

L'Ecole Bilingue PAC mtg Sep 23, 2021

Call to order 7:07.

Attendance: peak at 43+ (logins via Teams; some multiple attendees per login), includes PAC Exec and LEB admin

Parts of meeting are being recorded (the session with Mme Sihota).

Welcome & message from incoming PAC chair, Tim Vines.

- Approval of minutes from PAC meeting in May: motion to approve by Krista Marcon and seconded by Abdul Rasoul Kim.

Mme Nelum Sihota (new school counsellor) discussion regarding bullying.

- When is a conflict "bullying"? When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful once, it's *Rude*. When it is intentional it is *Mean*. When it's intentional and repeated, it's *Bullying*.
- *Peer conflict* is evident when all parties are upset, and have equal power. These are often resolvable with some adult assistance.
- Adults can assist by helping kids relate to the perspective of other parties. Redirecting mean behaviour is helpful, ideally done immediately and is not ignored.
- Bullying is serious and intentional that requires: 1) power imbalance, 2) intention to harm, 3) repetition that likely worsens over time.
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Notes from Administration, Jackie & Cynthia

- Code of conduct for L'Ecole Bilingue drafted and included in the agendas. Feedback is welcome for this 'living document'.
- Anti-racism mandatory training for all VSB staff on Sep 7th was well received. Recommendations can be shared with interested people, including the Diversity Committee.
- WITS: Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek help. This program of common language is taught to the kids and is the framework for supervision aids for conflicts on the school grounds. Problem Solving Sheets also issued by the office for kids to help think through their conflicts as necessary.

Class placements are based on the RTI pyramid model, with assistance from teachers, parents, admin, etc... It includes 5% intensive individual instruction in Tier 3, 15% for Targeted Small group instruction in Tier 2, 80% core classroom instruction.

- Combined Classes (aka split classes): previous perceptions about who is placed in combined classes are no longer relevant; placements are based on numerous factors and should not be interpreted as relative achievements within the grades. There are 8 combined divisions this year. Please see a handout circulated with the first Friday email from the school admin.

- School Growth Plan: The primary goals in Social & Emotional Learning and Aboriginal Enhancement have rolled over from previous years due to pandemic restrictions over the previous couple of years. These goals are actively pursued throughout the year through lessons, speakers, art projects and PAC supported purchases of items, resources and workshops in pursuit of these goals.
- Safety at pick up and drop off concerns are anticipated to be a topic addressed through the PAC this year.
- Not-quite-back-to-normal this year; being mindful of students, staff, families and everyone's comfort levels via open communication. Noticeable difference on the playground with kids being able to move around and play outside of cohorts this year. Motto for the year is to go slow and be mindful.

PAC overview from incoming PAC Chair, Tim Vines. *What is the PAC for?*

- Collective voice for L'Ecole Bilingue parents
- Enabling of parent contributions for programs at the school (eg. Quebec Exchange, Book Fair, Clubs)
- PAC Exec: Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair, Treasurer, Secretary
- Committees and Other Positions are also crucial (see website)
- Quebec Exchange is an independent committee of Grade 7 parents that is supported by the PAC
- Fundraisers support particular events: pizza for Camp Sasamat in Grade 4, Popcorn for Library, Sushi sales & spellathon for Quebec Exchange.

Committees:

- Diversity Committee (Kweku) is seeking ideas for content from parents
- After school activities (Lorrie/Nancy) is seeking help for this committee, though after school activities are not currently available due to VSB not yet renting out space.
- Quebec Exchange: if your child is in grade 7 please be sure you received an email from the committee already, or check your spam folder or reach out to PAC.
- Yearbook: Grade 7s are taking photos for the book this year, which will be great. Take photos at events or at pick up or drop off and please send them to PAC email for yearbook committee.

Motion adjourned at 8:08 by Tim Vines.