

**Eric Hamber Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**

PAC Meeting Minutes October 01, 2014
19:00 pm – 20:30 pm
Eric Hamber Staff Room

PAC EXECUTIVE:

- Chair: Nathan Wilkes
- Treasurer: Jennifer Ma
- Secretary: TBA

PAC Executives Present: Nathan Wilkes

Staff Present: Alex Grant, Max Todd

Parents present:

Agenda Item	Discussion
Call to order	7:00 pm
1. Welcome and introduction to 2014/2015 PAC executive (Nathan)	No secretary currently - usual duties minute taking and signing authority. Keep connected with PAC through the meeting notes on PAC website, PAC twitter feed, and the email list (you can subscribe/unsubscribe at any time).
2. Welcome remarks (Nathan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary position • http://hamberpac.ca • @HamberPac <p>Minutes from May 2014 were moved and accepted, motion carried. Meeting agenda moved and carried.</p>
3. Principal's report (Alex Grant)	Thanked parents for coming out and hopes that attendance will remain high. Staff are currently working to ensure timetable issues are sorted out, with as few interruptions to class as possible. For example, assemblies were held on the first day rather than during teaching days. The assembly for Grade 12 was held mostly during break and reading. Timetable conflicts were not sorted in June or August due to the strike, but this has been worked on since classes began. Over 150 students had to be adjusted due to the cancellation of summer school. Class composition was sorted out by staff before teachers arrived. The school learned this week the process for applying for Education Fund money for class size and composition. The ESL class is currently overloaded. Hiring of new teachers is being done. Some classes started the year with subs but this has been sorted. There

	<p>are a few postings still outstanding which will be completed next week. First classes have been very productive. The ProD day will be rescheduled. Staff meeting coming on Friday, which Nathan will attend. Enrolment is 30 students below, but there is a wait list so some spots should be filled. Grade 10 is full, but other grades have space. Hopefully most will fill up. Total students 1562 as of today, including 83 at Total Education. The province will not enforce the minimum required number of hours in School Act. First term scheduling will be discussed on Friday's staff meeting.</p>
<p>4. Teacher's report (Max Todd)</p>	<p>Teacher liaison is a conduit between staff and parents. Mr. Todd thanked parents for support during strike, for teachers and for public education. There will be lots to report at future meetings.</p>
<p>5. Hamber Student Council (president)</p>	<p>Robert Chun discussed council goals: to raise school spirit; to raise awareness through a school YouTube channel; planning the biannual carnival in May; Halloween dance; student council retreat next week; canned food drive end of term (let's beat Churchill!)</p>
<p>6. Budget process for 2014/15</p>	<p>Permitted use of gaming funds explained: extra curricular activities, extension of student experience, ie. fashion competition, dragon boat competition, volleyball uniforms, etc. PAC aims to cover a broad spectrum of activities. Deadlines pushed back due to strike. If something needs immediate funding, PAC can use the surplus, or sometimes arrangements can be made with the school to cover cash flow. PAC votes on dispersal of funds; attending meetings means you get a say. We will attempt to have a vote on gaming funds in November, PAC will communicate regarding this.</p> <p>***</p> <p>Treasurer's report: there is \$3000 surplus of gaming funds from last year. Operating account is at around \$9500 (any purpose money); this was a onetime influx of cash that is not replenished. We will need a treasurer next year as Jennifer will step down at the end of the school year.</p> <p>Question: Are most requests granted? Typically, requests double the available funds. Some requests don't qualify for gaming funds, some requests are simply too big. PAC decides what to fund based on parent priorities– all input into decision making is welcomed. Sometimes we partially fund things so that we can support more stuff.</p> <p>It was suggested that we use gaming funds to cover PAC admin</p>

	<p>costs (typically ~\$250/year). Motion proposed and carried.</p> <p>PAC fundraising: funds can only be raised if parents support it. If there's interest in driving something to achieve something in terms of fundraising, it would take a handful of parents to take that on. In general there is a gradual attrition of interest. We could have a tremendous impact with more fundraising, but there need to be parent drivers. Fundraising is done on a departmental level throughout the school as well.</p>
7. Active transportation improvements (Nathan)	<p>Over the last two years, Nathan has been working with the city, the VSB, the school, and HUB to address the concerns about accessing the school, by car, bike, and foot. Changes upcoming this year: 35th Avenue has been blocked off, and a new bike path is being laid on the west side of Willow to the north of the school. A traffic light is going in at Willow and 33rd. Parking regulations have changed on 37th, there is two hour parking during school hours, which can be used for drop off. This could potentially be made larger if there is need. The goal is to have fewer cars going through Willow and creating a blockage. If you have any thoughts or feedback, Nathan (not as chair, but as Active Transportation Committee rep) welcomes your comments. The Committee is working with residents, school, teachers, parents, and students to make things safer. Mr. Grant encourages parents not to use Willow for dropoff - if you must, please enter from 37th, and exit from 33rd.</p>
8. Adjournment	Thank you! Meeting adjourned!
9. Next PAC Meeting	November 5