

Lester B Pearson High School

Parent Council- April 11, 2016

In Attendance: Noelle M, Stacey B, Carol M, Karen T, Leanne L, Hosam S, Pat T, Mike D, Brian D

Regrets: Manny N, Suman D

Welcome and Call to Order - Noelle - 7:04 p.m.

Approval of minutes for February 2016 – no changes

Review of Agenda – no additions

Comments/Mail: COSC meeting April 28, 2016 Topic: Role of School Councils in Public Engagement
Tuesday April 19, 2016, Open House for Schools Impacted by New School Openings 6:30 – 8,
Area III Office.
ASCA Website www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca. Webinar Wednesdays, School Council Purpose –
May 11

Action/Discussion/Input Items

- **Last Meeting:** will be held Monday May 30 at 7:00. Pizza will be provided.
- **Next Year's Meeting Dates:** It was suggested we start out the year with monthly meetings, and come the new year, switch to meeting every six weeks. This will accommodate the fact that more financial decisions are made in the first half of the year. The day of the week will be revisited in September so new members can weigh in on what works for them also. For now we will stay with Mondays for planning for next year.
- **Transportation Meeting at Pearson April 12:** this will take place at 7pm. Please go to the CBE website to fill in a survey if you are unable to attend the meeting. Noelle attended the meeting at Dr. Gordon Higgins School the previous Tuesday and reported that fees could impact all families, not just those who use bussing. There is a vast difference in what is being paid between Edmonton and Calgary for both regular and alternative programs.
- **Dress Code Update:** The dress code was last updated in 2003 and seems out of date. Some felt it was directed primarily at young women and young men were not as subject to the code. Parents felt the code should be updated and made more gender neutral. Staff noted there has been an increase in 'drug talk' on clothing. It was suggested that the section regarding appropriate clothes and shoes specific to particular classes be removed as that is discussed in each class this pertains to and safety forms must be signed for these classes. The dress code could end after the sentence "Clothing worn by students and staff should support the values and expectations of the community and strive to offend no one by their dress.
Example of a gender neutral dress code:
 - Students should dress casually and comfortably for school, while wearing clothing that is well suited for a school environment.
 - Clothing will cover torso and backside, and have straps.
 - Clothing, drawings, tattoos and accessories that display or promote negative messages are not permitted. These could include drug, gang, weapon, alcohol or tobacco-related information, obscenities, put-downs, stereotypes, sexual innuendo, offensive words or graphics.
 - Special circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basisNoelle will forward to Pat some examples of dress codes she found on the internet.
- **Pearson Blog:** a reminder that if you have not done so already, go to - <http://pearsonpatriots.com/> to subscribe to the blog via email!

Reports

- **Principals Report:** The process of organizing for next year has started! There are 20 – 40 students leaving to go the new Nelson Mandela School. This is unexpectedly higher than anticipated. Due to projected student numbers, 1 or 2 staff members may be lost. There is a trend of lower numbers than the grade before, up until the current grade 7 year. It will be a few years for this bubble to reach Senior High and boost numbers again. Annie Gale will be graduating 3 classes of TLC student next year and Pearson is looking to promote the IB program to these students to encourage them into enrolling at Pearson. Our band program is hurting, but Annie Gale and Higgins do have band programs we hope to get students from.
- **Parking:** Brian T let us know that there are changes to parking in the student lot. For the past 6 years parking has not been enforced due to the incorrect paperwork and signage. Both are now current and Calgary Parking Authority will be checking the lot for the correct parking pass being displayed. Passes are \$40.00 per school year. They are looking at a prorated cost for passes for the remainder of the school year. VSLC will update their signage to indicate that overflow parking into the Pearson lot is **After 5pm**.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:08 p.m.

Next meeting to be held on Monday May 30, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

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Parent Advisory Society – April 11, 2016

In Attendance: Noelle M, Stacey B, Carol M, Karen T, Leanne L, Hosam S, Mike D

Regrets: Manny N, Suman D

Call to Order: @ 8:09 p.m.

Approval of Minutes for February 2016 – no change- Motioned by Leanne and 2nd by Sam (all agreed)

Approval of Agenda – approved, no additions

Comments/Mail – should hear in May when our next casino dates will be and then we can start planning.

Treasurer's Report – Balance is approximately \$89,000.00. New cheques have just arrived, so we will get some written for the items that were previously approved.

Discussion Items:

Spending Guidelines – Vision for Support.

Would like the school to tell us what they need and we can choose from this list what we support.

Would like to support items that support the greatest number of students.

Items supported should be for the use of the students, and not staff use.

It was suggested that we do not need to fund 100% of a request, but could fund a portion dependent on the portion of the student body that would benefit from the item.

Spread funding around, not just for one group or area.

Would like to see a rough outline for spending from the school in the May meeting.

No items are off the table – all requests are encouraged to be brought forward for discussion.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:23 p.m.

Next meeting to be held on May 30, 2016.