

Barrowtown Elementary PAC Meeting
April 5, 2022 at 3:30 pm
In the Learning Commons Room

Present: *President* – Melissa Wiebe; *Treasurer* – Angie Quebec; *Secretary* - Kayla Wiens;
Principal – Michelle Basran; Jolene Ringrose

Principal's Report: Michelle Basran

Preschool Bidding

The school district is accepting applications for a preschool to move into one of the portables at Barrowtown. The post is live and bidding is open. It should be open for about 3 weeks. Barrowtown is hoping for an outdoor preschool to apply.

2022-2023 School Year Registration as of April

- 10 - Kindergarten Students
- 8 - Grade 1 Students
- 14 – Grade 2/3 Students
- 10 – Grade 4/5 Students

Looking Forward into 2022-2023 and Beyond

Since our school is located in an agricultural region surrounded by natural parks and rivers, and since we already have an incredible greenhouse, Barrowtown wants to incorporate an agriculture/outdoor aspect into our teaching goals. Mrs. Basran has spoken with Nathan, our assistant superintendent, and he is very supportive to help us along in this process. It is unknown whether this will be an official choice school niche, or if it will be a grassroots movement that is incorporated into our everyday BC curriculum. Outdoor and agriculture learning is becoming very popular in preschool, homeschool, elementary and secondary schools in our province, nation and around the world, so this could be something valuable to families who want this type of learning for their children. It could also help attract more families to Barrowtown. Whether it is official or grassroots, a priority will be for students to have an understanding of sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship.

Greenhouse and Gardening

- The Greenhouse is in full bloom, and the teachers and students alike are enjoying working in there.
- A **Vancouver Trauma Support Group** wanted to donate \$1200 to Barrowtown Elementary for flood relief, and Mrs. Basran thought it would be great to use it towards fixing up, maintaining and improving our garden and greenhouse areas. VTSG has already purchased garden soil, a composter and shovels for Barrowtown. The remaining money will go towards materials for garden boxes, a Butterfly and Bee Garden, a pumpkin patch, and corn patch. THANK YOU, VTSG!!!

- Mr. Treliving has volunteered to build the garden boxes for Barrowtown. THANK YOU, MR. TRELIVING!
- BC Agriculture will also come to the school to give more gardening lessons for teachers and students.
- Other programs to look into:
 - Learning for Sustainability
 - Gardening and tree planting grant for \$500
 - Apply by April 8
 - Hatch-a-Chick Program

Upcoming Agriculture-Based Field Trips and Events

- Eco Dairy – April 27
 - Eco Dairy costs \$8 per child + tax.
- Bee Haven (The Bee Man) – coming to Barrowtown in May
- Fraser Valley Fish Hatchery - June

Mrs. Basran asked if PAC would like to contribute towards the Eco Dairy Field Trip.

Motion by Melissa: PAC donates \$5 per child (\$180 total) from the Gaming Grant, as about \$200 is not allotted to a project.

Seconded by Jolene

All in Favour

Grade 5 Grad Party – Date to be determined in May, but hoping for June 27.

Giggle Ridge Adventure Park in Cultus Lake. Barrowtown can't book this with Giggle Ridge until May. More details to come to Grade 5 Parents when they are available.

Grade 5 Grad Luncheon – likely on June 28

Grade 5 Graduation Ceremony and Last Day of School BBQ for students – June 29

Treasurer's Report : Angie Quebec

Chequing – \$1690.93

Savings – \$4,828.22

Gaming – \$1001.47

Cheques Written:

1. \$180 to Barrowtown to reimburse for Melissa and Doug sand toys.
2. \$126 to Kayla Wiens for Easter supplies.
3. \$252.20 to Melissa Wiebe for centre toys for Mrs. Cavacece's room

Cheques to be Written:

1. \$180 for Eco Dairy Field Trip from the Gaming Account.
2. Reimburse Jolene Ringrose for hot lunch. Please turn in your receipts.

Incoming Money:

1. *Hot Lunch Cheque to go into chequing account*

President's Report: Melissa Wiebe

BCCPAC will be giving \$2000.00 as a baselevel gaming grant for all schools under 100 students starting in September.

BCCPAC AGM – Barrowtown PAC will be sending in a proxy vote for this AGM

Pancake Day – April 14 (Easter Celebration Day)

Hot Lunch – McHappy Day May 11

Easter Celebration – April 14

The Easter Celebration will be after lunch. 3 stations will be set up for students to rotate through.

Stations:

1. Egg hunt - students try to find their numbered eggs
2. Craft - watercolor Easter Bunny garland
3. Snack - Easter Egg Nest

PLEASE COME VOLUNTEER IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE. Contact PAC or just show up.

Grade 5 Plant Fundraiser – May 6,7

Melissa Wiebe has been working very hard with the Grade 5 students to help them grow plants to sell. Plants are flourishing in the greenhouse right now, but it will soon be time to harden them off by getting used to outdoor temperatures. The students will soon transplant them into larger pots, help create a mailbox flyer for the area, and may even put an ad in the Yarrow newsletter. The Yellow Barn has given Barrowtown Grade 5 students and adult volunteers permission to sell the plants in the parking lot on Friday May 6 and Saturday May 7 (if we still have enough left to sell). The only requirement from The Yellow Barn is that Barrowtown has liability insurance, of which the school will obtain through parent permission forms.

Family BBQ – May 26

We cannot get this event catered, but Jolene is willing to cook. PAC can do hamburgers and hot dogs. We have \$869 from the Go Fund Me Page that has to be used towards the students, so we thought this would be a great way to use it. We will also continue to look into fun activities that families can do together, like Chicken Bingo and a cake walk.

Bridal Falls Waterslides – Date To Be Determined for June 20-24 depending on availability

PAC will pay for Barrowtown students - \$794 from Gaming Grant

Families are welcome to come

Non-sliders are free

Additional sliders coming with families will have to pay at the front gate

New Business

It was suggested by PAC that since Barrowtown intends to focus on outdoor learning, maybe it is time to fundraise for a covered area for shade and rain protection. This is something that the school has already approached the school district about, and that there are certain requirements for a covered area. One of the main requirements is that a district rule does not allow for structures to have a full roof, to prevent people from living under them. Structures can only have open roofs, like a pergola. The reasons behind this rule does not seem to fit in our school setting, as there are not many people wandering the Barrowtown area without a home. Items left on the playground are safe all weekend, and no one disturbs them, as evidence that a full roof structure would not be misused by the public. So Barrowtown will continue to talk about this with the school district, to find out if these same requirements are necessary for Barrowtown. If it cannot be swayed, then one idea would be to cover a pergola with grape vines to create shade. And that would also further the outdoor and agriculture learning goals.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:35 pm

Next Meeting – May 2 at 3:30

Upcoming Events

April 14 – Easter Celebration

April 15 – Good Friday

April 18 – Easter Monday, Pancake Day

April 27 – Eco Dairy Field Trip

May 6,7 – Grade 5 Plant Sale

May 11 – McHappy Day Hot Lunch

May 20 – Pro D Day #7

May 23 – Victoria Day

May 26 – Year End Family BBQ

June 17 – Sports Day

June 29 – Grade 5 Grad Ceremony, BBQ for Students, and Last Day of School for Students

June 30 – Last Day of School for Teachers