

Raymer Elementary Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
Meeting Minutes: Thursday, June 17th, 2021

Email: raymerpac@gmail.com Website: www.raymerpac.weebly.com Facebook: @RaymerPAC

The Raymer Elementary Parent Advisory Council acknowledges that this meeting is being held on the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.

Meeting Guidelines and Agreements

- *Seek first to understand, then to be understood • Demonstrate mutual respect for people and ideas. Respect does not necessarily represent agreement.*
- *Everyone has a voice.*
- *Be confidential and use discretion*
- *Respect everyone's time. Hold Questions until the Q&A at the end of each Report.*

PAC Members in Attendance: Deannie Z.(CoPresident), Donnie U (CoPresident), Emma D (Treasuer), Darcie D (Vice President), Ashley W (Secretary), Melissa B. (Member-at-Large), Vicky F, Louiza T,
Regrets: David J.(COPAC Rep), Erin S. (COPAC Rep), Emily W

Staff: Kyla Babcock

Time started:

6:34 pm

1. **Call to Order:** Donnie Ungaro (Co-President)
2. **Guest Speakers:** None this month - PAC AGM

6:35 pm - Principals Report:

3. Principal Kyla Babcock:

Acknowledgement of the 3 students from KSS, and the Kamloops residential school. Raymer has been honoring and acknowledging these tragic events. This has varied based on age. The fence has yellow and black hearts for the 3 KSS students, and have “Every child matters” signs, and feathers decorated by the students.

School vision planning was completed and connected to the learning focus for next year. Will be a 3-5 year plan. Saw that 52% of students were not reading at their appropriate grade level. The literacy component addresses this. There is also social emotional learning and cultural to acknowledge the diversity in the school. The april to june results are looking stronger. Will be out shortly.

Literacy	Social Emotional	Cultural
Staff will... ★ Explore beliefs about reading and writing ★ Learn about evidence informed practice and resources in teaching reading	Staff will... ★ Continue to foster and embed a growth mindset within our classrooms and school community. ★ Design and implement ways to grow character and	Staff will... ★ Celebrate the cultural backgrounds of members of our school community ★ Learn and incorporate First People's Principles of Learning, Four
and writing ★ Design and implement powerful reading and writing routines	personal attributes within each student ★ Explore outside learning experiences with a social emotional intention and purpose	Food Chiefs and Indigenous ways of knowing and being ★ Design opportunities for the implementation of the OECD Principles of Learning.

COVID: Staff looked at what were the good things that came from COVID. The option for zoom meetings in lieu of phone calls. The focus on handwashing, especially prior to eating. The “traffic lines” that were in the halls “Raymer Road”.

Things they missed: events, assemblies, choirs, volunteer reading in class, shared supplies, line up outside doors again.

Government announced some changes on return to normal (COVID) in the fall. Cohorts will be no longer, shared supplies back, masks will be decided by the government in late august.

Lots of great resources created for kindergartners coming to Raymer, a popsicle play day is planned for the fall. Zoom meet n greet booked for next week

Green Bay: Grade 6 Students had an absolute blast today, many many thank yous for a great experience. Did archery to man tracker to bocce to water activities like canoeing and kayaking. For some it was first time. The mini wibit was a highlight. Was the highlight of their year!

Break a rule day: Grade 6 fundraiser raised over \$1000. Very fun day, all was respectful. Was an easy way to raise funds. Keep in back pocket for next year.

Next thursday is Grade 6 year end celebration: It will be recorded and sent to parents before the end of the year. Some students selected to share moments of their year. Will get certificates and cupcakes. Looking at how to get group photo out.

Outdoor learning. Emma managed to get some stumps, they are great, but need some treatment and have to be a part of the enhancement agreement. Emma will look into storing some of the logs.

6:50 pm

4. **New Business:**

- **Outdoor Learning equipment expenditure information and vote**

- The Raymer PAC has a strong balance that it has been looking to invest in the school for the last 5-7 years.

Powerpoint presentation by Deannie Z. *Presentation attached pg.5-11*

- Deannie presented background and history of Raymer
- Raymer is on school district radar for a rebuild. We are number 3, have been there since 2012, and will not be moving any time soon. Raymer got bumped to number 4 now. So Raymer will not be changing or be rebuilt in near future. A good time to invest in new outdoor learning equipment. Current playground has been deemed by district to not be universally accessible and is past it's “life span”. Will be 5-10 years before any new equipment would come from district.
- Went over options and wish list from staff and student
 - Gaga pit was top of list
 - Proposed to be on tennis court, it saves money over grass, and tennis court is under utilized.
 - It's approx \$5k for gaga pit
 - 2 benches on pads \$2500
 - 2 picnic tables on pads \$4,000
- Mentioned if benches are approved in vote, can dedicate to staff that have passed, or after 20years of service.

