

FAPC - General Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, September 24th, 2021

Time: 8:00 am

Location: Fraser Academy, 5th floor

Parents in Attendance: Helene Tremblay, Susie Stewart, Erika Harriman, Carlyne Clare, Dahl Gisel, Debbie Heeps, January Vandale, Belinda Curyer, Vivian Cantas, Brandy Hughes, Richard Hayward, Beth Harrop, Sarah Braim, Karen Chan, Carrie Paleologos, Kate Tobin, Mandy Sigurgirson, Belinda Boyson, Eva Cipera, Samantha Lane, Virginia Wigmore, Helene Tremblay

Staff in Attendance: Maureen Steltman, Neil Johnston, Natalie Glover and Bryson Norrish

Secretary: Susie Stewart

1. Round Table Introduction

All attendees introduced themselves to the group.

2. School Welcome

Maureen welcomed all the parents to the school and gave an update on recent and upcoming school activities.

- It has been a great start to the new year. Cohort barriers are removed and seeing the kids interact has been so positive.
- Lots of outdoor education and community building activities for all grades.
- A new lease for FA with confirmation (and signature) of an initial extension to 2030 and Letter of Intent for a 99 year ground lease from 2030 has been confirmed. The board and staff are planning and preparing for a capital campaign for the new building. Government relations will be the primary focus this year and there is a meeting with the City of Vancouver this October with a continued focus on education of what dyslexia is.
- Continuing with teacher training and having three contracts with VSB schools.
- The hiring committee has been active since May to find a replacement for Maureen. An update will be provided at the Community Meeting on Tuesday, September 28th. The Ministry of Education is updating their protocols with the new recommendations from the PHO regarding contact and informing. Our website has the updated health & safety guidelines. Please contact Tasso Kanavos if you have any questions or concerns.

3. Financial update

Brandy provided an update on the FAPC finances.

Assets

- \$44,000 in Cash
- \$10,000 in Gaming Grant
 - o Can be used for enhanced extracurricular activities for the students. Not educational or operating costs.

Expected Revenue

- \$5000 in 2021 Gaming Grant
- \$7000 in Used Uniforms
- \$5000 in Purdy's
- \$3000 in Plant Sales

Expenses

- \$3750 last year which included Book Club, Parent Socials and Grad Frames

4. FAPC plans and events

Community is important! It is our goal that we reach 100% participation for all parents/guardians in school activities. It is a great way to meet other parents and feel more connected to this incredible school we are all a part of. The following is a list of events for this year that we would like to organize. Please indicate which areas are of interest to you through the questionnaire that will be emailed in the next few days.

Emergency Preparedness Plan (October 2021)

A parent suggested that we start a program around Provincial Shake Out Day on October 21st. This could be as simple as posting some information on social media to bring awareness or organizing an emergency preparedness kit sale. The group was open to suggestions and participation.

The school advised that they provide comfort for all the kids and have a fully trained team, led by Bryson Norrish, to care for all kids until they can be reconnected with family. They run surprise drills with the students during the year. They encourage parents to discuss emergency preparedness with their children.

Mark it Read Campaign (October 2021)

Dyslexia Canada raises awareness and presents a national perspective through activities during the month of October, specifically by lighting up iconic buildings across the country on a specific day and posting on social media with the hashtag #MarkitRead. Last year, Fraser Academy provided red t-shirts and capes for the junior school students. This year we will be celebrating Mark it Read day on October 18th. T-shirts or capes will be given to new students and all students will be encouraged to wear red that day.

It is wonderful to see the pride that the kids have of being dyslexic and to celebrate this the school wondered if **six parents would be interested in coordinating a hotdog BBQ** for the kids that day. Carrie Paleologo and Karen Chan both volunteered at the meeting.

In addition, the FAPC is looking for someone to assist with promotional activities, such as balloons at school, posts on social media and any other creative ideas.

