

Okanagan Falls PAC
Meeting Minutes
OFES October 3rd, 2024 – 6pm

1. Welcome and Call to Order

a. Introductions

- In attendance: Katie Poole, Kandis Lipsett, Ang Marcinko, Angela Mavety, Catherine Golinsky, Chantelle Bruwer, Ivy Yoder, Christine Meunier, Alisha Hardy, Erin Thorne, Vanessa Morigeau
- Call to order: 6:03

b. Adoption of agenda:

- Adopted: 1st – Kandis || Seconded: Catherine

c. Approval of minutes from September 2024 meeting

- Motion to approve: Kandis || Seconded: Ivy

2. Reports

a. **School Trustee – Sholeh Pickell – Board Report**

b. **Administrator – Katie Poole**

- **School Plan 2024/25**
- This year's school plan was developed due to behavioural issues staff felt students were having; as well as students not feeling safe because consequences between students were not equal and expectations were not clearly set.
- **Culture & Connections:** This year staff and administration will be working on creating a school culture that is safe and welcoming through connections. Teaching pro-social skills, providing students more leadership opportunities, and re-structuring expectations of students
- There will be no more buddy classes or monthly spirit contests. Instead, they will be building relationships between all students in the school and not promote contests with winners and losers
- We will see more multi-age play on early dismissal days and special occasions. There will be house teams, where there will be a mix of all divisions playing games together.
- Students will be doing pro-social learning through games using a program called *Play is the Way*. Students will be pushed to learn what makes them upset and how to communicate why they are upset – “this hurt my feelings because...”. Developing their self regulation skills.
- Staff will also be using The First Peoples Principals of Learning – learning takes time and patience
- Students will also be given more leadership opportunities – ex. Hot dog day will be run by students! OKFE will also be teaming up with Kyle from Belichs to teach students finance skills and help them develop their own store.
- **SPIRIT WEAR** – Visit the awesome online store to see this year's great selection of items. Storefront will be open Oct 4-27th
 1. <https://okanaganfallselem24.itemorder.com/shop/home/>
- **Total number of students:** 99
 1. Last year: 118 last
 2. Some left because of culture, housing, large graduating class
- **Peanut allergies:** peanut butter sandwiches/peanuts are allowed this year. Please remind your children of the **no sharing food** policy.
- **Penticton Vee's** - coming December 3rd

- **Parent Volunteers –**
 1. Friendly reminder to use the front door and sign in when you arrive
 2. Ensure you know teacher expectations on fieldtrips, so all adult authorities are on the same page. This will prevent staff from feeling undermined
 3. Please refrain from speaking negatively about students to other parents
- **Safety** – All doors to be locked. Telephones in all classrooms/extra offices now
- **GAGA BALL PIT** - 1 is installed, 2nd is currently being built at district office – It will be installed on concrete on the primary side.
 1. Feedback from students/teachers is positive. Students are loving it.
- **Apple Picking** - Tuesday, October 1st, the grade 3/4 class went apple picking. Thank you Apple Bin!
- **Christmas Concert** – December 19th

c. Treasurer – Erin Lang

- Small Business Account (CHQ) – \$2887
- Gaming Account – (grant arrived - \$2260) \$2264.96
- Controls checklist – This ensures cash handling and disbursements of funds are being handled correctly. To prevent us from failing an audit. *Erin went over this after meeting with Katie and Kandis and had them sign it.*

3. Business

- a. Corn Maze** – Apple Bin would like to see students AND their families come out and enjoy the experience. Possibility for students to go at end of the month

