

# **PAC MINUTES OCTOBER 8 , 2024 (MSS)**

## **Attendance:**

Adriane Mouland (Principal), Gordon Swan (School Trustee),

## **Parents:**

Candice Rizzardo, Quinn Rooke, Tina Etchart, Stephanie Johnson, Ryan Dell, Carrie Szabo, Laura MacDonald

Outgoing President Sherry Desy.

Meeting called to order 6:00 pm

First order of business is to secure new executive positions for the 2024/2025 school year. Roles, responsibilities and purpose of the PAC discussed.

Quinn Rooke allowed her name to stand for the position of Treasurer and Tina Etchart as Secretary. None opposed. Motion carried. Stephanie Johnson was nominated as President by Tina Etchart, Stephanie accepted the nomination. Motion seconded by Sherry Desy, Quinn Rooke, none opposed, motion carried.

Secretary will prepare a letter of direction for the bank to remove and replace signing authority from Sherry to Stephanie.

## **2024/2025 PAC Executive**

**Stephanie Johnson (President)**

**Quinn Rooke (Treasurer)**

**Tina Etchart (Secretary)**

## **Funding Requests:**

No Funding requests

## **New Business:**

The PAC discussed whether or not an Agenda should be required prior to our meetings. We will continue with our format of Trustee Report, Principal Report, Treasurer Report and New Business Old Business. Principal Adriane Mouland will send out an Agenda should she receive MSS Funding Requests and let the executive know in advance if we are to expect presentations.

Treasurer of the Grad Parents 2025 Committee, Ryan Dell, made a request for assistance from MSS PAC to process and facilitate an application to the TNRD for a Grant-in-Aid. The purposes of the grant for 2025 Dry Grad activities. The PAC will consider the request and determine whether or not we will have the registered non profit status in order to help with this application.

The executive will reach out to Ryan pending a decision in the coming months. The application deadline is May 1, 2025.

Tina made a motion to revoke last month's approval of payment towards the BCCPAC fees 2025 as they do not currently have an executive in place at this time. Quinn made a motion to table the review until the next meeting and reevaluate the status of the BCCPAC next month. None opposed, motion carried to table sending the payment pending a decision next month to renew membership.

Quinn (treasurer) noted that the success of the prior year TNRD Grant in aid for the 2024 Grad Class was secured due to our membership within the BCCPAC which granted us the registered non-profit status requirement of TNRD. Gordon noted that the school board office may be able to help, as there is a registered charity status within the district. The next Board meeting will include the 32nd Annual General Meeting of Registered Non-Profit Society belonging to School District 58. Gordon will follow up with Secretary/Treasurer Dylan Richardson.

<https://www.tnrd.ca/services/budget-finance/apply-for-grants/regional-grant-in-aid-program/>

<https://wpcdn.tnrd.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/31120542/Regional-Grants-and-Sponsorship-Application-Form.pdf>

<https://tnrd.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/79587/?preview=214013>

### **School Trustee Report: Gordon Swan**

RRN Advocacy letter crafted for PACs and Parents to send to political parties and current government re:

Recruitment and Retention of Staff

Capital and Deferred Maintenance Funding

Inclusive Education and Student Success

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cP\\_ZBFAgHHoA3crnNkk1syczuhKaw1uK/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cP_ZBFAgHHoA3crnNkk1syczuhKaw1uK/edit)

Candidates are meeting with PACs and Trustees on these issues.

Example of Election promises heard: 20,000 new EAs & ECE promising EAs in each classroom and in the before and after school programs. Trustees are pointing out that previous promises to increase funding have not fully transpired, funding is met at approximately 48% by using out of date data and financial records.

Bringing education forward and asking for dollars to be invested. The immediate need for investment into education in rural areas are priority topics of discussion.

Board meeting is next week. We have a 3 year fiscal plan put together that holds a 2-4% operating reserve that will soon be reaching less than 1% within the next 18 months.

Without an infusion of cash, we will be forced to look at making budgetary cuts.

The Early Learning Centre in Princeton will be ready in January, in partnership with the YMCA.

The centre is at the former Riverside school location and received 10.2 million to renovate the building. Needs Assessment was done by the city of Princeton. The city of Merritt did not complete this requirement.

