

# PAC – PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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**Date:** February 23, 2021, 6:30 pm  
**Location:** Virtual meeting via Zoom

## Minutes

**PAC MEMBERS (by Zoom title):** Adam Rucker, Laurie McNeill, Stephanie Willox, Suzie Harrington, George Yang, Colleen von Dehn, Rachel Kielb, Nitsa Panago, Veronica Solimano, Katrina Humphries-McLean, Tasha Bienert, Anne Low-Ber, Maria Mcclean, John Brodie, Francia Marbella, Virginia Hong, Geeta, Trevor Zeck, Helen Pang

### **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 January 2021 minutes**

<b>Moved</b> Nitsa Panago	<b>Seconded</b> Colleen von Dehn	<b>Carried</b>
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3. **Administration Report - Nancy Bourque, Principal**

- Pink Shirt Day: Divison 2 students recorded an amazing virtual ceremony for Pink Shirt Day, with contributions from other classes. The video will be uploaded to the school MS Teams page.
- Seismic update: Nancy and Kemp met with the rest of the seismic committee. We are still on schedule to move back to Wolfe over the summer and should have a more precise date in April. Foundations and shortcret are done and all the concrete work is done. We replaced all the windows in the library with newer windows because the old ones were damaged due to work on the walls. The new boiler has arrived, and elevator installation will start in March. A new transformer was installed in the north east corner of the school grounds. The flooring in all the rooms will be replaced. The new accessibility ramp facing Ontario St. is almost complete and one will also be installed outside the Annex. There will be new heritage looking windows in the front
- Outdoor learning space: The outdoor classroom committee will be presenting their recommendations to the PAC Executive of first, second and third priorities for an outdoor learning area project. The priorities include seating areas – one amphitheatre type for class learning, and another seating area for students to use during breaks. Covered areas are not permitted by VSB. Event tents are okay – Wolfe has one already but they are difficult for a teacher to assemble alone. Thanks so much to the committee including Executive rep Kemp, and

our parent reps Sarah, Sameena and Geeta as well as our teacher reps Ms Zheng, Ms Segers and Mr Smathers for their work on this. Nancy will meet with grounds to see what they think of the ideas.

- Anti-racism initiatives at VSB: There are lots of very exciting initiatives starting both at the provincial and district level. One full Pro D day next year will be dedicated for this purpose for all VSB staff. District resource teachers have been hired and are working part-time to support staff, offer professional development and liaise with community partners to support more anti-racism initiatives in our district.
- Option 4: This has been extended until the end of the school year but will not be available for next school year. After spring break we will have only 10 Option 4 students remaining so it is unclear whether our additional one-day teacher funding will continue,
- September return: Given the uncertainties regarding timing of vaccination for kids and the outlook of the pandemic Vancouver Coastal Health has advised VSB to expect that the next school year will resemble this school year with at least some COVID restrictions remaining in place. We should have more details in June and confirmations in August about any changes. These decisions are made last minute because the situation is often fluid and can change quickly.

#### **4. Chair Report and update – Donna Rayner and Hope Walker**

- Direct fundraising drive: Our wonderful lead, Leslie Shoji, has drafted really good direct drive letter that will be going home to parents soon. She is also considering a raffle idea she learned about from another PAC. The direct drive is to make up the budget shortfall expected this year and to provide a cushion for 2021/22 expenses back at the school site.
- Purdy's fundraiser: This fundraiser will run at the beginning of March and orders will be ready after spring break. Due to the surprise factor, pick up will be from Hope's house instead of the school.
- Parent support group: The Executive is raising the idea of a parent support group with regular meetings to discuss issues regarding child learning including learning differences. It could be a helpful forum for interested parents to share experiences, knowledge, strategies and resources with each other. Hope and Donna discussed the idea with Nancy and she provided some contacts to follow up. There will be further information on this at the April meeting and discussion to gauge interest in a support group.
- SEL Bookmarks: are ready and will be distributed to the kids at school. These are meant to help kids reflect on the emotions they experience through the day, to help encourage emotional awareness and literacy.

#### **5. Budget and Treasurer's Report – Jaimini Thakore**

- There are no material changes to the finances except for a few library expenses.
- Each year Jaimini applies for a gaming grant and the PAC usually receives a grant of about \$7,800. There are restrictions on the use of the funds including that they cannot be used for instruction-related expenses. In past years there has been no problem spending the funds on things like field trips (skating), extracurricular activities, performances and school sports. We don't have as many of these types of expenses this year due to COVID.
- The Executive asked Nancy for her input as to whether there are things that were not included in this year's PAC budget but that are needed and would fit within the grant parameters. Nancy advised that the four basketball hoops at Wolfe need replacing. Also, volleyballs and ultimate frisbee discs are needed for extracurricular sports teams next year (if they are able to run). Also, some funds could be used for the Stepping Up ceremony for grade 7 students.
- Nancy will obtain firm quotes for these items and we will discuss again in April. If the PAC is in favour of amending the budget to spend grant money on these items there will need to be a motion.
- If the funds are not spent this year, it is possible to roll them over to next year's budget or put them in the reserve for post seismic projects.

#### **6. New Business**

- Anyone who has age-appropriate books they would like to donate to the school can send an email to Ms. Cameron listing the titles and she will respond as to whether she will accept them.

- Nancy is in discussions with VSB about replacing the books that were damaged due to water. VSB has access to some insurance to cover a portion of the cost. The remainder will need to come from the school budget.
- Two PAC Executive positions will be coming up this year: Treasurer and Co-chair. Serving on the Executive is a really great way to contribute to the Wolfe community, get to know the administration and teachers, and connect with other families. Please contact any Executive member if you are interested in getting involved. Elections will be in June.

**7. Adjournment**

<b>Moved</b> Laurie McNeill	<b>Seconded</b> Colleen von Dehn	<b>Carried</b>
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Next PAC Meeting is April 20, 2021.