



ÉCOLE IRVINE ELEMENTARY PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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3862 Wellington St., Port Coquitlam, BC

École Irvine Elementary School PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

Annotated Agenda

November 12, 2025 (7:01 pm to 8:37 pm)

Today, we acknowledge we are on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the kwikwəłəm (Kwikwetlem) First Nation. We thank the kwikwəłəm (Kwikwetlem) who continue to live on these lands and care for them, along with the waters and all that is above and below. We acknowledge, with gratitude, this beautiful place where we live, work, play, and learn. All my relations.

Participants: Martin Bozic, John Campbell, Jennifer Trumpour, Janae Walters, Maggie Harder, Pauline Hwang, Michaela Ross, Jemma P, Mariam, Louise Farrell, Shawna Vincenzi, Z Mensah, Reza Hessami, Anne Litchfield, Megan Eglsaer, Kristin Curtis, Natasha Horton, Marina Dyck, Krystal Ness, Erin Kamstra

Adoption of agenda – Janae Walters

Motion: Janae forwards

Motion: Natasha seconds

Adoption of May minutes – Janae Walters

Motion: Janae forwards

Motion: Maggie seconds

Principals Report - Martin Bozic and John Campbell:

- John Campbell, SD43 Principal for District Facilities and Initiatives, joined the meeting to discuss the need for an inclusive playground at Irvine.
 - Janae discussed sources for funding and read statements from the provincial Minister of Infrastructure and Minister of Education on the importance of playgrounds and specifically inclusive playgrounds that are accessible to all students.
 - Irvine has two students that have no access to any of our playground facilities. It is beyond the ability of our PAC to fundraise \$200,000+ for an inclusive playground.
 - Mr. Campbell spoke to the need for playgrounds as part of school development. There are levels to inclusive playgrounds – features that are

suitable for some, most, and all students. Need to get SD43 grounds staff to assess the suitability for additions to playgrounds. Next we will need to consider cost; older playground structures may need to be fully replaced. We would need to bring in vendors to get an idea of costs.

- Typically, district funds are not used to fund playgrounds. Sometimes small amounts can be filled in but not fully funded.
- For procurement, there are many rules and regulations that need to be followed. 2-3 vendors would give quotes. Safety inspections would follow.
- Regarding funding – the district practice is that the district does not fund playgrounds fully – schools and PACs are expected to contribute and it may take 5-10 years. Recent success has been using grants like the Variety grant which will match up to around \$10,000. Recycled tire companies have been known to give grants for playgrounds that include rubber pour material. Ministry of Education have grants as well, up to \$200,000 per year but the district can only submit up to 3 schools per year. Every playground gets inspected 4 times of year to assess condition and 'end of life' which may mean components can no longer be repaired. Some schools have several playgrounds, some have single old playgrounds. Those that only have one old playground that cannot be repaired are top of the list. Playground costs have spiked in recent years, which has made replacing or repairing playgrounds more difficult.
- We likely would need to do considerable fundraising prior to getting access to grants like the Variety grant.
- Question regarding the Purple Playground – it is quite new, would an addition be possible? Answer: Currently there is a portion with rubber base, but nothing on the playground for children with accessibility needs.
- Question – Port Coquitlam has a 'spirit' grant, is this an option? Answer: this comes from Gaming grants, however, in order to qualify the school must be on the list of 3 submitted to the province for provincial funds but did not receive access to the funds.
- Question: is there insurance in case of vandalism? Answer: once built, the district maintains it and will generally repair within nominal costs, which usually covers typical vandalism. Larger amounts would potentially require the school and PAC to fundraise.
- The district is also looking at materials and designs that are longer lasting as well as sourcing natural materials (logs, stones).
- Mr Campbell's advice for our school is to look at the options for adding to our playground at costs within reasonable reach for fundraising. Grounds staff can be involved to help reduce costs in some situations.
- Principal Bozic:
 - Suppliers for playgrounds – reached out and received some email responses. Inclusivity and accessibility are not the same thing. This is a relatively new area of focus for playgrounds and there are new options. Although our

playgrounds look like there is a lot of space, there are a lot of space requirements and rules for playground structures and there are not a lot of areas suitable for adding on. We will need to replace our entire lower playground in 10 years, so we don't want to make changes that will not work with a new playground. There are fairly simple options as well as new and interesting options. Mr Bozic is looking into an option that would be a rubber compound with some interactive features on it. Would look at building an accessible playground in phases. Looking at a quick solution for the existing students, and then longer term looking at something bigger that would require more fundraising. A few vendors will still be visiting in the coming weeks.

