June 11th, 2025

Dear Hamilton Parents & Guardians,

Following the success of the 2023-2024 school year, this year's main goal was to ensure the Hamilton PAC was not dissolved at the end of the 2025 school year. Dissolution would mean that we would no longer receive any government funding, lose ALL the money that we worked so hard in fundraising, lose all the programs that support and enrich education, and lose the communication link between parents and the school admin & staff.

Main objectives for 2024-2025:

- 1. Find someone to replace the outgoing PAC chair
- 2. Recruit a co-treasurer
- 3. Recruit a Social Media Coordinator
- 4. Recruit a Fundraising Coordinator to form a fundraising committee and run all school fundraisers
- 5. Pass the Fun Lunch program onto the new Lunch coordinators
- 6. Bring back a Holiday Fundraiser ideas: concession, gift basket raffle, 50/50, front row raffle, door prizes ...
- 7. Introduce a Spring Fair as a BIG fundraiser in May or June in lieu of The Walkathon
- 8. Continue awareness about what The PAC stands for and why we need to have a PAC
- 9. Continue to encourage parents to join our PAC Facebook page for reminders about PAC and school events

As we near the end of the 2024-2025 school year, we have achieved the following:

- 1. The Hamilton PAC will not be dissolved and will continue to advocate for the students and support education at Hamilton Elementary.
- 2. The PAC Team has grown with the addition of a new PAC chair, co-treasurer, social media coordinator, two fundraising coordinators and three lunch coordinators
- 3. Partnered with Park Pacific Pharmacy to bring a flu/covid shot clinic to the Hamilton Community
- 4. The introduction of the 50/50 raffle draw as a successful holiday fundraiser
- 5. Successful transition of the Fun Lunch Program to the new lunch coordinators
- 6. Our PAC bylaws were revised after voting to remove the role of RDPA representative from the Executive PAC Officers and merged the duties of the RDPA rep with the those of the PAC chair & secretary
 - Only the PAC chair, secretary and treasurer are required to form a PAC
- 7. The PAC contributed \$10,000 to the Library upgrade project

Fundraisers: We raised approximately \$14,000 so far this year ...

- 50/50 Raffle ticket draw raised \$1148.60
 - Recommendation: Split administrative fees with the winner (PAC paid almost \$400 in fees); ticket purchases to be cut off at the end of the afternoon holiday performance; no live draw
- Neufeld Farms raised almost \$1500
 - o Continue to run twice a year (pre-Xmas for holiday season and late spring for BBQ season)
- Fun Lunch Fridays raised approximately \$10,500
 - o Continue to offer lunches in bundles to cut down on transaction fees, and encourage to order ahead
- Silent auction raised \$295
 - o Recommendation: start early to solicit for bigger high end prizes from businesses

PAC Funded:

- Classroom fund for Teachers, EAs, Resource & Admin staff
- Welcome Back to School coffee & treats
- Earthquake supplies granola bars for emergency bags
- Pumpkin patch
- Illuma Dance lessons spring hip hop (Musical Theatre)
- Professor Wow (fine arts performance)
- PAC scholarship for former Hamilton student graduating from McNair
- Bus transportation to Track Meet
- Staff appreciation/retirement/departing gifts
- Outdoor Education subsidy (for Grade 7 camp trip)
- MunchaLunch online ordering program for Fun Lunch Fridays
- Upgrade of the school library (\$10,000 contribution)

Recommendations for 2025-2026:

- Continue fundraising efforts after a transition year 50/50 draw was a success, bring back afterschool treat sales
- Work with Park Pacific Pharmacy again to bring the flu/covid shot clinic back to Hamilton during flu season
- Spring Fair shelved until 2026
 - Recommend to form a dedicated committee at the beginning of every school year if running this fundraiser – this event will require a lot of work & volunteers!!!
 - Start soliciting early for high end prizes
- Continue to promote what the PAC stands for and why do we need a PAC
- Continue to encourage parent participation and interest in their own children's education by
 - o attending a PAC meeting
 - o joining the PAC FB page Hamilton Elementary PAC (Parent Advisory Council)
 - volunteering for an event
 - supporting a fundraiser
 - o take on an executive or coordinator role

I would like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to:

- All the parents who volunteered at our various fundraising events. We can not do it without you!
- All the parents who supported our fundraisers especially Fun Lunch Fridays
- Hamilton School staff and admin for all their support
- The Executive PAC Team (Lara, Juliana, Ada and Jessica), the committee coordinators (Lydia, Yumi, Joanne and Kristina) and the newest members (Simona, Belle and Karoline)

Finally, I want to remind everyone that all parents and guardians of students at Hamilton Elementary are automatically members of THE PAC. I encourage everyone to read the weekly school newsletters, and to join the PAC Facebook page to keep up to date with what is happening at our school. We don't want our children to miss out on anything! **WE ARE THE PAC** and our main goal is to ensure our children will have the best possible educational experience at Hamilton Elementary.

Sincerely,

Lorita Tang-Withers

(departing Hamilton Elementary PAC chair)