**SENTINEL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Library Mezzanine, 1250 Chartwell Drive

West Vancouver, BC V7S 2R2

**COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE:** Charlotte Wei President

Shabnam Shahkarami Vice President

Arbao Wong Secretary

**PRESENT:** Cathy Yeung, Najma Habibi, Tricia Jarvis, Farzaneh Davoodi, Sherry Najah, Nola Weiss, Shabnam Taheri, Jane Zou, Max Liu

**Meeting was called to order at 9:03am.**

**Meeting Agenda**

• Opening remarks---Charlotte (3 Minutes)

• Aprroval of agenda (1 Minute)

• Approval of the October 2018 minutes (1 Minute)

• Treasurer’s financial updates---Shabnam (5 Minutes)

• Principal report---Mr. Finch (20 Minutes)

• Wishlist updates---Nola (5 Minutes)

• Christmas preparations---Nola (5 Minutes)

• DPAC report---Sunny (5 Minutes)

• Upcoming events for Parents (5 Minutes)

• Miscellaneous Matters and free discussion (10 Minutes)

• Charlotte started the meeting by thanking all the parents for preparing food for Parent-Teacher interview and it was a big success.

• Approval of the agenda and approval of October 2018 minutes. Moved first by Nola and second by Arbao.

• Charlotte gave a brief financial update on behalf of Effie, saying that we have more income from gaming grant this year. There will be some changes regarding the outstanding balance since students are cashing their scholarship cheques.

Here is an executive summary:

*Income*

1. We have $1730 from student levy from 2017-2018 school year.

2. We have $30,648 from BC province (gaming grant). It is significantly higher than what we budgeted ($24,000). Maybe there is an increase in the number of students? You can verify # of students w/ Mr. Finch if needed.

*Expenses*

1. Under PAC meetings & miscellaneous, we had 2 cheques from 2017-2018 that were cashed after June 30, 2018 (end of fiscal year).

2. Twelve scholarship cheques were issued for 2018-2019, two outstanding scholarship cheques from 2017-2018. Of the fourteen scholarship cheques, seven have been cashed. Seven cheques are not cashed yet.

3. We also have the regular $8.50/month fee.

• Nola introduced that Wishlist is for non-curriculum-based requests from teachers which will benefit as many students as possible. The Wishlist committee will meet a couple of times to study and discuss all the forms to finalize it. Charlotte added that the committee had to frequently communicate with the teachers who applied before they can decide whether to approve their requests.

• For Christmas preparations, Nola stated that we normally do the Christmas decoration, which will happen this year at 9am on November 30th in the library. On Dec 19th, we will do the staff treats day and it’s our Sentinel tradition that Grade 11 parents will help with this event. We would prefer varieties for our staff to include not only sweets such as cookies, desserts, cakes but also cheese and crackers, veggies, sushi and so on. Volunteers are needed and anyone who can help please email her. Her email address can be found on the school website under PAC icon.

• For DPAC’s report, please refer to the following link for DPAC minutes to see more details.

https://www.westvancouverschools.ca/dpac/wp-content/uploads/sites/28/2018/11/2018-Nov-07-DPAC-GM-Minutes.pdf

• Mr. Finch, Sentinel’s Principal:

• Expressed his thanks to PAC for preparing snack and meals for the Parent-Teacher conference. Our teachers really value this conference as an opportunity to connect the faces to names. We used to do this Parent-Teacher interview in January, but our teachers felt that it’s more important to know the parents and to provide them the students’ progress at this stage of the year rather than waiting until January. Then we moved the date to November. Normally we give out five reports in a school year and three of them are formal ones like report card for each term，two of them can be either simple paper interim report with work habit and comment on or Parent-Teacher conference. Our coordinators would like some feedbacks on whether we need to do one more Parent-Teacher interview in January or just the written interim report.

Feedbacks were given as follows: Possibility to add the subjects of teachers parents can meet from three to six; Possibility to add the meeting time from 5 minutes per parent to 8 minutes; it’s already a long day and hard for teachers to prepare once a year and two would be too much; parents can email to teachers for around three subjects with more education detail to request a second meeting.

• Upcoming report cards will be online. You will be sent a link to access to online and if you have multiple children, you will have different password for each child. We are going to release hard copy report cards after the electronic ones are launched for couple of days. In this way, we encourage the parents to explore, to try and to solve all those hit-ups and finally to go to electronic online. Feedbacks are welcome.

• Quick updates:

The new gym facility will be postponed till June 2019 to finish, due to different permit code for installing the tent structure up highway 99.

Tomorrow evening the music group are hosting the Jazz Café in the theatre;

Winter Concert on Wednesday December 19 to celebrate the holiday season;

Big congratulations to our Cross-Country running team and they won the 2018 Provincial XC Champions; Congratulations to our Senior Soccer team to win the North Shore Champions and they will take part in the provincial championship starting next week.

• The new BC curriculum “Career life connections” will replace the Planning 10, which is a transitional program for graduation. This change will be more meaningful to kids and help them not only for high school but also help with the plans for their future. There will be limit of kids in one class with no more than 30 kids, to offer a better chance deliver the content. Parent information session is under consideration possibly later in the beginning of next year; We used to have three forms of learning method for this Planning 10: classroom learning, blended learning and online learning. We will possibly eliminate the online learning for a better result of this course later.

• Our planning council just had a meeting yesterday. The council has been thinking of hosting 3 events: English writing campaign before Christmas, Poster campaign featuring the GUARDS valued statements right after that and until Spring break, another presentation like “Ted talk” in the end of the year. They would like to provide with the winners some prize like gift cards and see if the PAC would like to offer three to five hundred dollars for each competition.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.