Scholastic Book Fairs (December 2021 & May 2022)

Scholastic Book Fairs, running one week in Dec. and one week in May, from 8:00 am - 3:45 pm. We would need 2 parent volunteers working at a time in 4-hour shifts, with one volunteer to do cash and one to help with any questions or order forms. Dates TBC.

Book club (November 2021-December 2021)

One team lead is required to coordinate a four-week virtual book club. Moderators are already in place and ready to go! Suggested book is What to say to kids when nothing seems to work, by Fraser Academy parent, Dr. Ashley Miller, a child and adolescent psychiatrist at BC Children's Hospital and a clinical associate professor at the University of British Columbia. The book club could potentially be launched with a presentation by the author as part of a parent education event.

Purdy's Chocolate Holiday Sale (November 2021-December 2021)

One person to shadow our current team lead who coordinates the promotion, orders and customer pick-up. Ten volunteers to help with order sorting, processing and customer pick-up.

Plant Sales (November 2021-December 2021 & April 2022-May 2022)

One team lead to coordinate the promotion, orders and customer pick-up. Five volunteers to help with order coordination and customer pick-up.

December plants usually include poinsettias which need to be stored overnight in a heated space. If the school is not available due to PHO then we will need to find a heated garage near the school.

Winter Staff Appreciation Event (November 2021-December 2021)

One team led to coordinate the planning for this holiday event. Traditionally, parents have made or purchased holiday baked goods for the faculty. This is in lieu of purchasing individual or class holiday gifts. The following is a history of past events

2016-2019 – Cookie buffet on 5th floor

2020 - Prepared cookies from Moore's and Poinsettias

2021 - Maybe a revised version with a boxed lunch

End-of-Year Staff Appreciation Event (March 2022-June 2022)

One team lead and ten volunteers to help with planning and operation of this event. Past events have been at a rented facility or a casual picnic in the park. Both with prizes and gifts for the faculty. The FAPC will survey faculty to determine if a picnic lunch or an on site event would be preferred.

Used Uniform Sales (Sept. 2021, Nov. 2021, Feb. 2022, & Apr. 2022)

We are looking for new team leads to shadow our current lead, Debbie Heeps, plus up to ten volunteers to support in sorting donated inventory, sale set-up, sales, managing appointments, clean up and pack up for each sale event. Note: Clothes go to a laundry to be cleaned not at parent homes.

Future Class Parents

Class Parents play a pivotal role in the FAPC as an ambassador for their grade and a key point of contact for both existing and new families. The Class Parent initiates grade level get-togethers, distributes information from the FAPC and sends timely reminders about upcoming events.

Garden Green Thumbs

The front of the school has been landscaped by the FAPC in recent times and we now need a handful of enthusiastic green thumbs to help Debbie Heeps to maintain the overall appearance of the garden. This role would be a roster of once a month for an hour or so, for four volunteers.

Grad Committee

Andrea and Kirsti will head up the committee this year, and Vivian will shadow to ensure there are some traditions from year to year. Need some additional grade 11 parents to help and learn this year so Grad expectations are consistent from year to year.

General Volunteering

This is open to any parents or family members of an FA student who would like to participate in occasional volunteer roles throughout the year. It is not an obligation to assist, but rather a willingness to be contacted should the need arise.

Future FAPC Executive

New positions will be announced on an as needed basis.

5. New business

Sports

- A parent asked if any parents have specific sports skills to volunteer to support the coaching staff at FA.
- A question was raised about gym space usage.
- School reminded us that we are not able to get a permit for a sport pad cover so this will not be going ahead as hoped.

Book Sale

- Kate Tobin offered an idea for a used book sale as she has a huge amount of quality books accumulated during the pandemic.

- School suggested running this alongside a used uniform sale and not the Scholastic Book Sales to avoid competition. Book for a buck. Could add puzzles too.

After School Care

- Carlyne Claire is working with the school to try a Friday after-school program. May need some parents as chaperones to assist with walking kids to the beach. More details to be provided.

Welcome to New Parents and Students

- Can new parents be connected with other new parents or existing parents earlier in the summer? FAPC will add this item Class Parents Portfolio role development.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20am.