

Armstrong PAC Meeting Minutes - October

Date: October 15, 2025

Time: 6:30-8:00

Land Acknowledgement

Welcome and Introductions

Parent Education: “Assessment and Reporting: Information Sharing”, presented by Principal Jennifer Griffin

Icebreaker: Emma

New Business:

- Principal Update
 - Personal and health education curriculum
 - Sensitive topics are covered within the curriculum of all grades, eg reproductive health. This is part of the regular curriculum, and parents have the right for their child to obtain curriculum in whatever way you see fit. If how the school is providing this content is not how a parent wants it delivered, then you can opt your child out of the lessons. However, parents still need to provide that curriculum in an alternative way to what is presented in the classroom. A letter from Ms Griffin will be sent home prior to the topic coming up in class.
 - Note: Every two years, the school has Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators provide more in-depth learning on reproductive health every two years, which includes a signed permission slip to participate because it's above and beyond what curriculum entails.
 - The school no longer has an affordability fund - this was money provided by the Ministry to support families in need. There were a variety of ways it could be used, such as field trips, school experiences, going to camp, hoodies for children who could not participate otherwise. This fund was available for two years. It has created a gap in how the school can support our families in need. Going forward on field trip forms, you may see the option to sponsor another child if you choose so that children who may not be able to afford it can still participate in the opportunity.
- Head Teacher Update - Jeffery Vuong
 - Grade 7 parents - time to get started on the grade 7 fundraising and need to get the grade 7 committee going.
 - Considering using some of the leftover grade 7 funds to pay for hoodies for those in need
- DPAC Update
 - Attended a mini-conference regarding PAC decision making. Discussed conceptual ideas of government and working together. Still some tensions present, but this is a step in the right direction towards harmony of purpose for DPAC

- Upcoming School Events
 - Family Games Night - Friday October 17
 - 6:30-9
 - Fundraiser for PAC activities for children
 - Social night for kids, help them feel more comfortable in the school
 - \$25 for a family of four; \$10 for individual tickets
 - Tickets include fruit, drinks, chips, and a night of boardgames
 - Seeking volunteers for set-up around 5:30-5:45
 - Also seeking more attendees - please spread the word!
 - Pumpkin Patch - Likely Wednesday October 22
 - For primary students (grades 1-3, kindergarteners go on a pumpkin patch field trip) to carve with their big buddies
 - Choices will be supporting, but unable to confirm the date yet. Often advise on the day of pick-up
 - Sought 3-4 volunteers to pick up pumpkins in the morning on the day before (likely around 10am on Tuesday Oct 21) at Choices. Volunteers that came forward during meeting: Melissa, Ryan, Roberta, Andy(maybe), Steve (maybe)
 - Seeking volunteers to set up decorations in the front of the school - Around 8:30 on Wednesday October 22. Volunteers that came forward during meeting: Jen, Roberta, Emma (Grade 7s set up the pumpkins)
 - Pancake Breakfast - December 5
 - Firefighters volunteering
 - Parents are already volunteering - thank you so much! :)
 - Set-up starts at 7:30, take down is around 11:30
 - Santa sent a letter to the PAC and James has volunteered to help him at the event. We can share the letter from Santa, if needed.
 - Please email the PAC if interested in volunteering
 - November PAC meeting to heavily focus on planning for this event
- Past Event Updates
 - Fun Lunch - Friday October 3rd
 - Thank you to all volunteers for fun lunch!
 - Roughly 242 pizzas sold, which is pretty consistent with prior years
 - \$548 profit
 - If having difficulty with MunchALunch website, reach out to PAC and we can help you problem solve
 - With new MunchALunch system, we have to pay a fee plus a per transaction fee. 30cents extra per transaction
 - Proposing raising prices by 50cents per pizza to account for transaction fee and increased pricing by Dominoes
 - PAC looking for suggestions for alternate food options. Putting McDonalds off the list due to health reasons and cold/floppy fries.
 - Ideas: KFC, Hi-5 (keep in community!), Space Chicken, Chico Chicken, Subway, White Spot, Sushi Box, adding additional options from Dominoes
- Upcoming and Ongoing Fundraising
 - Neufeld Farms

- Fundraiser is live!!!
 - Deadline for orders is October 27th
 - Frozen appetizers, pre-made cookies, desserts
 - Pick up Nov 3rd at 4pm
- Purdy's
 - Coming in November
 - Request to ask Purdy's about paying with debit/credit cards
- Yearbooks
 - Soft cover yearbooks
 - Likely approx \$20
 - Photo Expressions does most of the work
 - All we need to do is collect pictures and organize
 - Need to sell at least 75 or pay a \$150 fee
 - Interested in volunteering for this work? Let us know by emailing PAC!
 - Volunteers so far: Roberta, Jocelyn, Amelia, Mani
- Ongoing Fundraising: PAC donations via MunchALunch, Mabels Labels, & Lougheed Mall Cobbs Bread. Please consider donating to these!
 - So many donations have been made to PAC - THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
 - \$780 through our MunchALunch program so far
- New Items
 - Hot lunch program food
 - Have received some comments and complaints recently
 - PAC may send a communal letter on dissatisfaction of the food. The school has a contact for providing feedback.
 - Some issues: Automatically put veggies in ranch dip, cold/not well-cooked food, macaroni and cheese was "grey" in colour, overcooked/condensation built up
 - Email the PAC if concerned about food quality with tangible complaints including the issue, serious concerns (undercooked meat), dates of when served - need data if we move forward to write a letter/make a complaint
 - Parents best to bring this forward as they are not employees of the school district
- Social Media:
 - Private Armstrong Facebook and Instagram groups. You will be asked security questions to ensure we retain our privacy. Please join the groups and encourage your friends. No pictures of kids will be posted.
 - WhatsApp volunteer group
 - Add your name and number to the sign-up list or request via email
 - Questions, ideas? Connect by email armstrongschoolpac@gmail.com

Q&A Period:

How are we doing Games Night?

- Trying to be engaging and fun. Will receive tickets for concession. Will receive a sticker, dividing into 4 teams. Then, when someone wins a game, put their colour sticker on the board. At the end of the night, participants (in order of winning colour) get to go to the prize table to select a prize.
- Group game at 6:45, different board games and card games set up throughout the room
- Goal to make it fun and exciting and to have a lovely evening
- First time doing this - we accept comments and feedback on the event!!

Are there limits on fundraising? Or age-group specific events?

- Goal of PAC is to try to appeal to everyone
- In May of every year, a budget is created for the next year. Events and fundraisers determined at that time, with some flexibility to adjust. If there's a change in funding/budget, then we can add more
- Can offer more things, but depends on participation
- Idea: parent nights, eg art nights; craft sales (can discuss but need to consider entrepreneurial fair)
- Have limits on number of evenings
- Discounted Canucks tickets idea - have kids and families together. Bosco to report back

Call for Motions:

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 6:30-8:00

Meeting Adjournment: 8:13pm