

PAC – PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Date: Oct 19, 2021, 6:30 pm

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Minutes

PAC MEMBERS (by Zoom title): Leslie Shoji, Sarah Lacombe, Erin Haskett, George Yang, Sandy Pang, Veronica Solimano, Vanessa Sorenson, Stephanie Willox, Colleen von Dehn, Maria McClean, Anna Rucker, Stacey, Linda Koo, Suzie McRae, Laurie McNeill, Helen Pang, Jaimini Thakore, Ryan McRae, Serena Verma, Sameena Nahal, Lynn Gosselin, Sudthida Katayama

PAC Executive:

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

Administration/Teachers: Nancy Bourque, Principal / Ms. Andrews and Ms. Soper

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Hope Walker

- Hope welcomed all participants. Participants were muted for the meeting.
- Hope introduced Maddy Kipling, Executive member and DPAC rep, who gave a land acknowledgment.
- Questions were posed to Nancy and the Executive via the chat function.

2. Approval of September 2021 minutes

Moved Anna Rucker	Seconded Sarah Lacombe	Carried
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3. Administration Report:

Nancy Bourque, Principal:

- Walkathon: this was a great fun day, although quite wet. Thank you to everyone for supporting and helping with the event. A huge thank you to the event leads, Leslie and Sarah who organized it all and were present all day in the pouring rain.
- Foundation Skills Assessment (FSAs), Oct 4th- Nov 12th: Grade 4 & 7 teachers have been busy juggling their schedules and their computers to facilitate the administration of FSAs. There are a lot of logistics to organise as all classes are mixed grades and only about half the students are taking the FSAs. There have been technical issues this week causing some teachers to have to postpone the assessment, but it is almost complete. The FSAs consist of 5 exams and 2 pre-tests or self-reflections, and the whole process takes 6-8 hours per class.
- New School Plan on Caring: During the September Pro-D, the staff brainstormed ideas for the new school growth plan, which focuses on promoting more caring behaviours at school, and developed a vision to work on over the next three years. For primary students, the first year will focus on ways to take care of ourselves. For

intermediates, the focus will be on ways to take care of our community. Primary and intermediate teachers then brainstormed ways to promote this learning in their classrooms. A lot of the activities will centre on continuing to develop regulation strategies. Ms. Kelly and her grade 6-7 students have revamped the morning announcements to add messages of caring in them such as upcoming birthdays, welcoming guest teachers etc. These are little things, but they set the tone for the PAWS school motto of being welcoming and polite, so a big thank you to her and her team for that. On this theme, the older students are starting to do some community work around the school. Staff will continue conversations at monthly meetings and at future Pro-D days to evaluate what is working well and what is not, goal setting, how to measure and communicate progress and success, and how to get the parent community involved.

- Questions from parents:
 - Nancy confirmed that grade 7s are not permitted at this time to leave the school grounds and go to Main St. at lunch. She may reconsider later in the school year as the students have had an opportunity to develop their leadership skills.
 - It is unknown whether skating can happen this year as it will depend on the status of COVID restrictions and vaccine cards. The school is not participating in any field trips to places requiring a vaccine card as it would require staff or students to disclose their COVID vaccine status.
 - There is no Project Chef this year due to ongoing COVID restrictions in relation to shared food. However, the fruit and veggie program will start next month, and it is hoped that hot lunch can be reinstated at some point.
 - Ms. Soper's class is eager to collect any extra Halloween candy to donate to youth in need. She will research whether there is an organization willing to take it, and if so, will collect it post-Halloween.
 - Wolfe will be starting intramural sports, including floor hockey and volleyball. There will be no indoor sports against other schools due to COVID restrictions. Track and field should be able to go ahead in the spring.

4. Teacher Report – Ms. Soper and Ms. Andrews

- Ms. Soper: On the theme of caring for the community, the grade 6 and 7 students have signed up with the city to take care of the storm drains in the neighbourhood. During their last outdoor ed session, they started doing some work cleaning up around the school and the school garden. The students are very motivated to work on taking care of their school. **It would be helpful to have a parent volunteer to maintain the garden, especially starting in spring. Anyone interested in this role, please contact Nancy or a member of the PAC Executive.**
- Ms. Andrews: The K-5 teachers are requesting that the PAC consider funding a program called Mystery Science, which the teachers have used in prior years and really like. It is an online science enrichment program with an engaging host and a variety of lessons presented in different ways including videos, hands-on activities, and discussions. There is also access to materials. It is like having a Science World rep come and teach the class. Previously, the license has been offered on a free trial basis, but the trial is finished and a yearly licence costs USD \$1500 (about CAD \$1853). The PAC members present discussed the request and the comments were supportive of using PAC funds for a Mystery Science license. As this item is not funded under the budget as approved in June, the Executive will meet and determine whether it is feasible to move the funds from another budget item or cover the cost using surplus funds from last year. If so, the Executive will put forward a proposal for a vote at the November meeting. Thank you to Ms. Andrews for bringing this opportunity to the PAC's attention.

