

# Dr Knox Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes | September 21, 2022

---

10 attendees in person, 8 via zoom

1. Meeting called to order by Sarah at 6:10, introductions of Pac Executive: **President: Sarah Bendall, Vice President: Glenn Kissman (via Zoom), Treasurer: Mike Moore**, Co-PAC Rep: Camila Biffard, Member at large: Candice Henriques, not present Carlos Rockhill and Ainslie Gainer
  - a. discussed open position of secretary, Sarah asked for volunteers, Glenn suggested that we advertised in dr knox newsletter
  
2. Principal's update
  - a. Luke Campbell is new to Dr Knox, he came from a position in human resources in SD23.
  - b. Introduction of two vice principals, Ms. Goreas was on the admin team last year, Mr Auclair is new to Dr Knox but has taught here in the past.
  - c. For consistency, vice principals will follow students through all three grades. Division of students will be based on last name: Ms Goreas will take last names A-K; Mr Auclair will take last names L-Z.
  - d. Mr Campbell discussed that start up is going well, 963 students with 25 new staff.
  - e. There was an expansion announced this summer of the school adding classrooms for 300 more students.
  - f. Students got lockers today- first time for all of them having lockers due to COVID preventing it the last two years.
  - g. Cell phones- each teacher will be deciding if they are allowed in class or if they need to be in the student's locker for class.
  - h. Students are now allowed to wear hats in the building.
  - i. Trying to organize a school dance to bring back some activities that were lost during COVID.
  - j. Staff are doing professional development in three areas:
    - i. assessment- which will be standardized across the classes, no letter grades, language will be used to describe student's learning ie developing, mastering
    - ii. Anti racism/diversity
    - iii. Socio-emotional learning
  - k. Mr Campbell opened the floor for questions
    - i. Parent question: Do students require cell phones for learning? No, students do not require phones, the school has enough laptops and chrome books to meet all of the students' digital learning needs. Wifi is available to all students with some restrictions on certain sites such as tick tock
    - ii. Parent question: What role do vice principals play? Social emotional support, academic, educational support, counseling support, if you have touched base with a teacher but need to reach out to someone else.
    - iii. Parent question: Will there be a grade 9 band trip? Will you be required to try out? There will probably be a trip, waiting to hear about school fees but Mrs Sinehuber and Ms McLean are looking into it. No, if you are in band 9, you won't need to try out.
    - iv. Parent question: How do electives work? Band is all year, other electives run for ½ of the year for grade 7 and 8, this is slightly different for grade 9, language is an elective, necessary for French immersion students.

3. PAC Budget Update- Mike Moore
  - a. We get a gaming grant from the government based on a dollar amount per student ~\$19,000 this year. We have \$2,300 left over from last year.
    - i. This money goes to school requests such as band equipment repairs, video production equipment, supporting clubs
    - ii. School requests are coming into Mr Campbell, executive will review and present at next meeting
  - b. Our general fund is from fundraising: gofundme brought in \$1100 last year, Sarah is going to push this year to try to get more. Recycling brought in \$365.
    - i. This money goes to where we cannot spend grant money: teacher appreciation, scholarships to previous DR Knox Students.
  - c. Request from Mr Campbell to have the pac vote on a budget item as it is time sensitive, tshirts for all grade 7 students as well as new students in grade 8 and 9
    - i. Motion for: Funding up to \$2500 to pay for Dr Knox school wear for grade 7 students and other new students to the school. Put forward by Camila, seconded by Tiffany, passed by vote by members present and on zoom.
4. COPAC update- Camila Biffard
  - a. School district is increasing by ~300 students per year resulting in new portables required. Approx \$300,000 to get a portable and have it set up at a school. This money comes out of our operating budget.
  - b. The province gave sd 23 2.3 million dollars to help with food insecurity and inflation costs. Once the district has decided how the money will be used, schools and families will be updated
    - i. Mr Campbell explained how the school already has a brown bag lunch program- free lunches for any students in need as well as free breakfast for any students who wish to partake.
  - c. All candidates meeting to be held by copac and district student council on Oct 3. More details to follow.
5. Meeting adjourned at 7:04