- Ms Zerr's sister was happy about potentially dedicating a bench to her and retired teachers.
 - Suggestion is be two plaques, one to Ms Zerr and one to retired teachers.
 - **Motionby Deannie Zahara to purchase new equipment up \$10,000** plus applicable taxes (Gaga pit, 2 benches, and a picnic table)
 - Seconded by *Emma Dalsvaag*
 - Vote Results 8 to 0
- **Vote on PAC 2021/22 Budget**
 - Emma to present budget
 - Motion to approve 2021/2022 PAC Budget as presented by *Emma Dalsvaag*
 - Seconded by *Louiza T.*
 - *See budget for actual figures proposed*
 - *Gaming grant is \$20/child*
 - *Grade 6: Reduce to \$750 from \$1000. The purpose of the matching was originally to assist and reduce amount of time required for fundraising*
 - *Projected income \$9230, proposed expenses \$22,150, expected bank balance of \$9,000+*
 - *School concierge being replaced by google and spotify, makes it easier to run the events.*
 - *Discussion was around school cash online as a different alternative.*
 - *Concern raised around shopify's ability to handle pizza orders*
 - **VOTE: 8 to 0**
- **Vote for PAC Executive- Official call for Nominations**
 - All parents and guardians of Raymer students are part of the general PAC, voting members and eligible for executive roles;
executive positions may be shared between two people
 - All positions are open for nominations and need to be filled in order for a school PAC to exist and receive BC Gaming Grant
 - **Nominations received so far**
 - President: *Darcie Dann - no challengers, by acclamation.*
 - Vice President: *Ashley Wydenes - no challengers, by acclamation.*
 - Secretary: *Louiza Thwaites - no challengers, by acclamation.*
 - Treasurer: *Emma Dalsvaag - no challengers, by acclamation.*
 - **COPAC Rep: Vacant, will have another election at next meeting.**
 - 3 members at large: Vicky F, Donnie U
 - **PAC requirements are met to form an official PAC.**

Raymer Elementary School PAC

The Parent Advisory Council is the organized voice of parents on matters relating to your student's education. All parents/guardians are automatically members and are encouraged to attend PAC meetings. Strengthening parent involvement improves student achievement.



5. Fundraisers/Events: (focus is on School Community Building First, Fundraising Second)

A. Return-It Express Recycle: year round fundraiser – Emma D. (Treasurer)

Reminder: Invite family and friends to donate as well

-use Raymer **PAC number 250 123 7722** to print your bag tags at the Express-It kiosk, located at 1936 Kent Rd

B. Virtual Family Fun events

- **MAY: Talent Show recap**
 - 17 participants, over 26 families tuned in
- **JUNE: Scooter's Ice Cream - June 25th 12:30pm**
 - \$3 item per student and staff

7:40pm

6. COPAC Report –

Membership of Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council is comprised of all individual member PACs in SD 23. **Raymer PAC is required to ELECT a representative to exercise our voice and vote at COPAC meetings.**

Parents are welcome to attend these meetings as non-voting members; it's a great opportunity to meet SD23 district staff, Board of Education members and learn what is happening with education at the district level. These meetings are the 1st Monday each month. <http://www.copac.sd23.bc.ca>

7:47pm - Thank you to outgoing Executive (Emma)

Last meeting of the year. Thank you to PAC exec, Kyla, and staff. It was a strange year in some ways, but didn't feel that different, in a good way. 2021 PAC went digital and got organized. Melissa set up the shopify store, and it's been a huge help. A huge thank you to Deannie for spending over 10years serving the PAC, and a Raymer Raven herself. Kept us focused on the family events, and community. We will really miss Deannie and Melissa. Looking forward to connecting with Deannie through COPAC.

