

Sands Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Location	Library and via Zoom
Meeting Date:	October 17, 2023
Meeting Time:	7:18 p.m.
Meeting Facilitator:	Roshael Slezash
Attendees:	President: vacant Vice President: Roshael Slezash Treasurer: Suzana Topic Secretary: Elaine Addison DPAC representative: vacant Dry Grad Liaison: vacant Emergency Preparedness: vacant Principal: Rick Mesich Attendees: Amanda B., Andy S., Lindsey M., George T., Leanne S., Olivia H., Raj D., Anneliese D. Regrets: Catharine Russell

Land Acknowledgement

Welcome and new introductions

Minutes from Previous Meeting

- approved

Principal's Update

- Welcome to new staff member Ms. Vandop (Community Ambassadors, English First People's 11 and Social Studies 8)
- Informal Update
 - Informal Updates will be provided to families whose child is achieving 60% or less in each course in grades 10-12 or "Emerging" in a given class in grades 8 and 9. If a family does not receive any Informal Update reports from their child's teachers, then the family can assume their child is achieving greater than 60% or is higher on the Proficiency Scale. The Informal Update (Interim) will be posted on

Thursday, October 19th .

- Take Our Kids to Work – Wednesday, November 1st
 - This year families may participate in having their child visit their workplace on November 1st . We are expecting the vast majority of grade 9 students to attend a work site. For students who do not participate, there will be an alternative assignment in the library for the day.

- Provincial Assessments
 - During the week of October 30th, students in grades 10 and 12 will be completing the Provincial Assessments in Literacy and Numeracy. The completion of all of these assessments is a graduation requirement. The Assessment Schedule will be:
 - Monday, October 30th Literacy 10 Assessment Morning
 - Wednesday, November 1st Literacy 12 Assessment Afternoon
 - Friday, November 3rd Numeracy 10 Assessment Morning

- Feeding Futures Grant
 - This grant replaces the Student and Family Affordability Grant from last year and the scope of the grant is limited to only cover food costs.
 - Eligible expenses for the Feeding Futures Grant are:
 - Food costs required for the delivery of food programs to feed students who need it most.
 - Food costs for Culinary Arts programs, if the food produced by the program is provided to students in need.
 - Grocery store gift cards for students who need them most.
 - Sands Secondary has been provided \$21,767.

- Family Presentation Series:
 - Virtual Event: Working Together: Families and Schools
 - Description: When our kids struggle with their mental health, challenges can often have a great impact on their school experience. As parents, how do we take that first step and let the school know what is going on with our family? What are the supportive options available to my child? It can be hard to know where to begin and we may worry we will be judged for the difficulties our child is facing. Join us to watch a video which includes how a strength based perspective can help us collaborate.
 - Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)
 - Dates: October 26th 6pm-7:30pm

- Homework Club
 - Sands Secondary offers many opportunities to support students in getting extra help with their course work. Another student opportunity is the Homework Club that takes place every Wednesday after school in the Library from 3:00pm - 4:00pm. Ms. Lee and Ms. Papakosta sponsor the Homework Club and have assembled a group of dedicated and knowledgeable Peer Mentors to help students. We encourage all students to use this school support.

- Europe Trip 2025
 - There will be an information session on Tuesday, October 24 th at 7:00pm in the Sands Secondary Library for families whose children are in grades 9, 10 and 11 currently. The Europe Trip will take place during Spring Break of 2025 and will visit Rome and cities in France. If students or parents are unable to attend the meeting, please have your child speak to Ms. Nikas or Ms. McCutcheon.

- Grade 12 Scholarship and Post Secondary Evening
 - Ms. Sansregret, Career Advisor, will be having a presentation for all grade 12 students and families on Wednesday, November 1st at 6:00pm in Sands Secondary's library. The presentation should be approximately 30 minutes in length with a question and answer session immediately following.

- Community Ambassadors Class
 - Ms. Vandop's class has planned and executed several school wide events over the course of the first month of school.

- Terry Fox Run (September 21st): The entire school participated with the students collecting over \$500 to donate.
- Truth & Reconciliation Ceremony held (September 29th)
- Remembrance Day Ceremony is upcoming (November 9th)
- Sands Secondary's 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held in 2024 (May 3rd)

Treasurer's Report: Suzana Topic

- Some funds left over from last year, around \$2000 as Safeteen event was not held
- \$14,220 received this year for disbursement
- Applications have been collected and will be put into a spreadsheet that will be shared prior to next meeting

DPAC update: Catharine Russell

- District Trustee Roundtable Meeting to be reported on at a later date

Other Business:

- Elections for all PAC positions to be held.
 - Nominations: Elaine/President, Suzana/Treasurer, Roshael/Vice, Amanda/secretary, Catharine/DPAC, Lindsey/Emergency Prep, Andy/Dry Grad
 - Positions filled by acclamation as no other candidates came forth nor were there any objections.
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Next Meeting

- November 21, 2023
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Adjourned: 8:00