

PAC – PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Date: September 21, 2021, 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Minutes

PAC MEMBERS (by Zoom title): Maria Gloria Jimenez, Stephanie Willox, Suzie Harrington, Emily Lee, Mabel Tan, Anna Rucker, Stephen Coleman, Annie Low Beer, Trevor Zeck, Chris Tse, Mykailo Delegan, Helen Pang, Lynn Gosselin, Shona Reid, Steven Schechter, Veronica Solimano, Linda Koo, Sam, Rain Chen, Mark, Francia Marbella, Michelle Wiens, Mark Mhyre, Laurie McNeill, Jaimini Thakore, Mae Toor, Geeta Basantani, Maria McClean, Boris Dimitrijevic, Serena Verma, Tasha Bienert, Doug Manarin

PAC Executive:

- Hope Walker, Chair
- Kemp Edmonds, Vice Chair
- Leslie Hoolaeff, Treasurer
- Claire Wilson, Secretary
- Maddy Kipling, Member at Large / DPAC (regrets)

Administration/Teachers: Nancy Bourque, Principal

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Hope Walker

- Hope welcomed all participants to the meeting. Participants were muted for the meeting.
- Members of the Executive introduced themselves.
- Questions were posed to Nancy and the Executive via the chat function.

2. Approval of June 2021 minutes

Moved Donna Rayner	Seconded Anna Rucker	Carried
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3. Administration Report:

Nancy Bourque, Principal:

- **Building update:** Crews were busy even over the Labour Day weekend trying to get the building ready for Sept 7th. During the final inspections in mid-August deficiencies around painting, electronics and the basement floor were pointed out and addressed by Sept 8th. Nancy is still waiting for interactive projectors to be delivered. 5 of the 6 rooms with Smart Boards are now ready to go and it is hoped that the Boards will work well. The floors are new, the walls are thicker, the rooms are smaller, most of the coatrooms have been upgraded with added storage, and the whole school was painted. Basement washrooms were upgraded, and the rest is pretty much as it was two years ago. As of last Thursday, the gym was ready to use – there had been a flood and floor repairs were required. The basement storage rooms just need to be set up and then it will be done. The school is seismically safe and wheelchair accessible, which is such a relief.

- Spare Time: The delay in opening Spare Time has been very challenging for ST families. The school and the VSB have been supporting ST with its licensing application process, which they have no control over. It seems that the licensing requirements are a lot more stringent than in the past, and rooms that were previously licensed are no longer deemed appropriate in their condition. A lot of unanticipated work has had to be done. A license is only issued once at occupancy, it is not done each year, so even though the rooms that ST will be using are in the same condition as they were pre-seismic (actually better, as they are upgraded), the last time the licensing was done was years ago, and the rules, set by Vancouver Coastal Health and City of Vancouver have changed. Even South Hill is not yet licensed for occupancy even though no construction has happened there for years. ST is hoping to open the third week of September.
- Staffing Update: Wolfe has two new permanent teachers and a new permanent SSW this year. Ms. Kwon has joined us from Livingstone Elem. and she is teaching one of the grade ¾ class. Ms. Terezakis is teaching in two different classes: with Ms. Furnell on Tuesdays and with Ms. Kelly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Ms. Gerie is a new SSW and will be working with the Annex classes. Unfortunately, Ms. Jamal will not return to Wolfe. Mr. Pretty is subbing for her class right now and would love to be able to stay, but Nancy needs to follow the collective agreement hiring process. There is a posting up for that position and Mr. Pretty will stay until the posting is filled.
- Covid Safety Plan: Thank you to parents / guardians for reviewing the COVID safety guidelines with your child this month. The teachers are also reviewing them with their students. The major changes from last year are:
 - No more cohorts
 - Everyone has the same schedule for school start, recess and lunch (students are eating lunch in their classrooms again and going outside to play at the same time because there is insufficient supervision to have alternating play times).
 - Clubs and extra curriculars are back (we have x-country starting this month for the intermediate grades)
- Coming up at School:
 - Thursday Sept 30th is school holiday this year, National Truth and Reconciliation Day. Grade 6-7 students are preparing a virtual assembly for the day before, which will be posted on Teams for families to view. There is a lot of other relevant instruction planned for pre and post Sept. 30.
 - October 1st is a pro-d day. The topic is SOGI education and literacy assessment.
- Answers to parent questions:
 - One of the bike racks may have been moved from the North side of the school to the South side during construction. The bike racks are now too crowded together and there may not be enough space for the demand. Nancy will find out whether one of the bike racks can be moved. She will also ask around about the potential cost of an additional bike rack in case the PAC would like to consider allocating funds to purchase another one.
 - The grade 7 students are creating a video montage of the new space to give parents an idea of the changes. Nancy will post it on Teams when it is complete.
 - There are no separate classes at Wolfe for ESL / ELL students. The resource teachers provide additional support for these students, mainly during the primary grades.
 - Nancy is unsure whether choir will be offered this fall due to public health restrictions. She will check with Ms. Soper, who usually sponsors it. Students are required to wear masks for any singing activities.
 - The Halloween Dance cannot proceed this fall due to public health restrictions on indoor gatherings.
 - Bringing treats to class for birthdays and other occasions is not permitted because of the protocols around sharing food. Treats are only permitted for pre-planned school events such as the Walkathon and Grad.