b. Hot Lunch –

- Katie and Julia worked very hard to put together a hot lunch program from October that would not only be affordable, but also offer food that students would also eat.
 1. Vendors include: Oliver Subway, Taco Riendo, KJ's, PAC, and OKF Leadership
 2. All vendors were able to make this affordable for families, making meals \$5 or less.
 3. This year the school is not using their Feeding Future budget to cover half the cost of each meal purchased
 - a. Ie. In 2023/24 meals cost \$8. Parents paid \$4, the school paid \$4.
- Our Feeding Futures allocation is less this year than in previous years. Feeding Futures is a Government of BC initiative to ensure kids are fed and ready to learn; providing meals/snacks for children whose family situation are currently struggling.
 1. This program is intended to assist families in need, not the entire school (like the school was previously using it for)
- Over half of the student's are participating in hot lunch for October
- Lots of good response from kids eating the lunches
- The awesome thing about hot lunch is you don't have to participate if you're not interested in it. However, let's not take negative comments to social media.
- Vendor consideration:
 1. Meals need to be individually plated. OKFS cannot offer family style due to budgeting and not having additional staff to run a kitchen
 - a. *Belich* – only able to offer family style
 - b. *Law of Attraction* (Liam) couldn't make their meals for \$5/each. 2023/2024 they were charging \$8, school was covering half.
 - c. *Bullies* – Their student lunch menu was brought to meeting. They have great lunch option available. Katie will connect with them for November.

c. PAC Goals – Sponsor a motivational speaker

- Table for future meeting. Bring prices/ Check budget before voting

d. Legion –Remembrance Day rocks

- Legion member wanted to paint over the rocks Ok Falls students painted in past
- Katie to ask staff if they would be interested in painting new rocks for Legion

e. Yearbooks (Alisha)

- 2023/24 – about to be ordered
- Table discussion of 2024/2025 yearbook to next meeting

f. Pumpkins for school - Lipsett family sponsor pumpkins

g. PAC Facebook Page & commenting.

- Recently there was a post about hot lunch that upset administrators. They felt it went against the welcoming, positive school culture they're trying to build this school year. This lead to the question: ***What is the purpose of the PAC page?*** And we were asked to consider turning off post comments.
- Purpose of PAC page?
 1. The PAC page is a place where parents can receive important information/reminders, ask questions, raise concerns, and comment on school and PAC related activities.
 - a. We sometimes hear negative feedback. As long as this feedback is conveyed in a mature manner, and we are able to correct misinformation and moderate the conversation without backlash, these conversations will be left posted.
 - b. We want to foster a community of trust and respect, so it is important that parents do not feel censored as soon as their opinions do not align with the executive. Feedback, good or bad, helps us improve.
- Our PAC page is a closed group and only families at our school see it. The recent post that happened, rarely happens.
- Chantelle and Alisha to ensure moderation of group.

h. 50/50 (Kandis) – tabled for future meeting.

i. Christmas Basket Raffle – for families attending OFES

- Tickets to be sold week leading up to Christmas concert Raffle basket to be raffled at Christ
 1. December 9th-13th – sheet sent home for raffle entries. Money sent back to office & PAC to pick up.
 2. Winner will be chosen at the Christmas Concert, December 19th
- \$25 raffle licence – Kandis to apply for.
- To do: create outreach team to create basket
 1. Make donation letter
 2. Decide who to email/go in person
 3. Create spreadsheet in Google Docs of places to contact (everyone can access)
 4. Have basket ready by Dec 9th

j. Student grant applications –

- Kandis would like to see more student input on things that matter to them, that PAC can help fund. Essentially, she wants a PAC suggestion box. Perhaps this is a school initiative and then administration can come to us if they would like help to fund.
- 3 initiatives brought to the meeting:

1. Student Gardens: student wants to learn how to grow her own food.
 - a. This is something teachers have expressed **not** wanting to be responsible for in the past. Large start up cost, summer maintenance. It's a very big job.
 - b. Alternative idea: Are teachers interested in racks/grow lights in classroom?
2. Quiet /Well-being area: student wants a quiet area for working of when they're overwhelmed
 - a. Many areas already exist in the school: ex, couches in library, new tables/chairs in hall, sensory room.
 - b. Students need to learn how to advocate for themselves and ask to use these areas.
 - c. PAC contribution: Variety School Grant (<https://www.variety.bc.ca/support/variety-school-grants/>). This is a grant that will match 50% of a quoted cost for your school Inclusive Projects
- Leadership programs –
 - a structured grant application program. Kandis wants students to come present their idea at our meeting and we give them money to make it happen?
 - *Problem: we've allocated our projected 2024/25 budget to the goals we've already set.*

4. Wrap Up

- a. Skaha matters communication for November (Chantelle)

5. Next Meeting – November 7th, 6pm

6. Adjournment : 7:50pm