



# GENERAL WOLFE PAC

## PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### PAC Members (in order of sign-in sheet):

Marilyn Kynaston, Colleen Von Dehn, Mary McCullum, Nick Weber, Jenny Evans, Katie Stevenson, May Ke, Gil Stav, Grant Brumpton, Debbie Leboe, Adrienne Rombough, Jen Kim, Libby Taylor, Lisa Scott, Suzie Polzin, Susie McRae, Ricci Chang, Kristin Rotte, Harvey Chiang, Tamara Murray.

### PAC Executive:

- Michael Nedelec, Chair
- Jaimini Thakore, Vice Chair
- Harold Schellekens, Treasurer
- Monica Luu, Secretary

### Administration:

- Susan Nichols, Principal
- Rosemary Thomas, Vice-Principal
- Sarah Collins, Teacher

These minutes are reflected in the order of the agenda.

### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.

### 2. Approval of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Minutes

**Motion** to adopt the Minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

<b>Moved</b> (L. Taylor)	<b>Seconded</b> (Marilyn Knaston)	<b>Carried</b>
--------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------------

### 3. Principal and Teacher Reports

#### Administration Report by Susan Nichols, General Wolfe Elementary School Principal

##### Thank you to:

- the PAC for all that has happened in the last month. PAC sponsored gymnastics lessons were a great success.
- Natasha Patton for the Fresh Fruit and Veggie program as well as the Fresh to You Fundraiser
- Dawn Dunkerley for the QSP, Halloween costume rack and dance organization
- Kate Martinez for all her great work on the PAC class rep email list up
- Kristy Whittaker and her team for the wonderful Walkathon
- Libby Taylor who has the grade 4/5 craft club underway at recess

##### Staff Update:

- Joanne Wallace confirmed for the year in Division 14

- Susan Segers in Division 3 is back today
- Caroline Ohlander has joined us as an SSW for the remainder of the year

### **New BC Ed Plan:**

A few weeks ago the provincial government announced there will be 10 hours of non-instructional time this school year for teachers to learn about implementing the new BC Ed plan. This training will be done in Vancouver by a 'Train the Trainer' model where a group of teachers will be released to learn how to take the information back to a larger group. The non-instructional time will be decided on a District basis, not a school by school basis, and as soon as I have any information of the dates or times I will share them with parents.

### **SPC – School Planning Committee:**

The SPC is an advisory committee elected by the PAC to advise on school goals. I am hoping that this year's SPC members will continue in their roles (Virginia Hong and Kate Martinez), and if there is anyone else interested they could join us, or, if there are several people, a 3rd person could be elected. . This is an important role but hopefully not too time consuming. Our current goals are math fluency and critical reasoning, and Aboriginal Enhancement, which is a district wide goal. The SPC in Vancouver does not have any teachers on the committee as teachers do not participate in protest for not being able to be representatives as parents at their children's schools.

### **Illegal placement of charity box:**

Last week I noticed there was a charity box that appeared on the west side of the school-it is on city property, not VSB property. I called the city and placement there is illegal as they do not have permission from me or the Board. The city has been informed and should be taking steps to remove it. File number is 6840282.

***Update October 26, 2015: Charity box has been removed.***

## **Rosemary Thomas, Vice Principal Report**

### **Emergency Preparedness:**

We have a two fire drills and have an earthquake drill scheduled for tomorrow, and are preparing for a Code Red drill (lockdown) at end of the month. Colleen Von Dehn has done a great job of assembling room escape kits that will be stored in plastic buckets in classes and will start to be deployed to classes shortly. The staff was very appreciative. If there is an emergency where we need to evacuate the school, we would assemble off site at General Brock School.

### **Professional Development:**

Next Friday is the PSA, professional specialist association day, where professional development is offered province wide in a variety of venues on a broad range of topics. Teachers will be attending different sessions depending on their current professional goals and learning needs. On the Monday Professional Day in September we had a great session with Dr. Kanwal Neel whose name was given to us by Virginia Hong, one of the SPC members. Dr. Neel worked with us on mathematical reasoning strategies and hands on activities.

## **Teacher's report (Sarah Collins)**

The district cross country meet is next week. A big thank you to coaches Carla Friesen, Jim Smathers and Jill Beeman. As well we have been having a successful soccer season, many thanks to Amy Walker for all her work with these students. Volleyball season is coming up and we will again be fielding several teams. We appreciate the parent support that makes this possible.

Wolfe clothing arrived this week, if you put in an order it should be headed home today or should come home tomorrow. And if you haven't signed up for Family Foto night and want to, there are still a few open spots on the signup sheet beside the office door.

### **Earthquake Room Escape Kits:**

Thank you to Colleen Von Dehn for putting room escape kits together for use in the event of an emergency and there are obstacles preventing teachers and students from getting out of a room. The room escape kits include but are not limited to a crowbar, dust mask, duct tape, flashlights. During an emergency, if you are stuck in your classroom, these are supplies to help get out, not for survival. There are survival packages in the storage bin outside.

