

PAC – PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Visit www.generalwolfepac.ca



Date: September 15, 2020, 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Minutes

PAC MEMBERS (by Zoom title): Laurie McNeill, Shaila Jiwa, Ruslan Danilin, Sameena Nahal, George Yang, Mark Williams, Cappone D'Angelo, Karen Mok, Rachel Keilb, Ulf von Dehn, Colleen von Dehn, Julie Tran, Phil Gaudin, Henry Huang, Sarah Kobin, Adebayo Fawehinmi, Stephanie Willox, Erin Blake, Sue Spruston, Peter Panago, Gina Travieso, Jeff Lee, Maria Mcclean, Veronica Solimano, Miriam Miller, Catherine Taylor-Hell, Anne Low-Beer, Erin Haskett, Julie Tran, Francia Marbella, Despina Kefalas, Michelle Wiens, Jesse Cote, Jenny Evans, Katie Stevenson, Noah Silverberg, Suzie Harrington, Stuart Wong, Serena Verma, Helen Pang, Lynn May, Alice Ching, Ryan McRae, Tess ?, Mae Tan

PAC Executive:

- Donna Rayner, Co-Chair
- Hope Walker, Co-Chair
- Kemp Edmonds, Vice Chair
- Jaimini Thakore, Treasurer
- Claire Wilson, Secretary

Administration/Teachers: Nancy Bourque, Principal

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Donna Rayner & Hope Walker

- Donna welcomed all participants. Participants were muted for the meeting.
- Questions were posed to Nancy and the Executive via the chat function.

2. Approval of May 2020 minutes

Moved Kemp	Seconded Jaimini	Carried
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3. Administration / Teacher Report:

Nancy Bourque, Principal:

- It was a huge endeavour for teachers and administration to get ready for the start of school. A big thanks to parents as kids were well-prepared to start school and are adapting well. The kids are happy to be back and everything is going well so far.
- Thanks also to parents and kids who created the posters to show their appreciation for the teachers.
- Pick up and drop off can be a challenge with COVID protocols. Thanks to parents for not lingering on the basketball court after drop-off. It is fine to socialize in a less busy area of the school grounds.
- There are new staff this year including 5 teachers, 2 aides (SSWs) and 1 supervision aide. The new teachers are:
 - Ms. Whelan covering for Ms. Nafrey's leave;
 - Ms. Jones covering for Ms. Jamal's leave;
 - Ms. Pearson covering for Ms. Bonis's leave;

- Ms. Zoe covering for Ms. Andrews' leave; and
- Ms. Furnell who has permanently replaced Ms. Walker.
- Apologies for confusion with the bussing survey. Bussing has now been sorted and all new families who asked for bus services have been accommodated.
- Nancy and the teachers are meeting to discuss management of the learning transition option (option 4) including how to divide up the workload of weekly meeting with students enrolled in this option. No extra staff or resources were provided to address this recently added opportunity. Just over 10% of students are participating in option 4.
- Terry Fox Run will be October 1.
- Seismic: The return to Wolfe is on track for September 2021.

Nancy Q & A

- If a staff or student in a school is tested and confirmed by public health as positive for COVID-19, public health will directly notify contacts who have potentially been exposed as well as work with the District and school administrator to determine what actions, if any, are needed. "Schools must not provide notification to staff or students' families if a staff member or student becomes ill at home or at school, including if they display symptoms of COVID-19, unless directed to by public health." (BCCDC)

