

Nov. 15 Minutes

Attending:

Dionne M (Chair), Samantha H (Vice-Chair), Jon L (co-Treasurer), Winson L (co-Treasurer), Lingly W (co-Secretary), Ledi D (co-Secretary), Jeff Johnston (Administration), Andrew S, Asuman, Carolyn F, Charlotte, Cheyna, Eleanor C, Fionc, Gargi D, Helen, Helmut, HM, HP-Dasa's iPhone, Ivy G, Iratzlaff, Jean, Jenny, John, Karen F-H, Karen L, Lucy L, Larissa R, Melanie K, Meng iPad, Nicole S, Nicole W-C, RTRA-Eréndira, Sibó N, Silvia, Sam C., Sue-Ann R, Tina, Vicky Y, Victor M.

Meeting Opened at: 7pm by Dionne

- Adoption of the Agenda: John and Winson
- Adoption of the Minutes: Charlotte and John
- Welcome and Introductions:
 - Dionne welcomed everyone to the meeting with the Land Acknowledgment.
 - Housekeeping reminders to mute microphones to minimize audio disturbance.
 - Last meeting of the 2022 year.
Some technical difficulties this evening. Challenges getting jeff to be cohost in order to share slides. Jon Lee - eelnoj@hotmail.com
- Principal's Report:
 - Gr.8 Day:
 - Picking a date for this event was challenging with location and date. In the end it was a great day for the Gr8's with the leadership students helping.
 - Some overheard comments was "I made new friends today" "older students are actually nice".
 - Some Gr8 has been inspired by the leadership students and look forward to playing that role in the future.
 - Remembrance Day:
 - Had a wonderful ceremony last week, due to capacities two events were held.
 - Students took a lot of the lead in organizing the event and it was nice to see the honoring of past veterans, indigenous and black veterans. Video and band was amazing with a nice presence of our cadets during marching in and a big compliment to our bugler. Students were also invited to attend the city hall event. Ken Hamaguchi attended as School Trustee.
 - Magic in the Classroom, a snapshot of what is happening around the school in 30mins.

- This time Block B activities around the school was captured.
- Engaged teachers and engaged students through out the school.
- 3wks ago on a Thursday morning some of the events witnessed around the school....
 - Physics class did an egg drop experiment in the rotunda that was amazing to watch. Some future engineers in the making.
 - Hands on learning on electricity in building a structure. EN12, instead of an essay on what students want to do after high school Ms. Philpot had students write valedictorian speeches and dressed up in gowns.
- New Logo - McMath Spirit Clothing
Orders due Nov. 25. Mr. Sharma got a few students to update school gear. New logo and look. Distribution Dec. 15/16
- Staffing News:
 - Ms. Saleme returning from leave and Mr. Mallari will be leaving. Both will be participating at upcoming parent conference meetings.
 - Mr. Luistro will be joining Jan. 3 as our 4th counsellor. Just in time for course planning and post secondary support
- Wildcats in Prov Champ
 - Cross country already competed a few weeks ago.
 - Boys soccer just qualified.
 - Volleyboy - senior and junior boys and girls.
 - Aquatics
- New Graduation Requirement for Grads of 2024
 - Secondary school students will be required to complete 4 credits of Indigenous-focused coursework to graduate starting Sept. 2023.
 - Effective for ALL students, Grade 8-11. Not current Grade 12's.
 - Update from Oct. Meeting: All Richmond High Schools will offer for students the choice of: English First People 12 (4 credits) or BC First People (4 credits).
 - Options for schools to offer - English First People's 10. Conversation starting on this at McMath.
- Upcoming Events and Dates:
 - Nov. 17 - Report Cards on MyEdBC
 - Nov. 18 - School Appointments opens at 6pm
 - Nov. 23 - Early dismissal at 12:55pm. Parent/Teacher Conference 2pm-4pm.
 - Nov. 24 - Early dismissal at 12:55pm. Parent/Teacher Conference 2pm-4pm and 6pm-8pm.
 - Nov. 25 - PD Day

