Minutes Carnarvon PAC meeting September 9, 2025

SUMMARY

The meeting focused on various aspects of school operations, including student enrollment, staffing updates, and initiatives to enhance student engagement. With 312 students enrolled, the school has hired two new teachers and is implementing a student roundtable for feedback. Budget discussions highlighted the need for inclusivity in funding, particularly regarding field trips and curriculum-related fees. Concerns were raised about the costs of events like the pumpkin patch and Halloween activities, leading to decisions on cost management strategies. Fundraising efforts, including a successful direct drive, were reviewed, and plans for upcoming events such as a Parents' night and Kidpreneur event were established. Additionally, strategies for improving community engagement and volunteer recruitment were discussed, alongside updates on the pickleball program and potential partnerships for funding.

NEXT STEPS

→ Teachers to assess writing assessments on September 19th during the ProD day. **(07:11)**

→ Mr. Murphy to lead student council activities to enhance school spirit and interaction. **(10:05)**

→ Mr. Murphy to establish a student roundtable for check-ins and feedback on school activities. **(10:45)**

→ Mr, Murphy to investigate the feasibility of creating an outdoor classroom with grounds. **(12:26)**

→ Teachers to assess students on skills after instruction for activities like pickleball, ensuring compliance with new guidelines. **(14:32)**

→ Parents to be informed about optional field trips and the new fee structure. **(15:16)**

→ Families needing financial assistance for field trips to contact the school office. **(16:44)**

→ Mr. Murphy to email regarding the iPad lease card status and options for handling it. **(23:12)**

- Kristen to order spirit wear items for the welcome back barbecue. (25:21)
- PAC to explore options for reducing pumpkin delivery costs, including parent volunteers. (28:44)
- Erin to continue collecting Halloween decorations and props throughout the year to reduce costs. (34:06)
- Natasha to ensure photo consent is obtained for kids modeling jerseys during events. (35:02)
- The team to finalize the fundraising strategy based on the success of the direct drive and community feedback. (39:22)
- Erin to develop a committee for the Monster Mash and maze events. (45:49)
- Erin to reach out to the community for donations for the kids' gift bazaar. (48:35)
- Erin to manage barbecue logistics since the original organizer will not be present. (55:55)
- Nina to send over the contract for the barbecue reservation. (56:07)
- Natasha to resend email sign-up requests to new parents to increase engagement. (58:12)
- Natasha to update the survey to include a question about being a class rep and sharing email addresses. (01:05:17)
- Eric to follow up on the Safe Schools Together program for caregiver sessions on digital literacy and cyberbullying. (01:09:46)
- Explore potential partnerships with other schools based on participant interest. (01:10:21)

Topics & Highlights

View Meeting

1. Introductions and Welcome (00:00)

• David, the principal, mentioned he has 312 kids at the school. (01:05)

2. Student Enrollment and Staffing Updates (04:56)

• The school has 312 students enrolled this year, maintaining previous projections. (04:57)

• Two new teachers, Mr. Blaine and Ms. Weizan, have been hired for a grade four or five class. (05:55)

• Teachers to assess writing assessments on September 19th during the ProD day. (07:11)

3. Student Engagement Initiatives (10:34)

•Mr. Murphy to establish a student roundtable for check-ins and feedback on school activities. (10:45)

• The school will collaborate with the PAC and grounds to explore a mural project. (11:31)

• Funding for the mural would be split equally between the school and the PAC. (12:05)

• Mr, Murphy to investigate the feasibility of creating an outdoor classroom with grounds. (12:26)

• Changes in school board guidelines will impact how fees are charged for curriculum-related activities. (13:05)

• Teachers to assess students on skills after instruction for activities like pickleball, ensuring compliance with new guidelines. (14:32)

• Parents to be informed about optional field trips and the new fee structure. (15:16)

• Field trips will now be optional, requiring parental consent and interest to proceed. (15:16)

• Families needing financial assistance for field trips to contact the school office. (16:44)

4. Budget and Funding for Activities (17:11)

• Some textbooks cost approximately $30 to $32 each, and schools cannot charge families for them anymore. (18:56)

