

## DeBeck PAC Meeting Minutes

November 20 at 6:30pm

In-Person @ DeBeck library

### 1. Call to Order and Welcome

- Chair: Poonam
- Treasurer: Kevin
- Secretaries: Lisa
- Call to order @ 6:32pm.

### 2. Attendance

- Poonam Kaler, Brian Shaler, Eva Poon, Kevin Lim-Kong, Kevin Walsh, Theresa Wong, Edward, Edmund, Tiffany, Audrey Lavers, Lisa Santos, Cori Anderson, Lisa Schwartz

### 3. Updates from our Principal and Vice Principal

#### ● Problem Solving on the Playground

Since the beginning of the school year, we have noticed an increase in students being physical with each other. When we say getting physical, we mean hitting, kicking, pushing or punching. All of this physicality is communication. When a child hits or pushes someone, they are trying to say something they can't or don't know how to say. They might be saying, "Stop." Or "That's not fair." Or "I don't like it when you do that." Our job at school goes beyond academics. We know that getting along with others and solving problems is something that all of our students need to know how to do. So, while we take these incidents seriously, we also act in a restorative way rather than a punitive way. That doesn't mean we don't give consequences, but it does mean we take the time to identify what they were trying to say and what they can do differently next time. We want every student to have the tools to communicate their wants and needs, use their voice to solve problems and get help from a trusted adult at school when needed.

#### ● Seismic Update

- Phase one classrooms ready at the end of this month. Next move should happen before Winter Break.
- Delays with gym, Ms. Emily's classroom and staffroom. Scheduled to be complete by the end of February.
- Basketball season will go ahead with practices at a nearby elementary school gym. More details to come.
- Our Dance unit will be postponed until April.
- Volleyball intramurals will likely be in the spring among DeBeck students.

#### ● DeBeck Richmond Sockeyes Night- December 12th, 2024 @ Minoru Arena at 7:00 PM

- Last year we hosted a successful Richmond Sockeyes Night.
- An opportunity to come together and cheer on the Richmond Sockeyes.
- Student admission will be FREE and parents/guardians/relatives will pay \$12.00.
- Children 6 and under are free.
- We ask that all DeBeck students be accompanied by an adult.
- Any child wearing a jersey from the Richmond Minor Sports Teams (ex: Jets, Ravens, ringette) get his/her admission for FREE as well.
- There will be BBQ style food available for purchase that night.
- It's the Teddy Bear Toss night so bring a new stuffed animal to throw onto the ice after the first Sockeye goal!

- **SD38 Offering On-Line Workshops for Parents and Caregivers**

- Cellphones: What's Healthy, What's Not, and What We Can Do to Support Our Kids

Many of our kids are anxious and glued to their phones, seeking endless distraction and feeling isolated and disconnected. Aggressive outbursts have become common and yet others seem to have stopped talking all together. As parents and caregivers, we are increasingly alarmed. We entice, cajole, bribe, encourage, shout, but nothing seems to work long term. Join Hannah for a warm and conversational workshop exploring practical strategies we can use to help our children and youth when it comes to managing devices.

Presented by Hannah Beach  
January 21, 2025 | 6:30 – 8 p.m.

- Reclaiming Play: Revitalizing Childhood to Combat Anxiety and Aggression  
Children are becoming more anxious and aggressive. The common thread? A stark decline in free play. We are now seeing the emotional side effects of the loss of play in the lives of children as aggression and anxiety in young people is at an all-time high. The research is clear: children learn and develop best through play. And yet, children are playing less than ever. In fact, this is the first generation of children that does not have a play-based childhood. The side effects? Children and youth are struggling. It has become harder than ever to lead and care for kids. Join Hannah for a powerful workshop that will help you discover practical ways to transform your family culture and support your children in becoming their best selves.

Presented by Hannah Beach  
February 25, 2025 | 6:30 – 8 p.m.

- **Term 1 Learning Update (Report Cards)**

Term 1 Learning Updates will be posted to MyEd on December 19th.

- **Spirit Wear/DeBeck Clothing**

DeBeck Spirit Wear order has been submitted and should arrive at the beginning of December.

- **Upcoming School Spirit Days**

Our Student Leadership Group has planned some School Spirit Days. School Spirit days are a great community building event and a time for us to have fun together.