#### **Call for coaches!**

There is a call for coaches of upcoming soccer and volleyball teams! Please considering volunteering to coach if you are interested.

#### **Drama Club – need volunteers!**

Drama has been an interest of Sarah Collins. After 7 years, she is now ready to pass the torch and be the teacher sponsor for any parents who would like to run the drama club. The drama club will no longer happen unless there are a team of parent volunteers willing to take the torch. Timing is flexible. For grades 2-7.

#### **4. Treasurer’s Report – Harold Schellekens**

Harold presented the highlights of the financial position as of October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015. October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was chosen due to 2 key events

- 1) the return of VSB charitable donation funds back to us - \$14,990
- 2) our gaming grant, both of which happened in early October - \$8,100

Motion to move \$34,000 from one bank account to the playground/seismic reserve bank account (this was discussed at our last meeting). This takes us to \$58,000 in the playground reserve.

<b>Moved</b> (L. Taylor)	<b>Seconded</b> (G. Brumpton)	<b>Carried</b>
--------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------

#### **5. Playground Update – Michael Nedelec/Grant Brumpton**

GRANT WRITERS NEEDED! Please contact Michael Nedelec michaelnedelec@shaw.ca if you’d like to volunteer!

Susan Nichols reported that the missing playground has not been super difficult on the kids. Soccer and hoola hoops seem to be popular at Wolfe during recess and lunch. Susan will be working with the students to see which playground options appeal to students by providing colored stickers so kids can vote on their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices for playground options, using the stickers. Older and younger kids will have different stickers. Intermediate students have asked for grass field but it may not be worth doing until after seismic. Feedback to be split between K-3 and 4-7.

Suggestion to have modules and bits to see what is important to the kids and then put the bits together. Ideally, would like to install during Spring Break and have it done when kids return.

To fill the missing playground, minimum required is \$75K to \$150K. It takes 10 weeks from the day your order until the day playground equipment arrives.

#### **6. New PAC Website – Jaimini Thakore**

New PAC website is live and was developed by our new Vice-Chair Jaimini Thakore and parent volunteer Dave Dunkerley to help you stay updated on what’s happening at school! Please bookmark and check the site often as it is updated on a regular basis with lots of useful information: [www.generalwolfepac.ca](http://www.generalwolfepac.ca). The PAC also welcomes any feedback on content for the site. Send your feedback to [jathakore@gmail.com](mailto:jathakore@gmail.com).

## 7. Upcoming Events

- Family photos - Sessions are on **Thursday, Oct. 22nd & Friday, Oct. 23rd from 4:00pm to 9:00pm in the school library. A few spots left, sign up outside the school office.**
- Halloween Dance – Oct. 30, 7pm – 9pm. Most favorite amongst kids. Could use a few more volunteers to help with security and selling 50/50 tickets. Next year will need lead organizers as the torch will need to be passed. Outline is available for what being a lead entails. Contact Lisa Scott. This is a fun social event, not fundraising. \$3. DJ takes up most of the cost. Attendance last year was 300 people on a Thursday night!
- QSP drive is on. Link will be on new PAC site.
- Halloween Costumes – pay what you can if you can't, choose one.
- 15 spots left for family photos. Sign up!

## 8. Nesters – donate your points

You can take accumulated points and donate it to Wolfe. There's been \$500 already and it's been live for only a month or so.

- Nesters Market continues to be generous supporters of our school and has displayed signage in the market about donating your points to Wolfe. If you have points collected from shopping at Nesters Market, you now have the option to donate your points to Wolfe. Nesters has been more than generous with their donation of snacks and drinks for our students. For example, during the Walkathons and the Jump Math after school program, they donated all the healthy snacks and beverages. They were also generous sponsors of our Casino Night last school year. If you shop at Nesters, please extend a thank you for all that they do to support our kids.

## PARENT EDUCATION:

Save the date. Libby Taylor has kindly organized the following parent education evenings:

- **Monday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 PM** - Safe Online Education Society is coming to present their "Parenting in the Digital Age" workshop. Childcare will be provided. More details to follow at a later date. It will be around 90 min to 120 min. Childcare provided.
- **Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** - Saleema Noon, Sexual Health Educator:

## Janet Fraser – Trustee for General Wolfe Elementary:

Janet Fraser has been invited to the January 12<sup>th</sup> PAC meeting. We will get a series of idea starters out to the Wolfe community to write your questions in advance in order to give her time to prepare. She is our Trustee for school and other schools.

**Next PAC meeting Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> (right after Remembrance Day)**

## Motion to adjourn:

Moved (L. Taylor)	Seconded (M. Knaston)	Carried
-------------------	-----------------------	---------