- Mme Zimmerman has organized Belgian waffle-making for all students – kids learning nutrition and cooking basics.
- Reading Link challenge starting soon – kids can join a team and read portion of books to answer comprehension questions, part of a competition. Organized by Mme Faulks.
- Learning updates will be out Nov 28th, encourage parents to view the report cards – approximately 40% of student report cards are not accessed in SD43.
- Winter concerts are on Dec 10th and 11th – 3 concerts.
- Lacrosse in January from PoCo Minor Lacross.
- Wish list from Ms. Trumpour – intermediate chapter books have recently been purchased for the school but there is need for lower reading level graphic sets for guided reading. Approximately \$900 was spent on the intermediate books, and would like a similar amount for the lower reading level books.
 - We have spent \$600 out of \$3000 budgeted for wishlist items, amount still remaining are earmarked for a ramp for the stage and a 'Kinder-garden'. Renting a ramp is expensive, purchasing from a vendor was \$5000; Mr Bozic will be building one, costs will just be supplies. If we spend \$1000 on books we will still have \$1400 for remainder of wish list

Motion to spend \$1000 on books for the school – forwarded by Janae
Seconded by Natasha
All in favour, Motion passes

- Question about HUB biking program 'Everyone Rides Grade 4-5' – Mr Bozic will bring up at the teacher's meeting in December.
 - The school needs to submit a response through the HUB organization. They offer in-school education on safe biking in communities including a classroom session and an outdoor course. Intended for grade 4&5 students to increase confidence in cycling in our community and encourage biking to school. Free, and HUB provides some bikes for students that need one, however the school will need to communicate with HUB regarding availability.

DPAC Debrief - Krystal Ness/Marina Dyck

- Great survey response to the 'capable connected contributing to community' survey. 2030 plan to be ready by February and there will be a new DPAC website as well.
- New schools in district – close to us, the Burke Mountain school will be a secondary school (grades 8+ for now). Still figuring out catchments, a survey was sent out recently.
- French advisory committee – FI enrollment is growing. Waitlists or due to not enough space – particularly related to shortage of teachers available to teach FI classes. SD43 has the most FI students in the province.
- Official language education program – switching to a needs-based program. Spending may be determined based on what schools need – teachers need to ask for things. Intended for supplies.
- Province is looking into investing \$30 million for funding for early literacy.
- Funding for French Immersion through Canadian Parents for FI, they need school representatives – for activities and events, we would need a volunteer for our school. It could be a very low involvement role.
- Members of anti-racism committee – gathering information, raising awareness. Survey will be sent to middle and high schools.
- Special speaker Dr. Shazya Karmali – on concussion awareness and the long-lasting effects of concussions. To find out more information visit cattonline.com. Can request information from DPAC.

Budget Update - Pauline Hwang

- General Account: approx. \$34,900
 - Coupon books from the last month – money has been finalized from this fundraiser.
- Gaming account: \$11,794
 - Mostly budgeted for buses.
- Brought in just under \$5000 with the coupon books, Mr. Bozic and Ms Trumpour got some creature 'love' from the Urban Safari demonstration.
- All 8 vendors booked for Breakfast with Santa
- Tennis is Fun – cost \$3400, sessions have been completed.
- Medical supplies purchased for the office.
- Griddles purchased for the school for future events – cost \$600, and made pancakes for the school in October.
- DJ for the dance (February) has been booked and paid for.

Grade 5 Committee Update – Shawna Vincenzi

- Year-end trip booked to Cultus Lake – June 12th, same day of Carnival, ok to be same day. Buses are booked.
- Neufeld Farms order – closes soon.
- Winter concert front row seat raffle coming soon, draw will happen on December 1st. The tickets will be 2 for \$5.
- Parent social night – looking into a different martial arts studio.
- Movie Night coming up on November 28th – the movie will be Elio, food orders will be live on Munch-a-lunch and the email will go out soon.
- School bake sale went well.
- Spirit Bear coffee fundraiser possible, may start soon.

Breakfast With Santa – Kirstin Curtis

- Same photographer as last year has been booked.
- Email sent out by Tammy today including a food survey. Volunteers needed, the link was included.
- Donations are being sourced from a lot of different businesses.
- Booking for gridles was cancelled due to our new gridles.
- Will see a few Port Coquitlam councilors there.
- Some supplies are starting to be picked up. Pancake mix on sale at Costco.
- Looking for high school volunteers. Could also get volunteers from older Scouts groups.

Roundtable Discussion

- Hamper update for vulnerable families in our school – Mr Bozic.
 - Confidential, and communicate with them for specific needs. Only Mr Bozic and the school counselor will be involved.
 - Intend to save funds for spring as well.
 - Gift cards are popular, can also include toys, specific items.
 - Local grocery stores may be willing to donate.
 - Can save some items from the school food drive.
- Next hot lunch – Dominoes Pizza, December 4th – offering some pasta dishes, deadline November 26th. The last hot lunch was Red Robin and had a great volunteer turnout.
- Division 1 and 12 won the coupon contest. Next year may consider a different school-wide reward.
- Created by Kids orders due today, art will be delivered to Photo Expressions on Monday

- Purdy fundraiser ongoing, upped our target goal.
- FundScrip Fundraiser (Gift Cards) - new and ongoing. Order forms out, can purchase gift cards and PAC will get a percentage. There are more than 200 participating retailers that give a percentage back when using "Support A Group" code **WRCXFR**. Great for prizes, gifts, or everyday purchases (some gift cards are reloadable).
- Next meeting is January 14th, no December meeting.

Adjourn meeting – Janae Walters

Motion: Janae forwards

Motion: Maggie seconds

Meeting adjourns at 8:46 pm