

Clearspring Middle School PAC Meeting

Thursday, January 23, 2025 @ Noon in the Conference Room

Attendance: Merrilee Plett, Candace Campbell, Sherri Trinh, Melissa Thiessen, Cara Duerksen, Jody Klebert, Janelle Unrau, Carla Barkman, Amanda Manchulenko

1. Welcome – Melissa Thiessen

- a. Call to order at 12:02 pm

2. Adoption of Minutes from November 28, 2024 meeting – Melissa Thiessen

- a. Moved by Jody Klebert. 2nd by Janelle Unrau

3. Adoption of Agenda – Melissa Thiessen

- a. Moved by Janelle Unrau. 2nd by Jody Klebert

4. Treasurer Report – Janelle Unrau

- a. See handout
- b. Signing authority needs to be updated on PAC accounts. Cara Duerksen has agreed to have her name added. Melissa Thiessen has sent an email to the SCU. Still waiting to hear back from them.

5. Principal Report – Merrilee Plett

- a. Positive Feedback from families in response to adding an afternoon Christmas concert for Grade 5's. It was less crowded at both shows.
Parking was also easier to navigate
 - i. Only issue was that families came quite a bit early before the afternoon show, causing some congestion in the MPR. Students were still receiving hot lunch at this time. Will discuss how to navigate this next season.
- b. Basketball is underway. Extremely happy by the willingness of parent volunteers.
 - i. Teams are using Team linked App to communicate with families.
- c. Grade 8 transition to SRSS
 - i. Feb 10th – SRSS counselors will come to CMS to discuss expectations.
 - li. Feb 20th – Grade 8 students will receive a tour of the SRSS. There will be roughly 160 students attending this exploratory tour.
 - lii. Feb 20th – evening open house for families. Families will receive information about this event.
- d. Grade 6 Musical
 - i. Auditions are underway. Includes 2 casts.

- e. Grade 8 Ski Trip to Falcon Lake
 - i. In order to accommodate large class sizes, classes will be split and attend on either February 13th or 14th. High turnout of students attending.
 - ii. Still looking for more volunteers!!!!**
 - iii. There is an opportunity for subsidizing funds for this event.
- f. Upcoming dates:
 - i. Book Fair February 10-14th.
 - *Family day will be on Wednesday February 12th.
 - ii. Grade 7 field trip to Festival Du Voyageur
 - iii. Grade 7 classes will watch the Red River dancers at CMS
 - iv. Grade 5 classes will experience a Festival Du Voyageur day at CMS
 - v. Grade 6 classes will attend field trip to Manitoba Museum on February 20th or 21st.
 - vi. Teacher/ staff appreciation is on February 9-15th
 - vii. February also includes Mental health week, Black History month, and I Love to read.
 - viii. No school on January 31st, February 27 & 28th.
 - ix. Portfolio evening on March 26th
- g. Teaching Staff will have the opportunity to hear Karen Filewych on Jan 31st.
 - i. Karen has over 25 years of educational experience as an elementary Teacher, school administrator, and language arts consultant. Karen will work alongside staff to help build writing skills for students.
- h. Teaching Staff will be attending workshops on February 27th & 28th.

6. Questions & Responses to Principal Report – Melissa Thiessen

- a. Melissa Thiessen brought forward a question that was emailed by a parent, whether the healthy lifestyles class will be taught together or separate.
 - i. This is a Divisional decision. Grade 5 students are taught separately, & Grade 7 students will be together. Students will receive this discussion in March.
- b. A parent inquired why an actual bathroom pass is required to go to the bathroom.
 - i. Passes are required to eliminate confusion within the class and to manage the classroom efficiently.
 - ii. Each teacher will make this decision for their own classroom.

7. Grade 8 Farewell – Melissa Thiessen

- a. Friedensfeld Hall was originally booked for June 24th, 2025.
- b. This date will need to be rescheduled as it falls on the SRSS Grad.
- c. Looking into alternate dates.
 - i. Need to establish a planning committee

8. Staff Appreciation – Melissa Thiessen

- a. Christmas staff appreciation was a huge success!
- b. Next staff appreciation is scheduled for February 10th.
- c. Sign up genius will be created.

9. Next Meeting – Thursday March 6th at Noon

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.