

**Parent Advisory Committee**

**Minutes from September 13th, 2023**

1. Meeting called to order 9:02 am
2. Attendance: (teacher represented)

* *Chair*: Vanessa Bullock (Mrs. Doeleman, Mrs. Page, Mrs. Miller)
* *Treasurer:* Dana Roch (Mrs. Doeleman)
* *Secretary:* Dana Dodge (Ms. LeBlanc, Mrs. Vandenberghe, Mrs. Miller)
* *Vice Chair*: Lauriane Mehrer (Mr. Blick & Mrs. Smith)
* *D-PAC Rep. & Breakfast Coordinator:* Gelina Berg (Mrs. Doeleman & Mrs. Feragotti)
* Jennifer Hunter (Mrs. Miller & Mrs. Feragotti)
* Kassandra Byrne (Mrs. Feragotti)
* Jenny Clare (Mrs. Vigna & Vandenberghe)
* Maria Fries (Mrs. Cote)
* Rachel Buliziuk (Mrs. Sontag)
* Holly Dressel (Mrs. Cote)
* Brielle Bagnoli (Mrs. Miller)
* Sally Blick (Mrs. Smith)
* Natasha Huscroft (Mrs. Doeleman & Mrs. Hamm)
* Tara Sandoval (Mr. Percival)
* Darryl Adams & Tanya Christenson (Staff)

1. Motion to approve agenda M (Kassandra)/S(Tara)
2. Motion to approve past minutes M (Dana.D)/S(Tara)

5. ARES PAC FINANCIAL REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023 General Account: Funds on hand as of May 31, 2023 $26,286.45 Expenditures: Dilly Bars-Rocket Day $73.00 Panago-Rocket Day $212.95 Percival-Year End Field Trip $158.13 Felitsyn-Kindergarten Visit Snacks $169.78 Pines Bible Camp $2,200.00 Service Charges (May & June) $8.00 Service Charges (July & August) $8.00 Total Expenditures: $2,829.86 Revenue: Online Lunch Prgm Payments (Sept-June) $2,106.00 Total Revenue: $2,106.00 Funds available as of August 31, 2023 $25,562.59 \*\*ARES PAC FLOAT held at the school $150.00 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gaming Account: Funds on hand as of May 31, 2023 is $2679.08 Expenditures: Interior Trophies (Grades 4-7) $147.39 Friends of Fort Steele (Blick/Delcaro) $1012.00 Trout Hatchery (Smith/Cote) $200.00 Creston Museum (Cote) $66.00 Kootenay-Columbia Discovery Centre Society (Page/Doeleman/Hamm/Cote/Gardner) $500.00 Felitysn-Grade 7 Luncheon/Graduation $219.99 Bussing-Gymnastics/Dance (Vigna) $122.55 Service Charge June $7.75 Service Charge July & August $7.75 Total Expenditures: $2,275.68 Funds available as of August 31, 2023 is $395.65 -------\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising Committee (monies held in General Account) Funds raised as of August 31, 2023 $1,227.44 (designated for playground) Eco-Space (monies held in General Account) Funds available as of August 31, 2023 $716.33 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Breakfast Program (School-Based Account) Account Balance as of August 31, 2023 $15,030.20.

Financial report approved M (Jenny)/S(Maria)

6**.** **Discussion Items:**

1. **Funding request:** 
   * $100.00 Mrs. Doeleman Ms. Page Sept 26th, Kokanee Salmon trip approved M (Gelina)/S(Tara)
   * $1380 Mr. Blick Oct 6th, climbing center trip approved M(Maria)/S(Gelina)
   * Principal Darryl Adams will pay for pickle ball.
2. **Breakfast Program:**
   * Gleaners will be contacted to help contribute any healthier items.
   * PC charity grant normally sits at $9000 mark and is the main financial contributor to carry us through the year. We were unsuccessful in obtaining it this year, PAC & anyone volunteers, we are looking for local donations of $1000.
   * Feeding Futures is a government mandate set in place, that has goals of healthier eating. So many will notice slight menu changes, such as implementing a 60% whole wheat requirement, 1unit of sugar/salt per serving, and lean meats.
   * Discussion around the controversial policy echoed the sentiments in this CBC article, for further information check out 🡪

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bc-new-school-guidelines-food-policing-1.6409488>

* + [Build a School Food Program - Province of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/program-management/safe-caring-and-orderly-schools/food-and-meal-programs)

**c) Hot Lunch:**

* + PAC aims to do hot lunches again, we are just trying to figure out the feeding futures new guidelines, also to see if our local restaurants and suppliers are able to comply with in.

**d) Lunch time clubs:** Lauriane volunteered to chaperone a book club in the school library, and Principal Adams will follow up.

**e) D-PAC** (September 14th first meeting 6-8pm Gelina will take on this role.)

**f) Next Meetings:**

Oct 11th

Nov 8th

Dec 13th

Jan 10th

Feb 14th

March 13th

April 10th

May 8th

June 12th

7. **Principal’s Report**

Welcome to our second first week of school. We had a different start up than we anticipated with our students staying in their last year classes for an extra 3 days. We had expected for students to start in their new classes on Wednesday, but with a significant bump in enrollment we needed to wait until we had the correct staffing in place to move forward. We are now full stream ahead with our students in their new classes and the school has settled in over the last couple of days. We currently have 307 students in 14 classrooms with 18 teachers and 7 Education assistants. We have one open teaching position at the moment, but are hopeful that this hiring will be completed by early next week. Most of our classroom teachers are teaching at similar grade levels to last year, with the exception of Mrs. Vandenberghe and Mrs. Delcaro. Mrs. Vandenberghe moved from the Fine Arts teaching position to a Grade 2/3 classroom, and Mrs. Delcaro left her Grade 4/5 classroom to be our Fine Arts Teacher. Both are excited about their new roles. Tonight, we look forward to hosting our Family Picnic and Corn Roast, and are hopeful that many families will be able to join us for a social time. Each class has been busy creating a Scarecrow that represents their class and we will be displaying each of these tonight outside at the picnic. On Friday September 22nd ARES will be having their annual school planning day to revisit and revise our School’s Learning Plan. Parents are invited to attend the morning session of our planning day to help give input on the direction of our school and to get a deeper understanding of the vision and mission of ARES. An agenda for the day will be sent out closer to the date. We look forward to another great year at ARES and deeply appreciate the communication and support from our Parent group.

9. **Open Discussion**

* Questions arose regarding minimum age recommendations for younger kids to be on intermediate side, Vice principal Tanya suggested grade 2 and up.
* Clarification was requested regarding Pronouns Day & SOGI (Sexual Orientation Gender Identification) being apart of the curriculum. Principal & Vice principal clarified, the school must not deviate from the DS8 curriculum, although it appears to be on a progressive learning curve. The younger grades are learning simple facts like family diversity “some families have two moms, some have two dads, some grandparents, and some have a mom & a dad” it stays very general in the younger grades and as the grades get older and layers get more defined.

10**. 10:18 am meeting adjourned.**

(Next meeting Oct 11th @ 11:00am Art Room)