



BARRIERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

February 2016 Newsletter

Hello Families,

We would like to start by saying Thank you to all the parents who have been coming out to share their ideas and hopes for our school.

PACs are forums within each school community to discuss matters affecting your school and the education of your children. Parents' voices are a tremendous value to their school. They offer a wealth of ideas and support in the challenges that face all public schools. PACs strive to represent the diversity within their communities and contribute to the benefit of all students by:

-providing opportunities to educate and inform parents about the school;

-involving parents in volunteer activities; and

-openly discussing parents' concerns and aspirations for their schools.

We are always looking for new parents to join us. Whether it be to attend a meeting to share their ideas, to volunteer to help out at the school, to support our fundraisers, etc.

Upcoming Events:

- *Feb 1– Soup Day*
 - *Feb 1– Scholastic Book orders due*
 - *Feb 4- Fun Day Committee meeting: at 6:00pm in the school library*
 - *Feb 10- Next PAC meeting at 8:45am in the school library*
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CONTACT INFO

PAC President:

djwright@hotmail.ca

Hot Lunch Program:

barrierehotlunch@gmail.com

*Please feel free to drop any ideas or comments into our suggestion box located by the library.



This year your PAC has funded:

- Teachers Classroom incentives \$1300.00
- One to One reading \$200.00
- Family Math Nights \$650.00
- Grade 7 year end field trip \$500.00
- Mathletics \$1080.00
- We Day \$120.00
- Split costs for bus to high school to Remembrance Day Assembly \$150.00
- 2 classroom projectors \$1218.00
- McQueen Lake fundraiser \$130.00
- 2 Zumba rockers \$140.00
- Indoor Sports Equipment \$300.00
- Primary Year End Field Trip up to \$1000.00 (money set aside)
- 3 Buddy Benches (no price set yet)

FUN DAY COMMITTEE

Last year we were unable to host a fun day due to lack of volunteers. This year we would like to start our planning early to ensure we can provide our students with a fun day at the end of the year. We will be forming a committee (Separate from the PAC) to organize and plan a fun day for June 27 2016. Currently we have 10 classes so we will need a minimum of 10 parents to oversee stations plus other volunteers to help run the activities. This committee will take care of planning the stations and recruiting volunteers. PAC will buy supplies. If you are interested in helping please join us on: Thursday FEBRUARY 4th at 6:00pm in the school library.





A sample photo of the type of building we are looking to construct.

In the Works:

We are excited for some big projects this year and hope to gain more of your support to help make them happen.

Currently we are starting a **hot lunch program** in our school. We have obtained a \$500 grant from Interior Savings Credit Union, \$400 from Success by six and \$290 from the Barriere Legion to use towards the purchase of reusable bowls. Our start up goal is to have two hot lunch days a month for the remainder of this school year. We are still looking for donations to help towards the cost of food, small kitchen supplies (such as knives cutting boards, food processor, etc) We are also looking for volunteers to help preparing the hot lunches, Don't miss your order form attached. Please contact us if you are able to offer support in any way at barrierehotlunch@gmail.com.



We would like to concentrate on a big project this year. After some research we have decided on constructing an **outdoor classroom/ gazebo** on the school grounds. There are many benefits to an outdoor learning space and this would also give students a covered space to hang out and color, play cards, etc during lunch and recess. We are in the very beginning stages of this project but hope to be able to raise enough money and have everything in place for it to be constructed this summer. If you would like to learn more about this project, or offer assistance, please contact the PAC.