***Minutes***

**Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2019**

**Time:**  7:00 pm

**Location:** School Library

**Chair:** Peggy Lee

Attendance: 60+ parents

| **Description** | **Speaker** |
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| Welcome and Introductions* Introduced the members of the past PAC
* Introduced Mr. Scott McKeen (teacher representative)
* Vice Principals Ms. Iqbal Gill (new to Byng this year); Mr. Mike Vulgaris
* Introduced Principal Mr. Geoff Taylor
 | P. Lee |
| Chair Announcements* Reviewed the purpose and function of PAC
	+ Complement and support teachers and administrative staff
	+ Share parental views, communicate school activities, provide forum for the exchange of ideas
	+ Fund raising
* Explained the difference between gaming grant and general funds
	+ Applied for gaming grant. Anticipate funding in October
	+ Strict gaming grant guidelines (school based extracurricular activities)
	+ Try to allocate money in activities that will impact as many students as possible
 | P. Lee |
| Financial report (2018 – 2019 school year)* Roughly 6K left in gaming grant funds after payment of last year’s wish list request
* Roughly 2K left in general funds
 | P. Lee |
| PAC Steering Committee Election results* Co Chairs: Grace Liu/Tammy Baltz
* Vice Chair: Christine Macdougall
* Secretary: Kristin McAllister
* Treasurer: Phyllis Zhou
* DPAC Rep: Sang Mah
* Past Chair: Peggy Lee

Motion: Karen TsangSecond: Erin McDougallNo ObjectionsMotion Passed | P. Lee |
| DPAC report* Advocacy Project – parent volunteer that parents can call upon to attend school meetings with you.
* Advocates help research information. They do not advise (as they are parent volunteers not trained professionals)
* Climate Strike on Friday (VSB supported)
 | K. Tsang |
| Teacher’s Report* Mediator appointed early in negotiations. This is a positive sign.
* Concern with the amount of funding in education
* One of the lowest starting salaries for teachers (but the Province is doing well)
* Expensive city to live in. Need better wages to attract teachers
* 50% retention rate of teachers after 5 years
 | S. McKeen |
| Principal’s Report* Most timetables are complete
* Wait list for calculus
* Working on alternative for jazz band
* Lots of intramural activities
* Friday – also Terry Fox run
 | G. Taylor |
| Discussion about racism *Post-script:* Following several comments made at the PAC meeting on September 25th regarding racism at Lord Byng, the PAC would like to re-affirm its commitment to support initiatives that will foster inclusivity. And while we cannot engage in discussions about specific cases we do welcome any suggestions to help combat racism and build an inclusive environment for everyone amongst the Byng community. In addition, the PAC is open to establishing an anti-racism subcommittee if there is sufficient interest in participating. Please email *lordbyngschoolpac@gmail.com* if you have any suggestions or if you are interested in volunteering on the sub-committee.  |  |