

PAC – PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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April 2016 Newsletter

PAC EXECUTIVE	
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Please feel free to contact any of the PAC Executive with questions, ideas and general information.

Next PAC Meeting: Tuesday, May 10th 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Mark your calendars!

Silent Auction – thank you!

From Jen Kim:

"I'm thrilled to share with you all that together we raised just over **\$23,000** for our school...this is \$5,000 more than last year! We are still tracking down winning bidders on some items and collecting the last of the money owed but when all is said and done this will be a sizeable donation to the PAC.

On behalf of the organizing committee I'd like to THANK YOU for coming out, helping out, donating items and participating so enthusiastically in making the evening such a SUCCESS. We measure the success not only in the dollars raised for the school but also by bringing people together and having some FUN! The money raised all goes to our PAC to help fund all the initiatives that our kids enjoy at school, including: special performances, skating and symphony field trips, art supplies, classroom support, social and emotional learning programs, equipment for technology, school grounds including gardens, sustainable initiatives and our funding for a new playground and sooo much more

Our immense gratitude to ALL our sponsors including Paul Eviston (wine wheel), Nesters (food), Brewery Creek (wine), Bomber Brewing (beer), and Kevin Louis Design (posters). Please show your appreciation to these and our many other sponsors by supporting them. When you visit a local merchant who donated please mention your thanks for the donation to General Wolfe!

A BIG thank you to my fellow committee members (Donna, Serena, Colleen, Cheryl, Jennie, Katie, Debi, Goldie, Kristy and Stephanie) who did a FANTASTIC job putting this event together."

Call for 2016/2017 School Year PAC Budget Requests!

Background: Each spring the PAC asks for requests for financial support/proposals from across the Wolfe Community: parents, teachers and administration (for the coming school year). These requests are used as input into the PAC budget which in turn forms the plan on how the funds raised from the fundraising activities throughout the year will contribute to the Wolfe community! Thank you for contributing your ideas and energy to the Wolfe Community! For more information on current PAC activities please see: <http://www.generalwolfepac.ca/>

Deadline for Budget Requests: Monday, May 2nd (earlier is appreciated)

Please provide the info requested below and email your funding request to PAC Treasurer: harold.p.pschellekens@gmail.com (preferred) or drop it in the PAC mailbox at school.

Proposed 2016/2017 PAC budget will be presented at the May 10, 2016 PAC meeting. Depending on discussion, the motion to approve this budget will be at either the May 10th or the June 14th PAC

meeting. For your reference, here is a link to last year's approved budget: [Wolfe PAC 2015_16 Budget Approved.pdf](#)

Please submit the following information to harold.p.schellekens@gmail.com by **Monday, May 2nd:**

About You

Name of activity lead:

Primary Phone:

Cell/Secondary Phone:

About Your Request for Funds

1. Amount Requested

2. What do you need the funds for? Please be specific about how you will be using the funds. Has this been requested in previous years or is this a brand new activity?

3. Who will attend or directly benefit from this project or item? What number of people are impacted?

4. When/what date do you need the funds, or Proposed Date(s) for your project or event (so PAC can prioritize/plan)?

Hot Lunch Program at risk of being discontinued

The hot lunch program here at Wolfe is a legacy from the days when Wolfe was an inner city school. We are one of the very few non-inner city schools in Vancouver with a hot lunch program, and currently about 90 students are served by the program. To sustain the program, it needs to be done on a cost

recovery model for both the food and the staffing. To support this, we need approximately 120 students signed up each day. Currently, we are sitting at about 90 students.

Part of the lunch program is the staffing; we are very lucky to have Rosa Spinelli as our cafeteria worker. As well as offering a lunch program, the program also offers leadership opportunities to a dedicated group of student volunteers who Rosa has carefully trained, and we really appreciate the work these students do.

Many parents find it very convenient not to be packing a lunch every day. If we lose the program, there will be no chance of re-instatement as a district run lunch program.

Volunteers Needed!!!

Volunteers are essential to making the PAC and PAC events function. Currently we are in need of volunteers for:

1. PAC Playground Fundraising Call to Action!

Even if you think fundraising is not for you – please give it a try – we need your help! Do you work for a larger corporation that has funding for charitable causes? We need to approach these organizations. We have great packages ready to use for potential funders. Please contact Deb Coll at colldebi@gmail.com or 778.887.3324 to obtain packages and sample pitch letters and she will help you with the communication, messaging and materials.

There is also funding out there to be found by way of government and corporate grants. Would you like to help write grant applications? Please contact Jaimini Thakore or Marilyn Kynaston to coordinate those efforts:

Jaimini Thakore - jathakore@gmail.com or 778.874.2330
Marilyn Kynaston - marilynk@telus.net or 604.783.1745

Would you like to help with approaching Main/Cambie/King Edward developers? **Please contact Jen Evans at jenif59@gmail.com or 604.782.0431.**

Shortly, we will have some printed material so that the Wolfe kids can help too. They can use it with neighbours, alumni, extended family etc. and get the message out.

In the meantime we have the literature —we have the studies —and we have a researched initial playground proposal. We have had good success so far and find great support when we ask for it. And if you haven't done so already, please check out Wolfe's PAC website playground fundraising page at: <http://www.generalwolfepac.ca/4-2/the-playground-of-desolation/>

2. Green Thumbs Wanted!

Parent volunteers – we need your help to keep growing.

For over 25 years, the unique naturalized, boulevard and planter beds at General Wolfe have provided students with opportunities for learning and immediate access to nature. The indigenous plants behind the annex are unique.

This is the gardening blog for General Wolfe Elementary:

<http://www.generalwolfegardens.blogspot.ca/>

This is a good place to start to read the history and see some of the highlights of the past few years.

Boulevard Champion Wanted: City of Vancouver Green Streets

Boulevard Gardening is over 500 gardens strong in the city. The General Wolfe PAC has been the volunteer group that has raked, planted, weeded, pruned, and removed garbage from our 11 individual beds for a few years. We need someone to be the Wolfe PAC Liaison in the upcoming year. Without a volunteer from the parent of nearby community, the city will come and likely dig up much of the good work, as well as put toxic mulches on our amended soil. These gardens often require more maintenance than planter boxes so can be easier than other spaces to take care of.

<http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/gardening-on-traffic-calming-spaces.aspx>

Master Gardener Community Project has closed. Despite a successful Friday After School Garden Club, we simply didn't have enough community engagement from parents to keep it active, as Master Gardeners are required to provide volunteer advice and not just do physical work.

3. Halloween Dance for Fall 2016

Volunteers needed to organize Halloween Dance event for next school year (Fall 2016). Thanks to Lisa Scott and Dawn Dunkerley for doing such great work in past years. If you are interested in learning more about how you can help, please contact Lisa Scott at lisamscott@telus.net to get more information.

4. Volleyball and soccer coaches needed for Fall 2016!

There is a call for coaches for next school year (Fall 2016) for soccer and volleyball teams! Please considering volunteering to coach if you are interested.

Update on PAC website!

Did you know that donations/payment can now be conveniently submitted ONLINE on our PAC website? So tell your family and friends that it is EASY to donate as much as they'd like! Just go to:

www.generalwolfepac.ca