• Concerns raised about the impact of inclusivity on funding and potential legal issues. (19:49)

• Staff to process the implications of funding changes and discuss field trip costs over the next few months. (21:26)

5. iPad Lease Card Status (22:55)

• Mr. Murphy to email regarding the iPad lease card status and options for handling it. (23:12)

6. Hot Lunch Program (23:40)

• Pizza will be offered on Wednesdays and Bittersweet on Fridays, with ordering deadlines specified. (23:45)

• Kristen to order spirit wear items for the welcome back barbecue. (25:21)

• The pumpkin patch event cost has increased significantly over the years, raising concerns about its funding and popularity. (26:46)

7. Pumpkin Patch Event Discussion (27:34)

• The pumpkin patch event allows children to pick pumpkins and take them home. (27:51)

• Concerns about the cost of pumpkin delivery and whether it can be reduced. (28:14)

• Participants to explore options for reducing pumpkin delivery costs, including parent volunteers. (28:44)

• It was decided to look into the pumpkin patch event for primary students. (29:31)

8. Budget Concerns for Halloween Events (32:17)

• The previous year's Halloween event was over budget, raising concerns about future costs. (32:46)

• It was agreed to gather props and resources for Halloween events to manage costs effectively. (33:30)

• Erin to continue collecting Halloween decorations and props throughout the year to reduce costs. (34:06)

• Natasha to ensure photo consent is obtained for kids modeling jerseys during events. (35:02)

9. Direct Drive Fundraising Strategy (36:48)

• Last year's direct drive raised $17,500, which was successful. (37:43)

• The group decided to consider continuing the direct drive fundraising approach as done last year. (39:04)

• The team to finalize the fundraising strategy based on the success of the direct drive and community feedback. (39:22)

• Current accessible funds in the bank account are approximately $38,000. (41:11)

10. Fundraising Strategy Discussion (42:34)

• Difficulty in finding volunteers for fundraising events. (42:56)

• Previous fundraising raised approximately $11,900, aiming for $12,000 this year. (43:14)

• Erin to develop a committee for the Monster Mash and maze events. (45:49)

• Erin to reach out to the community for donations for the kids' gift bazaar. (48:35)

11. Upcoming Events Planning (48:51)

• Parents night is scheduled for February 19th, and the Kidpreneur event is on May 11th. (48:51)

• • It was decided to consider a silent auction for the Parents' night, similar to Bayview's successful event. (51:19)

• Bayview raised $27,000 from their silent auction, which covered their entire budget for the year. (52:48)

12. Barbecue Planning and Logistics (55:09)

• Kerrisdale Equipment is the cheapest option at $400, while others are around $900. (55:29)

• It was decided to reserve the barbecue with Kerrisdale Equipment and have Erin as the contact person. (55:55)

• Erin to manage barbecue logistics since Nina will not be present. (55:55)

• Nina to send over the contract for the barbecue reservation. (56:07)

13. Event Engagement Strategies (58:01)

• Natasha resend email sign-up requests to new parents to increase engagement. (58:12)

• Current email list has 342 subscribers with a 70% open rate. (58:45)

14. Parent Volunteer Recruitment Strategies (59:21)

- Difficulty in obtaining email addresses from parents for communication. **(01:03:10)**
- Natasha to update the survey to include a question about being a class rep and sharing email addresses. **(01:05:17)**

15. Survey Distribution and Participation (01:05:22)

- A survey was sent out with a QR code for responses. **(01:05:28)**
- There are issues with promoting PAC and school activities due to restrictions. **(01:06:27)**

16. Pickleball Program Updates (01:07:39)

- The group decided to go with a different pickleball group, saving about $350. **(01:07:40)**
- Follow up on the Safe Schools Together Program for caregiver sessions. **(01:09:46)**

17. Funding Discussion (01:10:05)

- The funding received from Kelty last year was $1,000. **(01:10:09)**
- Explore potential partnerships with other schools based on participant interest. **(01:10:21)**