

Welcome CSWS Families from Parent Action Committee!

Community School is a very special place. From the way our amazing teachers bring play to early childhood education, to the shrills of joy we hear coming from Big Yard, all the way to the school's commitment to community, we feel lucky to have found this experience for our kids and we hope you feel the same.

The Parent Action Committee (PAC) sees it as our role to support the community by creating opportunities to come together around education, shared values, celebrations, and fundraising for the school. To do that, PAC focuses efforts in three areas:

1. Parent Connections & Outreach

Parenting a preschooler is a wonderful and sometimes wild ride. PAC partners with the school to create opportunities for parents to connect around shared experiences.

PAC Social. An opportunity to meet parents during the first weeks of school. For new and returning parents to connect, relieve any nerves about the transition to preschool, and get an intro to PAC.

Book club. The PAC book club will be meeting once a month from October through January. Books will be paired with subject matter that is central to who we are as a school. Topics may include: play-based education, positive discipline, and anti-bias curriculum.

Monthly PAC Meetings. Whether we are planning teacher support, fundraising events, or future book club topics, these meetings are a chance to come together as parents, bond and do good for the school and our larger community. (Free childcare is usually provided! Pizza for a suggested donation, \$5 per family.)

Parenting Connection and Education nights. Educational gathering about parenting, community, or just plain being human.

2. Teacher Appreciation

Our teachers and staff work very hard. Twice yearly PAC helps facilitate ways for the community to express our gratitude!

Annual teacher gifts. Each year on Sparkle Day we take a minute to thank our teachers for their hard work and present them with collected gifts/donations and thank you cards from CSWS families.

Teacher appreciation week. Typically in the first week of May, we shower our teachers with appreciation by bringing food, volunteering at the school to create extended breaks for staff, and/or creating thank you notes and flowers.

3. School Fundraising

The Parent Action Committee (PAC) coordinates, plans and staffs events throughout the year. Funds raised are used to further develop the school, provide scholarships to students, contribute to teacher development, assist with the ongoing maintenance of the building, and pay for other community building events.

The Annual Silent Auction and Party. This is the main fundraising event of the school and it happens spring quarter of every year. Part of what makes this event special is that so many families find creative ways to come together and contribute to the event.

Other events. In the past the school has hosted other smaller fundraising events, such as a rummage sale, and we will continue to identify opportunities to help meet our goals.

Whether you drop in for just a few meetings, just come to book club, volunteer, or do it all, there are many ways to stay connected. Looking forward to seeing you around school and at the events! Have a wonderful year!

2016 – 2017 PAC Event Calendar

| Date | Event |
|----------------------------|--|
| September 27 th | PAC at Curriculum Night PAC will be at Curriculum Night to present goals for the year, answer questions, and get your ideas about ways we can all support the school and each other. |
| October 12 th | PAC Social and First PAC Meeting! 6 – 7:30 P.M. at Community School. This will be a casual meeting. We'll have time to chat, share how school is going so far, and discuss upcoming PAC events. Childcare is provided. Food for a suggested donation of \$5 per family. |
| October 26 th | First book club! 7:00 PM Uptown Espresso – 4301 SW Edmunds St, Seattle Book: Positive Discipline A-Z: 1001 Solutions to Everyday Parenting Problems |
| November 9 th | PAC Meeting All PAC meetings are at 6 – 7:30 P.M. at the School unless otherwise decided. |
| November 30 th | Book club 7:00 PM Uptown Espresso – 4301 SW Edmunds St, Seattle Book: Parenting from the Inside Out by Daniel J. Siegel MD and Mary Hartzell |
| December 14 th | PAC Meeting |
| December 23 rd | Staff Gift Gifts/donations and cards signed for teachers and staff. To be handed out on Sparkle Day before winter break. |
| January 11 th | Book club |
| January 25 th | PAC Meeting |
| February 15 th | PAC Meeting |
| March 8 th | PAC Meeting |
| March 29 th | PAC Meeting |
| April 5 th | PAC Meeting |
| April 19 th | PAC Meeting |
| April 26 th | PAC Meeting |
| May 1 st week | Teacher Appreciation week Shower teachers with appreciation by bringing in home cooked goodies, volunteering at the school to create extended breaks for staff, or providing simple (but much appreciated) thank you notes! |
| May 3 rd | PAC Meeting |
| May 6 th | Silent Auction and Party |
| June 14 th | PAC Meeting |
| July 19 th | PAC Meeting |
| July TBD | Rummage Sale/Or alternate fundraiser Raise money for Summer Fest |
| August 9 th | PAC End of Year BBQ & final meeting A chance to come together as a team one last time for the year. Full family event. |
| Date(s) TBD | PAC – Community Connection and Education night Educational gathering about parenting, community, or just being human. |