7:50pm Meeting Adjournment at X:XXpm

Next PAC Meeting
September TBD

Stay informed about upcoming PAC events & news [facebook.com/RaymerPAC](https://www.facebook.com/RaymerPAC)

Raymer Facility Information

K-6 school of approx. 260 students.
 The operating capacity is [356] students.
 Due to a lower socio-economic status and its central location,
 Raymer Elementary is also utilized for other programs

- Strongstart – in Modular
- Pre/After School Program - The Clubhouse, operates in the Building Annex
- Pre School Program - Luna Park, operates in the Building Annex during school hours
- District LDI Program - use room in Building Annex during the day



Raymer Avenue Elementary School

The original 241m² Raymer Elementary was constructed in 1948.

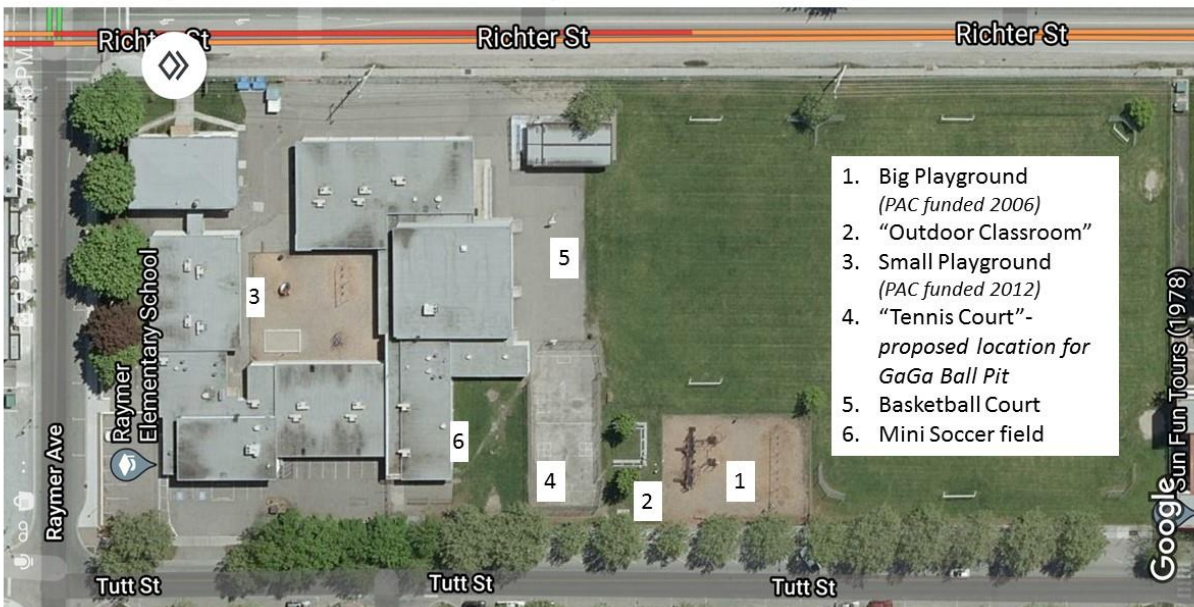
The remaining 3,149m² were constructed in 5 additions from 1957 to 1975. The school is wood frame construction with a mix of stucco and wood siding. (p.111 of 2012 Long Term Facilities Plan)

Opportunities, Issues, Concerns

Aging Facility (Raymer is [rated 0.41 out of .60- Pg. 103](#))

New Residential growth being focused to existing urban areas. Raymer may see enrolment growth due to new units being built within the catchment

Raymer Elementary Current Play Areas



Raymer Elementary- Small Playground



2012 PAC Funds used to purchase Climbing structure, Swing set, Slide and Sandbox



Grffiti Wall completed in 2018 by Raymer's [ADST team](#)



2019-Grffiti artwork created by a local artist for our primary play area.



Raymer Elementary- Big Playground



- Built in 2006- *huge PAC fundraiser year end fair/walkathon*
Not universally accessible
- Classified as "Beyond Life" by SD23 and will need to be replaced

Background on LRFP and PEP considerations for Raymer Elementary

Discussed during April 10, 2018 [PAC meeting](#): PEP - Playground Equipment Program: District to provide funding for 3 schools annually to replace playground equipment and improve accessibility.
**(Raymer meets PEP Replacement requirements and is 12th on list of priority- however it could be 5 to 10 years before Raymer could get PEP funding for a new universally accessible playground)*

"For existing schools to be eligible for Playground Equipment Program (PEP) funding, it must meet one or all the following criteria:

1. Grade configuration has a majority of elementary grades (K-7).
2. The school is not being considered for closure or replacement within the next five years, as identified in our school district's current Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP). **Raymer has been identified on "School Replacement Program".*
3. Playground equipment status currently meets one of the following conditions:
 - a. none available for student use; b. unsafe for student use; or c. **not universally accessible.**

Future Raymer PAC Executives will need to keep in mind that eventually it will be Raymer Elementary's turn for this PEP funding and may need to contribute additional funds as the PEP will not cover the entire cost of a new universally accessible playground.

