Date: April 14, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

# Attendees:

Amanda Austin, Cindy Galligan, Mike Archibald, Linda Pecora (online), Rebecka Riddell-McKay, Leah Galligan, Amber Austin, Bridget Munroe, Heather, Deanna Andersen, Nikki (online)

# MINUTES:

Called to order at 7:00pm.

1. Introductions- Introductions of PAC members to new parents attending the meeting
2. Approval of Agenda / Additions: Bridget adds Donations to Treasurer’s Report. Deanna wishes to present a proposal during Donation Requests. Bridget motions to accept agenda, Deanna seconds, and all in favor.
3. Approval of Minutes (Sent via email): Cindy motioned to accept the minutes, Amanda seconded, and all in favor.
4. Principal’s Report (Mike Archibald)
   1. Outdoor Education Academy: many applicants for next school year. Outdoor Education Academy is a full semester long for 16 credits with 4 courses with Mr. Ainslie as the lead teacher. The fees must increase to account for an increase in costs of the activities, and transportation. This year the fees are proposed to be increased from $850 in past years to $950 for the 2025-2026 school year. The school has proposed four payment options. Through School Cash Online, families can set up a payment plan ranging in dates and amounts. Option 1-lump sum payment, Option 2-2 equal payments, Option 3-5 equal payments, or Option 4- 10 equal payments. Rocky Mountain International Students are proposed to pay a fee of around $1200. Since this is a high demand program, only four spots will be available to RMIS to allow GSS students to have priority. There is a maximum of 28 people from grades 10 to 12 to attend this program. This proposal will be put forth to the board to get approval. Once approved the program will begin next school year. Cindy makes a motion to accept the fees as presented, Amanda seconds, all in favor, motion carried.
   2. School Calendar- Approval of the new school calendar for 2025/2026. The biggest change is the PD days in August have been moved to be within the school year. The first day of school for staff is Sept 2 and the first day of school for students is Sept 3 with a full day of school. The grade 8s and International Students will be coming in on the Tuesday afternoon for orientation. To accommodate the movement of the PD days to within the school year, GSS must extend their day by 4 minutes. The last day of school will be June 24 and end with two days of PD for the staff.
   3. Celebration of Learning-June 19. A short awards ceremony with possibly a BBQ fundraiser. Maybe PAC can run the BBQ fundraiser. A showcase of the school will take place afterwards for families to explore the school and the projects that the students have been working on. Maybe we can ask SYSKO for a donation for the BBQ supplies.
   4. Counsellor Amy- Currently completing a practicum. She is required to have a Bachelors of Education to proceed with her position. Next year she will be completing more practicums and must be teaching full time. During this time, she will be unavailable for counsellor services. GSS is working with the District right now to find a solution so GSS has a counsellor available to students. She will be completing all of her practicums at GSS. The goal is to have Amy become the head counsellor for the school in the coming years.
   5. Student Educational Assistants- GSS will have 5 EA-Students completing their practicums in the next few months. Once completed, they will be certified Educational Assistants.
   6. Elections this week- Elections presentations are taking place every morning and a school wide election will take place. A bulletin board is up in the hallway explaining the various parties.
   7. Grad 2025- Grad dinner is to take place at the Eagles Eye Restaurant. The hope is that this will still be able to take place as the gondola is currently under repair. Kicking Horse Resort has offered the grad class the day lodge for the grad dinner. Other options include the Sky Bridge as they are building a wedding pavilion. The school will update everyone as they know more.
   8. Baby salmon release- The school will be releasing the salmon into the river at the Confluence Park on May 20. A celebration will occur in June at the school. A small group of people will be involved in the release of the salmon. The school has been able to observe the salmon from eggs up to now.
   9. Outdoor space- Administration is researching different options for a shade structure for the outdoor space.
5. Treasurer’s Report (Bridget Munroe)

-PAC General Account Balance as of April 14, 2025-$1599.62

-purchase of juice boxes for students during vaccinations

-Gaming Account as of April 14, 2025- $15725.14

-$7000 is from the Gaming Grant received in Oct 2024

-Bridget will investigate when the due date is to spend the gaming account money

-Donations: Heather from HR Pacific has donated $1000. Amanda motions that we put the HR Pacific donation towards Grad Bursaries, Cindy seconds the motion, all in favor, motion passed.

6. Donation Requests: Financial contributions directly to GSS PAC are accepted. Receipts will not be given as GSS PAC is not a charitable organization.

-Discussion of suggestions for the gaming grant-maybe a stereo to be used for extracurricular activities such as dances. Mr. Archibald has explained that the school does have a great stereo and lots of lights for dances.

-Bridget received many donation request forms for PAC to review. Cindy summarized the donation requests. Some items include board games, gardening materials, dry erase boards, score clock, and exercise bike. PAC will review these more at a later date.

-Deanna Andersen-Presented a proposal to purchase a school wide subscription to KAHOOT. She contacted KAHOOT and received a great deal for a small school wide subscription. A paid subscription will enable the teachers and students to create their own games, and it makes the games more fun with elaborate answers. Deanna has offered to lead a Pro D course for teachers to attend to learn how to use KAHOOT in the classroom. As this is a yearly subscription, this first year could be a pilot.

-Discussion of a school wide student gift-drawstring backpacks, water bottles or something for every student donated by PAC. A suggestion was to donate a chunk of money towards the purchase of hoodies to reduce the price for the students who purchase them.

-PAC can make large donations soon and have it labelled for a specific item to be purchased later by GSS

-PAC members will review the donation requests

7. Fundraising- Possible fundraiser could be the BBQ for the Celebration of Learning on June 19, maybe 4:30-6:30.

-drafting a letter to send out to community members explaining what we are fundraising for and what PAC is all about

- Financial contributions directly to GSS PAC are accepted. Receipts will not be given as GSS PAC is not a charitable organization.

-current funds received by fundraising will go towards the Grad Bursaries

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, May 12, 2025 at 7pm