



Hillcrest Elementary

PAC General Meeting Minutes

Wed, 7:00pm, Zoom video-conference

Attendees: 27

Action Items

Action	Responsible	Due
PAC Exec will meet within next 2 weeks to bring forward proposed budget including iride program and chess programs for consideration	Lesley	Oct 13
Amanda will reach out to Chess and iride program to let them know PAC will discuss and should be able to get back in October after AGM.	Amanda	Oct 13
Simon to ask Janet Seale about this to talk to staff about this and be back to PAC.	Simon	Oct 13
Simon to take back to discuss approach and see if there are options to ensure more balanced access to gaga ball pit	Simon	Oct 13
Simon to follow-up with PAC on history, look at options for outdoor classroom.	Simon	Oct 13

Introduction to PAC

- Forum for parents to provide input into school community, for two-way conversation with school to foster collaboration and cooperative school community.
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- The PAC annual general meeting where executive roles will be voted on happens in October. Anyone interested in fulfilling any roles in PAC can email the current PAC chair, Lesley at lesleyarnold84@gmail.com
- A list of PAC roles is available on the web site:
<https://hillcrest.sd61.bc.ca/parent-info/pac-overview/>
- Parents can also reach out to pac by email for any comments, ideas, questions:
hillcrestpac@gmail.com
- Facebook group: Hillcrest Elementary Parent Community (Victoria BC)

Welcome and agenda adoption

Motion to approve agenda: Lindsay Martin, seconded by Erika P.

Motion to approve previous minutes: Lindsay Martin, seconded by Erika P.

Principal's Report - Mr. Simon Burgers

- Simon Burgers is new to Hillcrest this year. Working as an admin team with VP Amanda Johnson. Simon has a diversity of experience in education system different levels of schools and at the Board office as well as that of a parent of 3 kids.
- Simon has a strong belief in working with parent community in partnership for better education for our kids.
- Hillcrest this year has 14 Divisions, over 300 students. Having over 300 students allows us to keep partial admin time of Amanda.
- While we still have covid protocols in place, things are different than last year where some restrictions have been modified or relaxed. E.g. no cohorts or segregated playground play.
- However, current covid restrictions for this year mean:
 - Elementary school sports will not have inter-school play
 - In school events such as assemblies, larger gatherings will need to be modified.
- Approach of staff and admin will be to try to create modified experiences in house at Hillcrest while abiding by and in the spirit of the current covid restrictions. Experiences outside the classroom such as sports and extra-curriculars are incredibly important for kids to feel connected to their school community so will make it a priority to do what we can.

Examples:

- Cross-country team - typically done with 3 meets participating with other schools. Hillcrest will have our own cross country meet for Hillcrest students only. Will still do ribbons, etc. and plan to have a meet at the Lambrick chip

trail (often used for interschool cross country meets). Parents will be encouraged to cheer them on, socially distanced.

- Halloween Howl dance has been a long tradition at Hillcrest as a family event. It was cancelled last year and won't be able to happen in the same way this year, but we can still be creative and think about what could be done in a modified version.
- Gr 5 event will still happen, plan to do this and we'll modify as we need to.

Parent comment: It is encouraging to hear the perspective on focusing on the positive of what we can do. However, we need to remember that while it is enticing to move forward, covid is still a very real part of our world and we will need to stay vigilant. Very important to maintain protocols for public health and take advantage of outdoor learning whenever possible. While children may not get as sick with Covid, they can still pass along to more vulnerable people.

Space configurations

- PAC's previous space within the school that had been for (mostly) storage will be reconfigured as meaningful learning space that can be used for kids who need it. E.g. reading recovery in small group. Simon will find alternate storage space for any PAC items.
- Computer lab will also be reconfigured for better use and focus on a maker space since the school now has chromebooks. School now has 1 device for every 3 students. This is an excellent ratio of devices to kids.

VP Update - Ms. Amanda Johnson

- Hillcrest was successful in getting Ready Set Roll program last year and worked on traffic flow and funded the iride program last year.
 - A pamphlet will come out about alternate routes to school showing different places to park with pathways within 5 min walk.
 - Kids are being encouraged to try it out. Message is even if you can't do it everyday, doing it sometimes helps.
 - Will be getting raised speed bump crosswalk out front of the school and then would move crossing guard to Hillcrest instead of Greentree.
 - Chess program has been on hiatus for last 2 years. Has enough sets to run and a doubly vaccinated volunteer to run, if PAC wants to fund this.
- **ACTION: PAC Exec will meet within next 2 weeks to bring forward proposed budget including iride program and chess programs for consideration**

- **ACTION: Amanda will reach out to Chess and iride program to let them know PAC will discuss and should be able to get back in October after AGM.**

Treasurer's Report

- Operating account : \$4,356.33
- Savings account : \$41,064.51

If anyone wants a detailed breakdown of accounts, Lesley will send out. A detailed outline of the budget will be reviewed in October.

Spirit Wear (Hillcrest branded clothing)

- Will sell t-shirts and hoodies. May add additional items throughout the year. A small amount will go back to PAC as a fundraiser.
- Will offer adult and kid sizes.
- Will make a plan to have sample sizes available for parents to look at (socially distanced) in advance of ordering.

Gr 5 year end committee

- Lindsay Martin will head up the committee. Anyone can join and meet separately and report up to PAC. A note will go out to Gr 5 parents. If you want to email Lindsay directly.

Halloween Howl

- Will work on a plan that is COVID friendly and report back out when more details are available.

Hot lunch

- More info will be coming out on hot lunch in the student planners.

PAC AGM

- Meeting in Oct. PAC will vote in a new executive, If interested in any roles, email PAC Chair.

Fruit and Vegetable program

Fruits and vegetables are delivered to the school and divided into division trays to share.. Need to have food-safe certificate (PAC pays for this). The current coordinator would like to step down from the program.

If any parent wants to help out once per month please let Amanda know.

Parent comment: Note for parents that there is a Pro-D on Monday, Sep 27 (district-wide, schedule was set in May) and also on Thurs, Sep 30 the same week (federal day for recognition and reflection of Truth and Reconciliation. This is an unfortunate scheduling event this year. In future years, the school district would likely plan better around these dates.

Q. Is choir going to be able run this year at Hillcrest?

- **ACTION: Simon to ask Janet Seale about this to talk to staff about this and be back to PAC.**

Q. Gaga ball pit - there has been lots of kids playing together, what are the rules around the use of it? It sounds like it is hard for younger kids to use when all kids are on the yard.

- **ACTION: Simon to take back to discuss approach and see if there are options to ensure more balanced access.**

Q. Outdoor classroom has been on the books for a long time, what is the status of it?

- At the end of the field, there are benches available that can be used for classes
- Also have fenced in overgrown courtyard that could be used for planting. Will look at how to use that space better.
- **ACTION: Simon to follow-up with PAC on history, look at options for outdoor classroom.**

Q. What is the protocol to notify parents about any covid cases at Hillcrest? If only 1 case, have heard there will not be a school-based letter, must be 2 or more cases.

- This is Island Health responsibility and their direction is not able to be influenced by Hillcrest or the school board.

Q. What was done regarding ventilation in the school?

- Completed assessment of all schools was completed. Hillcrest's ventilation meets the current requirements.

Meeting adjourned: 7:55pm

Next Meeting dates: Oct 13 7:00pm AGM.