Playground Equipment Program (PEP)

The Ministry of Education has announced a new annual capital funding program called the Playground Equipment Program (PEP).

School districts must prioritize up to three (3) eligible schools that require either a new playground equipment project or a replacement playground equipment project. In either case, funding may be requested for universally accessible equipment where a current or future student need is demonstrated. "NOTE: Capital funding provided under the Playground Equipment Program may NOT be used for the development or equipping of playfields, play courts, skateboard parks, or other school ground areas."

Playground Enhancement Wishlist

2020/2021 Students and Staff were asked to come up with some ideas.

- **Staff requests:** GaGa Ball Pit, Picnic Tables/Benches, Outdoor Classroom spaces, Garden Box Area
- **Student Requests:** GaGa Ball Pit, Benches, Picnic tables, New playground, Spinney chairs, Tether pole, Obstacle course/Parkour Blocks, Rock Wall, Zipline, soccer nets, Volley ball area, Teeter totter
- Ideas Narrowed down by the [ADST students in 2018](#)
 - **Graffiti Wall (completed)**
 - Other requests: Buddy Benches, Spinny Chairs, Soccer Netting, Wheelchair swing

What is Ga-Ga Ball?

Ga-ga is a variant of dodgeball that is played in a ga-ga "pit". The game combines dodging, striking, running, and jumping, with the objective of being the last person standing.

~Wikipedia



Location TBD

On Tennis Court (suggested by Mr. Faafard)- take up 1/3 of area
If the pit is installed on grass area, there is additional cost to have concrete.



Proposed Pricing for GaGa Ball Pit, Benches, Picnic Tables

Quote for Raymer from District Operations

- **GaGa Ball Pit \$5,000**
 - **2 benches on pads \$2,500**
 - **1 picnic table on new pads \$2,000**
- = \$9,500 plus applicable taxes**

They have shared that a gaga ball pit is about \$5000 if there is already a concrete pad to install on, if not it is closer to \$10 000.

We will get a quote for pit with existing concrete and then two benches (installed already on concrete and without concrete so additional cost).

Price Comparisons

Glenmore elementary
cost of equipment: \$1,100
SD23 labour: \$1,500
Total: \$2,600
source: [pg.26](#) -Quote from
Coach Cliffs Gaga Ball pit \$1,110
including shipping charge

Casorso-location on field
Gaga Ball Pit materials \$ 2,000.00
Concrete pad materials \$ 1,800.00
SD23 Labour \$ 600.00
SD23 excavate \$ 400.00
SD23 landscape/irrigation \$ 300.00
Total \$ 5,100.00 com
source: [page 28-33](#)

Memorial Bench- Dedication Plaque for Ms. Darlene Zerr



Darlene Zerr joined the staff at Raymer Elementary in September 1990 and retired in June of 2018. Darlene had an impact on many lives of students and colleagues. Darlene was an amazing advocate for Raymer students and she was an integral part of creating a culture of school community building through her love of music and math.

Darlene brought to life many fun school events over her 28 years at Raymer; including the Raymer Math Olympics, Primary Sing-a-Longs and the Raymer Talent shows.



Dedication Plaque for retired Raymer Teachers

Proposed wording for plaque:

Raymer Elementary teachers inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning; they are truly a gift to both kids and parents! Dedicated to our retired Teachers who served Raymer with such passion for over 20 years. Thank you from the Raymer Elementary Parent Advisory Council.

Retired Teachers with over 15 years at Raymer:

June 2017- Mrs. Jan Gillett

June 2018- Mrs. Mel Carr,

Ms. Darlene Zerr (separate memorial plaque)

June 2019- Mrs. Cathy Udala, Ms. Jan Hertz
& Mr. Dean Corrado

June 2020- Mrs. Pamela Samaddar

Below: 2012 Dedication to retired teacher



What steps required to put into action?

- VOTE on funding these enhancements-
APPROVED at PAC meeting June 17th, 2021
- Need to write a project plan/scope of work.
- PAC enter into “*School Enhancement Project agreement*” with school board, to be presented to the Planning and Facilities committee pending approval at school board meeting. (*board policy 625*)