

# PAC – PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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**Date:** Tuesday, February 5, 2019 6:30 pm

**Location:** General Wolfe Elementary school library

**PAC MEMBERS (in order of sign-in sheet):** Colleen von Dehn, Melissa Dangerfield, Gordon Ahrens, Kemp Edmonds, Lori Montgomery, Nicola Gubbins, Robbin Simao, Julie Nichols, Joanne Ma, Alissa Collingridge, Libby Taylor, Suzie Polzin, Kristin Rotte, Ariadna Fernandez, Harold Schellekens, Susie McRae, Ryan McRae, Kathy Yoshida, Harry Toon, Eran Epizus, Jenny Evans, Marta Fane, Serena Verma, Harvey Chiang, Matthew McClean, Leslie Shoji, Carolina Bonshor, Clayton Lyon, Francia Marbella, Lisa The, Alena Erickson, George Kyriakelis, Steph Willox

## **PAC Executive:**

- Michael Nedelec, Chair
- Hope Walker, Vice Chair
- Jaimini Thakore, Treasurer
- Donna Rayner, Secretary

## **Administration:**

Susan Nichols, Principal  
Wendy Cameron, teacher

**These minutes are reflected in the order of what was discussed.**

**Welcome and Call to Order** - Michael Nedelec

**Approval of November, 2018 minutes**

**Special Guests from VSB – Chris Wong: VSB District Principal, Educational Planning and Natasha Saksman, VSB School Seismic Upgrades Projects Manager**

A lengthy discussion and Q&A session was held with Chris and Natasha regarding the seismic mitigation process, which is summarized as follows—

- Chris currently serving in two roles: seismic mitigation and education planning. He was most recently Principal of Jamieson Elementary which completed its seismic upgrade in December.
- Natasha is Project Manager for the seismic mitigation process.
- Funding decisions are made based on Ministry requirements that dictate that funds are for minimal amount of work to make the school safe.
- Seismic mitigation process is different than standards set for homes. They are more rigorous.
- Chris is looking to make as many schools as safe as possible, as quickly as possible.

- Julie Nichols had several questions around what happens next and what input parents may give. Chris' experience as Principal of Jamieson Elementary was that parents didn't have a lot of say—example he gave was that they were able to discuss carpet upgrade.
- Total Budget for Wolfe seismic mitigation = \$20.2 million
- Next steps: survey of Wolfe parents and teachers/staff to determine a “shopping list” of desirable upgrades
- Survey will happen ASAP.
- Some new items that will be included as parts of upgrade include lead-free pipes, new power line and transformer, water main and water line, and sprinklers.
- Natasha to provide summary: what can be done and what can't as part of seismic mitigation.
- PAC will provide survey results
- If there are dollars left over (unspent budget), funds will likely stay with General Wolfe per Natasha.
- There was a lengthy bussing discussion. The key for a successful program is consistency, i.e. the same kids are riding the bus both to and from Wolfe.
- There are concerns among parents that the program as suggested has some problems. This is especially true for Spare Time parents who may not have kids attending morning ST—what is solution for them and other families that only want to use the bussing one way?
- Susan committed to following up with Chris for further discussion.
- It's not yet been determined if Wolfe playground will stay open during the renovation.

**Administration report (Susan Nichols):**

- VSB Calendar due on Feb. which will include next 3 years. Susan asking for input and feedback.

**Kemp Edmonds, Casino Night Chair:**

- Looking for sponsors and basket donations.
- Also looking for additional volunteers