Nov. 29th - Jersey Day/DeBeck Wear

Dec. 6th -Monocromatic/Rainbow Day

Dec. 13th -Twin/Triplet/Duplicate Day

Dec. 20th - PJ Day

- **Student Leadership/Connection Crew (Grade 5/6/7)**

Last week, we started our Leadership/Connection Crew. We had a wonderful turn-out of students in Grades 5-7. We did a team building challenge and surveyed the students on what leadership means to them, what they hope to get out of leadership this year, and what needs our attention at DeBeck. As a leadership group, we will be planning things such as Spirit Days, assemblies, and other initiatives, but we will also be working with the Spirals of Inquiry framework to listen to student voice about an issue they feel needs our attention at school. This is the same framework we use for our School Story work and we want to support our leadership students to be directly related to fostering change at our school.

#### 4. Treasurer Update

- Operating account is about \$16,693. General fundraising contributes to this account.
- Gaming account is about \$17,399. Gaming grant and 50-50, etc contribute to this account.
- **Pub night:** Net profit was about \$470; \$270 from 50-50. \$550 in ticket sales.
- Ms. Abrams submitted a receipt for Noisy Club instruments. Gaming account funds can be used to support extra-curricular clubs. **Motion to cover \$112.12 for Noisy Club instruments.** Motion passed by Audrey. Seconded by Tiffany.

#### 5. District PAC Update

- December 3 is the next in-person DPAC meeting. Thank you in advance to Tiffany for attending on our behalf.
- DPAC is promoting workshops for parents and caregivers (see above). The most recent one was about “Social Media Awareness, Digital Citizenship, and Cyberbullying” presented by Tyler Lum.

#### 6. Fundraising Updates

- **Pub Night:** We had a fun night at Legends. Thank you to Audrey for organizing!
- **Purdys Chocolates:** Purdys fundraising is currently running. We are advertising via weekly newsletter, on Facebook, and via flyers in classroom windows. Last day to order is Sunday November 24. Pick up at the school at 2:30pm on Thursday December 5.

#### 7. New Business

- **iPads:** In the past, we have helped lease a cart with 30 iPads for \$5k per year. Our lease ends in December. We can either buy a new lease for 4 years or buy out the iPad cart for \$5k. Consultation with technical staff indicated that these iPads would last for at least another 3 years. Staff voted to buy out the cart. **Motion to buy out iPad cart for \$5k.** Motion passed by Edmund. Seconded by Eva.
- We will also hold a **direct drive** to help support iPad costs.
- **We are looking for a yearbook coordinator.** We have been publishing a yearbook for the past few years. The yearbook includes individual student photos, group photos, and the Grade 7 students’ reflections. In the past, the Grade 7 committee has used yearbook sales as a fundraiser. Funds were used to cover the cost of the Grade 7 students’ yearbooks. We will see if a parent/guardian on the Grade 7 fundraising committee would like to coordinate the yearbook. If not, we can open up to other volunteers.
- **We are looking for volunteers to form a Grade 7 fundraising committee.** We have 53 Grade 7 students. The PAC allocates \$15 per student for graduation. The remainder of any costs are covered by fundraising by the Grade 7 committee. Last year funds were raised through donut sales and direct contributions from the Grade 7 parents/guardians. Lisa/Cori will send a message to grade 7 families inviting them to meet to discuss fundraising. Tiffany volunteered to help.
- **Hot lunch will start in the new year:** one lunch in January, two in February, one in March. We will use the hallway to sort lunches, so lunch vendors with minimal packaging will be used (e.g., pizza, Booster juice).

- We are open to new vendors for the end-of-the-year staff appreciation lunch. We have used Boy with a Knife. Other suggestions are Press'd Sandwich Shop and Big Star.
- **PAC executive positions are open for 2025/26.** We are looking for a PAC chair, as well as a Treasurer.

#### **8. Q & A**

- How are kids liking gym outside? Kids enjoy gym outdoors. If weather is not good, then stay indoors to learn about PHE, such as healthy eating.
- Would the school consider inviting Under Armour to teach flag football during gym?
- Is there a policy for giving gifts to teachers? No policy.

Meeting adjourned @7:40pm