybe hanging baskets at Growing Smiles

-Trish to look into this option

iv. Mitchell's Soup fundraiser? April 1 – June 30? Or next year Sep-Nov, Jan-Mar?

1. Tai has details

-Full from Jan-March of this year

-Let's schedule it for next year Jan-March

-\$10.99 per soup, no tax, we get 35% profit

v. Carnival again this spring?

- No one has come forward to run it
- Let's put it out to the school and see if anyone wants to make it happen

vi. Neufeld Farms

- Susanne willing to head this up
- we could buy our breakfast sausages for the pancake breakfast

c. 2026 fundraising ideas

- i. Personalized Christmas cards
- ii. Community Coupon book \$35
 1. Profit is 40% minus gst
- iii. Mitchell's Soup fundraiser for next Jan-March

5. **Business arising from last meeting**

6. **New Business**

- a. Teacher Appreciation Lunch – March 4th?

Changed to Thursday, March 5th

Adjournment

Next meeting: February 23rd 8:30am