Westcot Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday February 14th, 2018 in the Library
760 Westcot Rd
West Vancouver, BC
9:05 A.M – 10:40 A.M

Meeting called by Holly Alexander

In Attendance: Holly Alexander – Co-Chair, Candice Shier, Eric Wen, Sabrina Piovesan-Treasurer, AnnaKarin Tornqvist- Secretary, Liam Cammack.

Present: Cathie Ratz, Mike Finch

Regrets: Jennifer Jamieson, Lorna Nimmons

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting called to order at 9:05 am by Holly Alexander.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda: Candice motioned, seconded by Sabrina. The motion was carried.

3. Approval of the minutes from January 10th, 2018: Sabrina motioned, Candice seconded. The motion was carried.

4. Sentinel's Principal Mr. Finch talked about High School Transition in general and specifics what transition is from Westcot to Sentinel. All students enrolled in Sentinel's "feeder" elementary schools (Westcot, Chartwell, PJ and Cedardale) are by default expected to go to Sentinel and do have guaranteed placement at Sentinel.

   Sentinel hosts information meeting geared towards grade 7 students and parents every January for the coming school year. There is also separate "Academy Evenings" with presentations of the different academies offered at Sentinel.
   In May, the "feeder schools'" grade 7 students go to Sentinel for a field trip.

   Mr. Finch emphasises that high school is a great time for students "to get involved and taking (within reason) risks". There are lots of clubs at the school for students to engage in that will enrich their high school experiences. High school is a time where lots of kids start to be more academically motivated, and with friends that are also good students to study with there is an attitude that it is "Cool to do school".

   This school year there are 1,285 students enrolled at Sentinel, whereof around 300-400 in an academy program. For students with exceptional sports or arts talents and track record, a Super Achiever program option is offered to successful applicants (pre-requisites apply).

5. Treasurer's Report:

   Spring Session Fun Lunch ordering is complete, and we had our best year ever (not surprising given our enrolment numbers). We had our total sales of over $134,000 which will leave us with a profit of around $35,000. We budgeted for a profit of $25,000, so this will eliminate the deficit and leave us more money for next year.

Spring Plant Sale is booked for delivery Thursday May 10th. Mother's Day is Sunday May 13th, so this will make nice gifts.

6. Principal's Report (appendix 1)

- Thank You's
- Enrollment Updates: currently 400 students enrolled!
- Special Events/Sports
- Play First/Eat Next: Decision to move to Eat first/Play later 2018/2019. Timing will be clear as of May 2018 as to what our bell times will look like.
- School Plan: Coding Trek grade 3, Coding Quest Grade 4 - , Robotics 6/7 after Spring Break

7. Committee Reports:

- DPAC Report: Lorna N. Reported by email. Holly read the key points:
  - For the 2017-2018 school year, the DPAC will be offering each PAC a one time grant of $250 to be used towards hosting a parent education event. In order to receive these funds, please submit a receipt to DPAC by the end of May 2018.
  - Parent Education –Angst: Anxiety in Youth (Film). Planning is underway to bring "Angst" - a movie about children and youth dealing with Anxiety Disorder, to WVSD for an evening presentation in April or May 2018.
  - Finance and Facilities:
    - Photocopiers are being replaced at all sites with a new provider
    - VOIP Phone system: Continuing to be gradually implemented with all sites expected to be on VOIP by the end of the school year
    - Sentinel Gymnasium update: (Project to build the gym with changing rooms, washrooms, and office area.) Plans to break ground in April, with completion on September 2018.
  - Comprehensive Health Committee:

    Working on a SurveyMonkey survey about sleep. Survey results to be discussed at upcoming committee meeting on February 19th. A presentation by the Rotary Club re Youth programs, partnerships in the community and beyond and volunteering. If anyone is interested in volunteering they can contact DPAC (or me) for more info.
  - Carolyn Brody
    - Board of Trustee meeting in December discussed Choice programs.
    - Meeting in January: Budget season – not much additional funding expected from the provincial budget later this month.
    - Community Day – June 2. Start thinking about it if planning to enter as a school in the parade.

- Chris Kennedy
  - There is a teacher shortage all over the province. We don't have any unfilled jobs, we have had 1 or 2 days shortage of Teachers On Call, but otherwise strong group to draw from.
  - New programs:
    - Engineering 11

    4 new Academies:

    - Volleyball
    - Table Tennis
    - Animation
    - Environmental Sciences

8. Upcoming Events:

- Parents' Coffee after drop-off on Thursday April 5th.

9. New Business:

- AnnaKarin informed that WPAC has to comply to the requirements of the new BC Societies Act by November 28th 2018. Some changes to current constitution and by-laws will be required. AnnaKarin to research further.
- Participants determined that the next PAC meeting, which is an evening meeting, should be a very quick PAC meeting directly followed by a Parent Education event.
- Liam provided information about the workshops iGirl and iGuy that Saleema Noon organizes.
- Liam inquired about potential "School Bus" taking North Vancouver students to and from Westcot. Cathie said that the public schools don't have any jurisdiction over transport to and from school.

Next PAC meeting is on April 11th, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

APPENDIX 1

WPAC Updates – Principal Report

Feb 14, 2018

Thank you

- Hot Lunch
- Emergency Preparedness

Enrollment Updates

- Looking for confirmation from students not returning
- Offering in District spots to all grades
- 400 currently

Special Events/Sports

- Emergency Preparedness (food, supplies)
- Ballet Kelowna 4 – 7 Feb 15
- Volleyball Game 1 last night
- Caribou Math Grades 4 – 7 Feb 15 test 4
- Reading Link Challenge 37 Gr 4/5 with 5 Gr 6/7 helpers
- Feb 19 and 20 Lunar New Year Activities Decorations
- West Van Run March 3 and 4 Monday morning training 8:00 courtyard Mr. Mee, Ms. Foster
- Badminton Anna Rice next year?
- Pink Shirt Day February 28th 11:35 Assembly Me to We Primary Flash Mob

Play first/Eat Next

- Decision to move to Eat first/Play later 2018/2019 Timing will be clear as of May 2018 as to what our bell times will look like.

School Plan

- Will meaningful, authentic engagement with ADST models and projects provide a window into the development of Core Competencies?
- What does this look like? K – 7 highlights Hour of Code, Coding Unplugged, wood burners, sanders, cooking, marble run, sewing……
- Coding Trek grade 3 Coding Quest Grade 4 – 7 Robotics 6/7 after Spring Break