Blair PAC Meeting Friday,

April 24th 2024 8:00 -9:00pm

Meeting Minutes

1. Present

Mr. Livingston Olivia Yen Susan Deng

Liuchun Yang Vicky Yin Reinaldo Cheng

Dong P. John Linda

Joyce N. Ivy Ellie

Jeanette H. Mary P. Sarah Zhang

Claire Xu Willis Jennifer

Garth J

1. Welcome and Introduction.
2. Approval of Agenda of April 24th, 2024. Susan made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Olivia and Ellie. All in favour.
3. Approval of February 28, 2024 Minutes. Susan made a motion to approve the minutes. All in favour.
4. School Administrative Report by Mr. Livingston:

* Blair Building Envelope Project update (replacement of windows and siding) : continuing for rest of school year. Parent concerned about air qualify inside school because windows are closed. Mr. Livingston explained that we have HVAC ventilation to get fresh air from outside and Hepa filter inside the classrooms as well to make sure students have good air quality.
* Written Learning Update (Report Card) Published April 24, 2024
* Parent Portal log in
* Blair CARES for Self, Others, Place: Family Teams activity for Earth Day
* Student Leadership, Student Volunteers and Extracurricular activities continue!
* Rocks and Rings Curling Program: May 2, 9
* Track and Field; Track Meet May 13
* Student Safety:
* No visitor parking: must use drop off lane. Please keep pulling forward.
* Use Crosswalks when crossing street and Crossing Guard
* PAC volunteers and activities – Thank you!
* Fruit and Veggie Program, Hot Lunch, Fundraising, Book Fair
* Grad 7 Farewell committee Parent volunteers, frozen yoghurt fundraising
* Gateway Theatre Performance : ”Just US” May 1

Concerns were raised by parents during the meeting, as the full description of the field trip was not provided on the day when the notice was sent home. Teachers were not able to provide students a clear answer what the field trip was about on the day when the notice was sent. This prevented parents from making an informed decision, and more transparency is required in future school communication. Mr. Livingston did send a follow-up email with more details of the field trip one day after the notice was sent home. He has promised to improve transparency in future school communications.

* Body Science Workshop:
* Parent Workshop: May 6; Student Workshop: May 7, 8, 21, 22, 23

While it was appreciated by parents that the school took an effort to find an alternative workshop, it was pointed out that the decision regarding this new workshop has been made without minimum parent consultation. Most parents expect that they will have an opportunity to learn about the new workshop before any decision is made. No references (such as parent/student feedback of the workshop) have been provided from other schools on its content and quality. The workshop claims to be scientific fact-based; however, the workshop web site does contain political terms that may divide our community. Parents are disappointed by the lack of transparency and parent engagement in the decision-making process.

* Student Learning Survey – Parent. Complete by May 3
* Year End music concerts and assembles – to be announced
* Grade 7 Farewell Date: Monday June 24

1. Treasurer Report by Reinaldo:

* Food Day: doing well! Year to date profit $5,000. Remaining May and June food days will probably bring revenue to $6,000.

Fundraising: Year to date profit $8,000.

1. Chair Report by Susan:

* Fundraising: frozen yoghurt in May
* Hot lunch – May & June: We tried different venders in addition to pizza on Mondays, but not enough volunteers. Therefore, will continue Pizza Monday in May.
* Milk and Fruits Program: $1,500 deposit required for next school year. Mr. Livingston adviced that the District will provide funding to cover that.
* June 7 Carnival & Grant Opening of renovated playground: replacing all the woods on blue playground and repainting – the renovation is funded by PAC.
* June 14 Sports Day
* Next PAC meeting: AGM for PAC executive team nominations: Please email Susan: [susanblairpac@gmail.com](mailto:susanblairpac@gmail.com) and include name of nominee/div and name of child.
* Sex Education discussion

1. Playground Committee Report by Susan:

* Playground repair & maintenance progress
* May fundraising events
* Return it Depo: please return bottles on Blair account
* Parent concerns

Questions were asked during the meeting about where we currently stand with playground replacement in terms of budget and fundraising progress. At current pace, it will take many years, if not a decade, to get sufficient funds for playground replacement (for the blue part of the playground) completely through fundraising by parents/students. Mr. Livingston explained that the school district assessed the older part of the playground and confirmed that it is still sturdy, so the current focus is to renovate it including replacing old wooden materials etc. He also mentioned that because of the newer part of the playground (the green part) Blair’s playground replacement is low on the school district’s priority list. Parents pointed out that it’s unfair for Blair, as the green part of the playground was completely funded by students and parents through hard work in fundraising – the school district never funded our playground replacement. Parents requested the school to raise the concern to the School District to allocate funding with priority to replace the outdated playground.

1. DPAC Report by Ellie

* Opportunity for parents to join the DPAC as parents’ kids are graduating
* AGM – May 7 in person at board office
* Gaming grant application is open

1. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:21pm. Next meeting on May 28th, 2024 at 8pm on Teams.