- DAG 2023 - Nicole and Carolyn
 - Volunteers are needed for DAG. DAG is often run by Gr12 parents but it is encouraged that Gr.10 and Gr. 11 parents help the evening of to learn what it takes to run the event.
 - Had 1 meeting on Nov. 2, about 25 parents showed up. About 10 stepped up to chair committees. There is a list of committees that are required to run DAG if anyone is interested.
 - Instagram page created to update and inform school community, info on WAG. <https://www.instagram.com/mcmathdag2023/>
DAG email address: mcmathdag2023@gmail.com
 - Nicole thinks the committee is doing ok. A few more Chair roles to fill for Decoration and maybe Fundraising.
 - DAG is a very easy to run event. Would like to see more parents come out and help. The more help the better. Carolyn is optimistic more parents will step up.
 - If you have donation, fundraising idea or any suggestions for the event, email mcmathdag2023@gmail.com. All ideas and suggested are welcomed.
 - Biweekly meeting are held leading up to event but until then once a month for an hour.
 - June 27 is day of DAG event.
 - Nov. 22 is next meeting.

- RDPA - Andrew S.
 - Not a lot to report.
 - Swearing in of new board took place.
 - Nov. 24, RDPA is hosting Cyber Safe from Exploration as Parent Education Night for all parents. Registration is required. Information will be emailed to PACs and post on RDPA social media sites.

- Treasury - John and Winson
 - No movement since last month. Balance remains the same as last month.
 - Drone request had been withdrawn due to local bylaw on drone use in the city.

- Questions from Parents:
 - Will the old Wild Cat logo disappear?
Answer: No, 2 images are available. Original image was just refreshed. On sizing, same as last year. Email school if special sizing is needed and office will work with student.
 - PAC purchased tents that were put into good use on Grade 8 day. It was even used in Victoria for cross country events and will be going to other sporting events. It was also suggested they can be used for Grad events.

- What does Parent/Teacher conference booking look like?
Conference block time is 5mins or 10min with buffer time between each booking. Previous years it was 8min chat with 2min travel. This year there is logistic change from the rotunda and upstairs. This is for better traffic flow and acoustic, there had been issues in the past.
- Has it been considered to have conferences in teachers' classrooms?
Logistically challenging since time is so short. Parents are encouraged to email or reach out to teachers if they have concerns that can be discussed outside of 8min time. Had explored Teams for video calls but there were challenges. Going back in person with leadership kids to help was considered the best option for the conference.
- Is BC First People a Grade 12 course?
Yes it is a Grade 12 course.
- Are current teachers trained on the new course or are First Nations hired?
District is hiring for that. Some other schools have already piloted this. Several Richmond teachers (7 English teachers) will be traveling to piloted schools to share experience. Musqueam nation is offering input on curriculum.
- Are volunteer hours required for graduation?
Yes it is required. It's part of Career program and will be directed through their PE class. Lots of questions on how hours can be applied. Some students are told it's term based and not annual. **Jeff to follow up the next meeting to clarify criteria.**

If students are looking for opportunities there are several local sites:

- <https://www.rcrg.org/VolunteerNow>
- the City's <https://icanhelp.richmond.ca/custom/501/>.
- <https://richmondtherapeuticriding.com>
- https://www.google.ca/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjMp7ml6LH7AhVLMjQIHsXrBRQQ_Bd6BAhqEAM&url=http%3A%2F%2Fres.richmond.com%2F&usq=AOvVaw21tT5b8AOxySK8ZeRX6WSS
- There are also lots of opportunities within the school. Students encouraged to speak with teachers.

- Does the new Indigenous Graduation Requirement qualify for university/collages application:
Yes it is recognized as a social studies course.
- Rainbow Crosswalks. How are other schools having Rainbow crosswalks done. Is there not any funding through Diversity and Inclusion?
Richmond District has no funding, it is up to PAC to fund painting of crosswalks. The District will offer the manpower to do the painting. Paint use is a special paint and expensive, about \$2000-\$2500 per crosswalk. Several schools had their crosswalks painted-Cambie, Homma and McNeil.
Jeff said SOGI and the Social Justice club had spoken with Administration if they can tap into Gaming Grant. District in review and work may be done in spring. District can only do so many in a year, up to 2-4 per year. Students can help and

make it a learning experience. Mcmath will continue to push for a 2023 completion. **Jeff to update next meeting.**

- NO meeting in Dec. Jan. 17 next meeting. PAC always available via email. Middle of next month a reminder will go out for Jan meeting.
- For future meeting, vote put on table on whether to be in person or continue with zoom.
- Most seem to prefer to continue with zoom meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 8:07pm, Andrew Motion and Second by John.