

Yarrow Community School PAC Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2025 - 7:00PM School Library

Attendees- Emily McLean, Maddie Kuyek, Amanda Peters, Katelin Towle, Charlotte DeBruyn, Dana Swinden, Darlene Gooch, Nicole Walters, Jaime-Lynn Kampman, Frank, Jamie Kulmatycki, Melissa Tschritter-Reeves, Jenna Gardner, Angela Johnson, Danae Haviland, Jacqueline Wiebe, Ashley Bowker, Natasha Vandiermen, Aimee McAllister, Marie Vroom, Leanne Letham.

1. Welcome/Call to order-
2. Approval of Agenda-
3. Introduction- Everyone introduced themselves.
4. Group Brainstorm and Discussion

Brainstorm work categories.

We had 4 pieces of papers, each with their own category. We then broke into 4 groups and took about 5 minutes on each category to write down ideas/questions/concerns. PAC will meet later on in the month to go over all these.

Categories were:

- Events
- Fundraising
- Hot lunch
- Random Questions

5. Principal's report- Charlotte DeBruyn

OUR MISSION at Yarrow is a cooperative dedicated community team that is dedicated to empower the children to become self-reliant problem solvers and risk takers.

OUR GOALS

- Social responsibility
- Thinking skills
- Improve literacy

Bench Marks from 2022-2024

2022 benchmarked between 74-95. In 2023 they were lower by a few and now in 2024 they are higher which means the school is working hard to help the children with those three goals. The learning assistant teachers and other teachers really come together to help these children.

In 2023 we didn't have a lot of kids extending but a few emerging. There is more growth this year.

The school district has a strategic plan. Our staff decided we are doing really well in literacy, high quality instruction, and we have time this year to do some numeracy intervention groups if necessary. Human and social development is continual learning and teaching of truth and reconciliation.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

- All the kids have a buddy this year. Our focus this month is how to have friends and maintain those friends. Mr. Giwa is helping out in this area. Every grade will have a buddy. Buddies will stay together for the whole year.
- PAWS forms are when the kids make poor choices and they go home with the child. This will talk them through the poor choice they make and how to make it better and/prevent it from happening again.

BUDGET

Ways PAC has supported the school and some new ideas.

- Trust Fund \$300 per division for incidental and field trips
- Terry fox and oranges or freezies in the class after
- Ongoing tech support-for Apple products
- Year end field trips
- IDEA-Chilliwack kids theater - Percy Jackson Musical - maybe grade 3-5 to go and see

COMMUNICATION

- Open door policy at the office - come with any concerns anytime.
- Monthly newsletters
- Weekly emails
- Drops ins
- Phone calls

FEEDING FUTURES FOOD CART

- It provides access to healthy food options in a stigma and barrier free way that enables students to be ready to learn. These carts are customizable to individual schools' needs and can be stocked accordingly.
- Emily Powers is the EA here and she goes to meetings with the district for this food cart. She mentioned that another school take some of our food budget since these places don't have enough to feed their kids whereas we have an abundance of it left.
- We don't want to turn any child away from this cart. Charlotte is finding that lots of kids are taking food before and after school even if they brought their own. However, Charlotte thinks this is a novelty at the moment and it will wear off eventually. If we have fruit or milk that will go bad, it will be passed around to the classes to make sure nothing goes to waste.
- The cart has a variety of food including little pancakes, cream cheese for the bagels and melba toast, plums.
- It gets replenished every day.
- The school is trying to finesse everything at the moment.
- The kids are allowed to walk into the school during lunch and recess to grab a snack as the cart lives in one specific area.

We are hoping the Oodle swing will be put in within the next few weeks.

6. Chair Report- Leanne Letham

Glad everyone is here and involved. It takes a lot of volunteers to help things get done for the school. We are always looking for parent input.

- Ideas for the year. We will read the brainstorm papers to see what ideas we can use.
- Volunteers
 - Natasha is taking over Munchalunch. Please reach out if you have time to help with this.
 - We have a great team for movie night (Sherisse Ellerby) and popcorn days (Andrea Rezends) who will help run the events.
 - We put out calls on the facebook page asking for volunteers
- We are not doing the auction this year. We think every two years would be better.

7. Treasurer Report - Aimee McAllister

- At the beginning of September there was almost \$3000 in the main account and \$1400 in the gaming account. Not alot to report on right now as school has just begun.

8. Committee Reports

- Fundraising - Marie Vroom
 - We are doing a new one called Fresh to You - a produce box. More info on that soon.
 - Purdys, So Luxury, West Coast Seeds, Neufelds, Coupon books are all fundraising events that Marie has lined up so far.
- Hot Lunch Natasha Vandiermen & Aimee McAllister
 - Natasha is learning the system & will post volunteer opportunities for hot lunch distribution on a google doc on the Yarrow PAC page.
- Events Leanne Letham
 - Movie night- Sherrise has put together movie night ideas and are looking for people who would like to sponsor each night.
 - Popcorn day- \$1 per popcorn. Cash brought down by each child or by the teacher.

Adjournment -Jenna Gardner , Maddie Kuyek

Next Meeting - Tuesday, October 29th @ 7pm