5. Chair Report and update –Hope Walker

- Walkathon: A tremendous thanks to Leslie and Sarah for all their efforts in putting on a very well-run Walkathon, and for the parent volunteers. It was wonderful to get together as a community, even on a small scale. The PAC would also like to express major gratitude to the teachers and staff, who provided so much wonderful motivation and spirit as seen in the class themes, and for walking alongside the kids in the rain during their shifts. The kids seemed to have had fun despite the weather. Also, thank you so much to the Wolfe community members for their financial contributions. The Walkathon is the largest fundraiser of the year and the funds raised go to a variety of school programs. Sarah and Leslie reported that they will have an idea in early November of the amount raised.

- Halloween Dance: this is cancelled due to COVID and it has been tentatively rescheduled as a friendship dance in February 2022.
- Saleema Noon: As a result of the positive feedback from PAC members and teachers, the PAC will fund Saleema Noon for this coming year. This is a program providing additional sexual health education for kids.
- Cross-country: Thank you to Mr. Smathers and Ms. Beeman for sponsoring the cross-country season. It was a great turn out and wonderful for the intermediate kids to participate as a team.
- Purdy's fundraiser: This is going ahead this year. Orders will start in November for delivery in December. The PAC will be looking for parent volunteers to sort and pack up the orders.
- PAC email list: Thank you to parents for completing and returning the forms for the PAC email list. Kemp will be compiling the list, which will become the main form of communication moving forward.
- PAC volunteer roles: The PAC is looking for committee leads for a few volunteer roles, including grant coordinator, school grounds (and garden), social emotional learning, and Stepping Up (grade 7). Please contact a member of the Executive if you would like more details.

6. Treasurer's Report – Leslie Hoolaeff

- When the budget was approved in June, the intention was to increase the amount of teacher discretionary money for classroom support (line 1) (PIN money) to \$300 per teacher and to allocate PIN money to the resource teachers. However, the total amount was not increased in the budget to reflect that intention and a motion to amend is therefore required.
 - The budget for PIN money needs to be increased from \$5,300 to \$6060, a difference of \$760. This could either be taken from the igirl / iguy budget (line 26) because the intention is to do Saleema Noon this year instead, which costs less, or it could come from the surplus.
 - Kemp put forward a motion to amend the budget to increase the PIN money (line 1) to \$6060.
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| Moved Serena Verma | Seconded Leslie Shoji | Carried (none opposed) |
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- The vote was by a show of virtual hands. A majority of the PAC members in attendance were in favour. There was no one opposed.
 - The budget will be amended per the motion.

7. DPAC update – Maddy Kipling

- Wolfe has not had a representative at the VSB District PAC (DPAC) for several years and the PAC is grateful to Maddy for agreeing to take on this role.
- DPAC is the parent advocacy group that connects with PACs from all schools and communicates with VSB and BCCPAC (the provincial PAC). DPAC addresses systemic issues in the public school system. There are two meetings per month, a general and an executive meeting, where a lot of important issues are discussed. All parents are welcome to attend.
- There are also DPAC subcommittees focused on specific issues such as facilities / school closures, and antiracism including Black and Indigenous working groups. Maddy is on the anti-racism subcommittee.
- Maddy described some of the upcoming Zoom meetings and events, and issues on the DPAC agenda. Please visit the DPAC website for more information, to register for the DPAC mailing list and to register to attend meetings:
<http://vancouverdpac.org>
- There is a Zoom session that parents and others working with children who have or need Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) may be interested in attending on Oct 21st from 7PM - 8PM presented by Partners for Inclusive Education (PIE).

8. New Business

- None.

9. Adjournment

Moved Jaimini Thakore	Seconded Serena Verma	Carried
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Next PAC Meeting is November 16, 2021