4. Chair Report and update –Hope Walker

- Hope welcomed the participants in attendance and especially parents/guardians of new students to Wolfe (Kindergarten and upper grades)
- The Executive is looking for suggestions about how to better engage with Kindergarten and new families. Anyone with suggestions, please reach out.
- Hope showed a copy of the PAC brochure, which will be distributed to families. The brochure introduces the PAC Executive and how to communicate with us. It also sets out the major PAC events during a normal school year, for which volunteers are needed. Please contact the Executive if you are interested in leading or helping

out with any of the listed events. Unfortunately, some may not be able to happen because of COVID restrictions.

- Walkathon is tentatively set for October 15. It is the PAC's largest fundraiser for the year and so is customarily held in the fall to raise funds for programs throughout the year. We are so grateful that Sarah Lacombe and Leslie Shoji have volunteered to lead this fundraiser. This year, a limited number of parents will be able to volunteer – the leads will likely send out a call soon. Parents who wish to spectate are asked to stand across the street from the school to ensure safe physical distancing.
- To better streamline communications to parents, the Executive would like to create a dedicated PAC email and associated parent email list. Students will be bringing home a form for you complete indicating that you consent to the Executive sending you PAC-related information by email. The Google group has morphed into a more of a community email list and is not as useful anymore for reaching current Wolfe families.
- The Executive sought feedback regarding the idea of having a Wolfe Facebook page to post resources, event and other information. Participants in attendance provided comments. The majority were concerned that not everyone is on Facebook, but that almost everyone has an email address. In the spirit of streamlining, the feedback was that email is the preferred communication method.
- Information was circulated by email calling for volunteers for class parent reps. If you are interested, please contact Mae Tan as directed in the email.

5. Treasurer's Report – Leslie Hoolaeff

- A budget was approved at the June PAC meeting. Leslie noted the revenue surplus from last year and that it would be useful to consider what to do with those funds. Some ideas are:
 - Allocating a portion to the reserve fund for the outdoor learning spaces.
 - Revisit the budget and allocate funds to certain categories where there may be expenses this year.
- Transferring funds to the reserve account or amending the budget would require a vote at a future meeting.
- There was a discussion about some of the programs that the PAC would like to sponsor this year, including skating, Saleema Noon, iguy/igirl. Nancy will look into these opportunities.
- Nancy noted that the gaming grant can be tricky to spend because it cannot be allocated to instructional expenses. It can be allocated to outdoor improvements.
- Nancy also noted that Wolfe is not booking any field trips to places that require vaccine passports because it is prohibited to ask staff or students to disclose their vaccine status.

6. Outdoor Classroom update – Kemp Edmonds

- The PAC has raised funds over many years for post-seismic projects. Last year, the PAC voted on ideas and the top priority for expenditure was to develop outdoor classroom and learning spaces. A committee of teachers and parents / guardians was struck to make recommendations about what would work best. The top recommendations were to replace the benches surrounding some of the trees in the "forest", which are no longer useable and to purchase some picnic tables, and to install an amphitheatre type structure, which could act as an outdoor classroom for up to two classes. The PAC voted to take the next steps to obtain quotes for these projects.
- Nancy has submitted a request to VSB grounds for a quote on the benches and picnic tables. She expects to hear something back later this fall.
- The amphitheatre project requires more thought as it would be a unique structure and so VSB grounds needs a lot more information about specs before they can provide a quote. Steps need to be taken on our end to obtain the required information.
- Kemp will continue to follow up on this.

7. New Business

- None.

8. Adjournment

Moved Adam Rucker	Seconded Geeta Basantani	Carried
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Next PAC Meeting is October 19, 2021