Date: February 24, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

# Attendees:

Amanda Austin, Cindy Galligan, Heather Ratzlaff, Shannon Rand, Mike Archibald, Niki, Chantall Schacher, Christine, Linda Pecora, Caroline, Isidoro PDiabordo, Rebecka Riddell-McKay, Leah Galligan

# MINUTES:

Called to order at 7:01pm.

1. Introductions- Introductions of PAC members to new parents attending the meeting
2. Approval of Agenda / Additions: Bridget motions to correct the date of the Balance of the Treasurer’s Report to January 31, 2025. Added cell phones and school dances to New Business on the Agenda. Amanda seconds, all in favor, motion passed. Cindy motions to accept agenda as read. Amanda seconds and all in favor.
3. Approval of Minutes (Sent via email): Cindy motioned to accept the minutes, Amanda seconded, and all in favor. Mike stated that previous PAC meeting minutes are posted on the GSS website.
4. PAC Member Information (Cindy Galligan)
   1. Mike sent out an email by Cindy to parents regarding the plea for new PAC members for the District PAC and GSS PAC. Currently, GSS PAC has only 3 members and one school representative. We as GSS PAC would like to involve more parents to assist with decision making and ideas. District PAC needs new members to take over current roles as the current members are leaving. District PAC also receives money and grants and would like more parents to assist with decision making and ideas. Contact Cindy Galligan if you would like more information about joining District PAC.
   2. Introduce Rebecka Riddell-McKay, the new vice principal. Rebecka was a previous teacher at Lady Grey a few years ago. Rebecka is the liaison for the French immersion program and works with the Learning Services team.
5. Principal’s Report (Mike Archibald)
   1. Learning Services is under Rebecca Mason while Amanda is on leave.
   2. Enrolment for 2025-2026-currently it looks to be status quo or a little higher for next year, about 19 International Students are planning to be here for September. Staffing update for next year will come shortly. Course selection forms are currently being completed by the students. The course selection forms will determine which courses will be offered next year. Must have about 15 students for a course to be offered. The Outdoor Academy will be offered next year. Schedules and timetables will be available in the next few months.
   3. Technology Refresh Program- The French Immersion program will be receiving new technology in the new year.
   4. Sports- Basketball Pep Rally this coming Friday to wrap up Basketball for the season.
   5. Spring Break coming up in March
6. Treasurer’s Report (Bridget Munroe)

-PAC General Account Balance as of January 30, 2025-$1671.09

-Gaming Account as of January 30, 2025-$15725.14

-Bursary-PAC offers 2 bursaries to graduates of $750 each. These funds cannot be taken from the Gaming Account. As we only have $1671.09 in the General Account, we will need to fundraise funds. Maybe PAC can run the dances as fundraisers. Fundraising is difficult for current PAC as we only have 3 members.

5. Donation Requests- Cindy informs present members that the Gaming Account contains funds given to PAC based on student numbers of the school. There are specific items that these funds can be used towards and must be spent every year. Please contact Bridget Munroe or Cindy Galligan for a link to view the full list of available purchases for the Gaming Funds. Gaming Funds must benefit lots of students, not just a small group of students or for classrooms. Bridget Munroe indicated that the Gaming Funds CAN be used for field trips, team/club uniforms if used for extra curricular activities, and ceremonies such as Grad. GSS PAC must discuss a policy regarding the use of Gaming Funds for field trips such as sports trips or curricular trips. Curricular field trips are mostly covered by the school where as sports trips may not benefit LOTS of students so may not qualify under the Gaming Funds usage. Mr. Archibald will add the Donation Request forms to the agenda for the next staff meeting. Donation Request forms will be available to staff, parents and the students through an email before the next PAC meeting. Cindy Galligan will send the Donation Request email out within the next two weeks. Financial contributions directly to GSS PAC are accepted as well. Receipts will not be given as GSS PAC is not a charitable organization.

1. New Business

Mandy (absent-Cindy will discuss)-School Dances- Cindy explains an email received from Mandy about how to improve school dances.

Mike explains that the Halloween dance is a grad fundraiser. Attendance of school dances usually declines more and more throughout the year. A struggle the school has with dances is the cost of a DJ. The payments of the tickets usually break even with the cost of the DJ, resulting in little to no funds fundraised. Playlists were used at a few of the past dances so ticket sales were all profit. Mike stated that the Christmas Dance could be taken over by PAC to use as a fundraiser. Cindy expressed that since PAC is only 3 members, we do not have time or ability to complete a fundraiser on our own. GSS PAC would love for new members to join and help with fundraising and ideas for fundraising.

Vending Machine- Cindy Galligan brought up that the vending machine in the main school lobby has been empty for a while. She was curious if GSS PAC could fill it up and use it for fundraising. Mr. Archibald revealed that the machine has not followed the Healthy Food guidelines and it does not work properly. The company has not come to pick it up as the school will not be using it any longer.

Mandy (absent-Cindy will discuss)-Cell Phone Policy- Mandy expressed that she would like to have a cell phone free school. Mr. Archibald reminded all members that the Division follows the Ministry mandated order. This does not state that cell phones are banned from schools. This order states that students have the right to be in an environment that is free of distractions during learning time. GSS has their own policy that conforms to this order. The cell phone policy is on the GSS website. GSS does have limitations on cell phones with penalties if ignored. GSS has seen about a 90% compliance with an improvement in overall environment.

Cindy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Amanda seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, April 14, 2025 at 7 pm