4. Chair Report and update – Donna Rayner & Hope Walker

- Welcomed parents / welcome back teachers
- Introduced members of the Executive: Donna, Hope, Jaimini, Kemp and Claire.
- Thanks to families who contributed beautiful posters for the teachers to welcome them back.
- Walkathon update:
 - Jenny and Sarah have generously agreed to lead this event. It is in the planning stages as significant modifications will be required due to COVID. Hope, Jenny and Sarah will be meeting with Nancy to discuss ideas about how we can hold this fun community event, which is a major fundraiser for the school.
 - Nancy noted two constraints, namely a) she cannot rent Memorial Park for any events this fall; and b) the event will need to be run by teachers and staff, and very minimal parent participation due to public health requirements.
 - Aiming to hold this event around mid-October.
- Proposed direct fundraising drives for the year:
 - Historically, most funds were raised via two school events: Walkathon (\$20,000) and Silent Auction (\$25,000). This year we hope to do the Walkathon but cannot run the Silent Auction due to the constraints at South Hill and gathering limits due to COVID.
 - The Executive is proposing two direct drives to replace the Silent Auction. A direct drive is a direct ask of parents to raise funds for the PAC, instead of from a special event.
 - The proposal is for one direct drive in February / March for general expenses and then a second direct drive in April/May toward legacy purchases upon return to the Wolfe site.
 - There may be a suggested donation amount per child, with the caveat that this is simply a suggestion. It must be kept in mind that every family has a different ability to contribute.
 - **Volunteers are needed to lead the direct drive initiatives. Please contact a member of the Executive to express interest and discuss details.**
- PAC fundraising: please visit the Wolfe PAC website or ask a member of the Executive for details as to how funds are spent. Funds raised by the PAC go directly back to the school in terms of providing resources and experiences for the kids (eg. Teacher supplies, technology, musical instruments, library furniture and books, field trips, performances, sports, visiting instructors). There are many things that Wolfe students would not have access to without these funds.
- Communication methods (Wolfe parent google group; class reps)
 - The PAC Executive typically communicates with families via three avenues, namely a section of Nancy's monthly newsletter, parent reps for each class, and the Google group. We are working to streamline the lines of communication to try to avoid overlap and duplication where possible while also ensuring that we reach as many parents as possible.

- Please check the monthly newsletter that Nancy circulates for any PAC news and events. Nancy also generously allows us to send important information via email through the school when we need to reach all parents.
- There will be a parent rep for each class who organizes gifts for teachers, creates a contact list that may be shared with interested parents to promote community, and sometimes to communicate PAC news.
- The Google group is an email listserv for the Wolfe parent community. It is used to circulate emails of community interest including volunteer opportunities, event reminders, community buy & sell, lost and found, tutoring and lessons, etc. Particularly this year, the Google group may be an important tool to keep the community spirit going. This year Kemp Edmonds will be taking over the administrator role from Colleen von Dehn who has done it for many years (Thank you Colleen!!!) **Please sign up to be added to the Google group by contacting Kemp Edmonds at kempedmons@gmail.com.**

5. Treasurer’s Report – Jaimini Thakore

- The 2020/21 budget is much leaner than last year because of COVID. In the second half of 2020, we were unable to raise funds due to the lockdown. However, expenditures were also less for the same reason so we ended up under-spending by \$10,000.
- Revenues are expected to be much lower again this year due to the prohibition on events and the hot lunch program, which bring in some funds. Expenditures will also be lower at least for fall as we cannot host performances, and there will be no school sports, assemblies, or other events.
- The bank balance is \$136,780.56 with \$75,000 to be transferred to reserve based on a motion approved last year. The reserve fund is for legacy projects upon return to Wolfe.

6. Volunteer Opportunities

- DPAC representative: Wolfe has not had a representative on the District PAC for a few years. This is an important position, which only takes about an hour of time per month to attend the DPAC meeting and then report back to this group. Volunteers please contact the Executive.
- Social Emotional Learning: online speaker series: The PAC has funds for projects and guest speakers on this topic. Anyone interested in organizing a speaker to present online, please contact the Executive. Hope recommended a free pre-recorded talk done at BC Children’s Hospital on the topic of supporting kids with returning to school during COVID.

7. New Business

- None

8. Adjournment

Moved Kemp	Seconded Jaimini	Carried
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Next PAC Meeting is October 20, 2020.