We will be applying for another early learning project, awaiting approval.

<https://www.sd58.bc.ca/riverside-learning-centre-presentation/>

[https://www.sd58.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Press-Release-SD-58-partners-with-YMCA-to-provide-child-care-spaces-in-Princeton-BC\\_January-11-2024\\_v3.pdf](https://www.sd58.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Press-Release-SD-58-partners-with-YMCA-to-provide-child-care-spaces-in-Princeton-BC_January-11-2024_v3.pdf)

The next Nicola-Similkameen School District Board of Education meeting will take place at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, October 09, 2024, in the Merritt School Board Office. You will find the meeting agenda and associated documents attached for your information.

[OPEN Board Package\\_OCTOBER 2024.pdf](#)

For those that wish to view online, this meeting will be live-streamed and recorded on YouTube (search "SD58 Board Meeting Zoom Meeting" ) or through our Facebook page "Nicola-Similkameen School District – No. 58". ( [www.facebook.com/SchoolDistrictNo58/](http://www.facebook.com/SchoolDistrictNo58/) ) Please use the chat feature if you are attending virtually and have any questions during the meeting.

<https://www.sd58.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Press-Release-NSSD-June.25.2024-New-Superintendent-of-Schools.pdf>

<https://www.sd58.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/502.1-CODE-OF-CONDUCT-FOR-STUDENTS.pdf>

<https://www.sd58.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-Public-Budget-Planning-Process-2024-2025-2-1.pdf>

### **MSS Principal's Report: Adriane Moulard**

4 Enhancing Learning Goals:

1. Mental Health: Each grade will participate in 8 Open Parachute lessons to support mental health literacy throughout the school year.
2. Anti Racism: Merritt Secondary will have an updated, decolonized Code of Conduct by June 2025.
3. Inclusion: To create inclusive learning spaces where students are able to achieve individual growth and success.
4. Foundational Learning: To support our school community in developing the skills, strategies, and habits of effective learning.

Grade 8 Parent Night – was well attended. We hope to build on this by hosting an Open House later this month.

Welcome Dinner: hosted at MSS and organized by our Indigenous Student Advocates.

A lot of work goes into making the evening a success. The work of MSS Grade 10 students around Indigenous Trailblazers was presented.

Terry Fox Run – the annual run took place. This was the 43 rd anniversary of the run.

School Photos – have now had 2 sittings, will have a 3 rd on October 22 nd . Grad photos are scheduled for the end of November 25-29.

T & R Week - Merritt Secondary students and staff were treated to a week of learning opportunities centered around Truth & Reconciliation.

The activities included:

1. A focus on healing and resiliency through a yoga session
2. The Blanket Exercise
3. Metis Cultural presentation in the Learning Commons
4. Strengthening Connections with post-secondary opportunities
5. School-wide Orange Shirt Day presentation, performance, and awareness walk.

### **Treasurer's Report: Quinn Rooke**

The Gaming Grant arrived into our accounts October 2, 2024 in the amount of \$11,700.00.

Note: this amount is less than last year, yet our enrollment has increased (data using 1701, September 30th 2024)

<https://www.myeducationbc.info/wp-content/uploads/1701-v3.8.pdf>

Gaming account has a balance of \$11,764.03. The Main Operating account 215.52

BCCPAC fees are due for 2024-2025. The fees have increased from \$75 to \$100.

This election year is a good opportunity to send something to each of the parties asking if they are willing to increase that funding.

The gaming grants have decreased by half from \$40 per student to only \$20 per student. It is time for Parents to ask questions of the Ministry of Finance why the funding is cut to an all time low when cost of living and inflation have skyrocketed.

Applications for funding from the Gaming Grant Commission have been made for the 2024-2025 school year. Grant amounts are determined by October 2024 by using the school's 1701 reports based on the number of (FTE) full time enrolled students.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/data-collection/february/i1701.pdf>

**(A temporary hold on the BCCPAC membership dues, Revoke motion to pay 2024 2025 fees)**

Meeting adjourned @ 6:26pm

Next meeting Tuesday November 12th, 2024 @6pm

Minutes prepared by TE