

Clearspring Middle School PAC Meeting

Tuesday, January 13th, 2026 at noon in the conference room

Attendance: Merrilee Plett, Candace Campbell, Janelle Unrau, Carla Barkman, Kali Dyck, Angela Plett, Cara Duerksen, Kelly Friesen

Welcome – Call to order at 11:59 am

1. Adoption of Minutes from November 25, 2025 meeting – Cara Duerksen
 - a. Moved by Cara Duerksen, 2nd by Carla Barkman

2. Adoption of the Agenda – Cara Duerksen
 - a. Moved by Kali Dyck, 2nd by Angela Plett

3. Treasurer Report – Kali Dyck
 - a. Staff appreciation funds: Opening Balance: \$225.53
December transfers: \$228.00
Funds spent in Dec. \$159.97
Remaining funds: \$293.56
*Remaining funds will be used for future staff appreciation
 - b. Closing balance \$3, 041.33

4. Principal Report – Merrilee Plett
 - a. Merrilee is back from a short leave in December.
 - i. Currently working Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
 - ii. Brent Giesbrecht is acting principal Thursday, Friday
 - iii. A huge THANK YOU to both Brent Giesbrecht and Candace Campbell for filling in during this time.

 - b. The talent show will be rescheduled for the week before Spring Break. Date to be determined.

 - c. The two day school closure prior to Christmas break was a first for the division. A handful of students left winter gear and other items at the school. Plans will be put in place if this should occur in the future.

 - d. Dawn Gautron (Grade 6) will be on a 6-8 week leave.
 - i. Finding a replacement was initially a challenge
 - ii. Filled positions internally
 - iii. Melissa Hiebert (currently ½ time learning support) will fill in full time in 6DG.
 - iv. Karla Lysak (currently ½ time learning) will move into full time learning support.

- v. Ed Neufeld will fill in ½ time learning support in the mornings.
- e. Basketball is underway
 - i. Able to find coaches for all teams!
 - ii. 6 teams including 2 teams- Grade 7 boys, 2 teams- Grade 7 girls. 1 team- grade 8 boys, 1 team- grade 8 girls.
- f. Musical – Grade 6 musical is Frozen. Musical preparation has begun.
 - i. Auditions will take place January 12-16th.
- g. Chess club has begun.
 - i. Over 100 students have signed up. Arlene Baldwin is in charge of organizing this event.
- h. Planning for next fall for students attending SRSS. Often brings a variety of moods (excitement and increased anxiety)
 - i. SRSS does a great job with helping students transition to the Highschool.
 - ii. Receive tour of school, help select classes & vocations, SRSS counsellors attend CMS, student care team meet to navigate extra support for students.

Important Dates: January 23/30th – Grade 5 classes will go bowling
 February 9-13th Book Fair (family evening Feb 11th)
 February 19/20th – Grade 6/s at the Manitoba Museum
 Grade 5 classes will have a festival day at CMS
 February 2/16/27 – No classes

- i. Steinbach Bylaw officer visited CMS to help direct traffic.
 - i. Bylaw officer and staff could work together to help guide the morning rush.
 - ii. There have been a number of complaints over the years about the morning and afternoon traffic rush.
 - iii. This is a City related issue and not divisional.
 - iv. Any complaints can be made to the city of Steinbach.

5. Questions/Response to Principal Report

- i. Question was raised in response to the initial problem of finding sufficient Basketball coaches. Parents will receive a questionnaire in June about interest and volunteering for volleyball season.
 - A thought was to offer the same questionnaire for basketball. Allowing parents time to get their volunteer checks completed and offer support to the phys-ed department.

6. Grade 8 Farewell

- i. Friedensfeld Hall is booked for June 25th, 2026
- ii. PAC will initiate planning the first meeting, which is typically in February.
- iii. Merrilee will provide information at this first meeting (only)
- iv. A committee will be formed going forward

7. Staff Appreciation – Next date is to be determined

8. Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 17th 2026, from 12-1pm.

Meeting adjourned at 12:43pm