

**West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting**  
**Virtual – Zoom Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**

**School Attendance:**

All West Vancouver parents and guardians are invited to General DPAC meetings. Please try to ensure that at least one representative from your school attends these meetings.

Representatives present from the following schools:

Bowen Island	Caulfeild	Cedardale
Chartwell	Cypress Park	Gleneagles
Hollyburn	Irwin Park	Pauline Johnson
Ridgeview	Rockridge	West Bay
Westcot	West Vancouver Secondary	

Also present: Carolyn Broady - Chair, Board of Education; Chris Kennedy, Superintendent  
31 participants attended in total.

Absent: Eagle Harbour, Lions Bay, Sentinel

**Welcome and Call to Order:** 9:15 am

**Adoption of Agenda:** First - Danielle; Second - Monica, Approved

**Amendment/Approval of Minutes:** First - Kyra; Second – Helen, Approved

We would like to recognize that we are gathered together on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and want to thank our friends and colleagues in the Nation who are working with us to guide our understanding of the history of this land and its people. We respect and honour the Elders past, present and future as we bring this knowledge to the students of our community.

**Chair's Report: Kelly Richter**

**DPAC Inclusion & Diversity Committee:**

We have finalized details for the first event in our community engagement series. Alden Habacon one of Canada's leading inclusion strategists will be opening up the dialogue on inclusion, anti-racism and belonging. The online event will take place Tuesday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm. Registration is now open and tickets are available for \$10 on Eventbrite: [https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/talking-about-inclusion-anti-racism-and-diversity-tickets-142601309355?keep\\_tld=1](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/talking-about-inclusion-anti-racism-and-diversity-tickets-142601309355?keep_tld=1)

Posters with registration links will be distributed through the school newsletters, and we ask that PACs distribute the posters through your communication channels. Poster can be found [here](#). The event is limited to 200 people, so be sure to purchase tickets quickly.

A second event featuring Indian Residential and Day School survivor Stewart Gonzales is being finalized with a planned presentation date in late April. We will have more details on this second "chapter" in our series later this month.

We are working in partnership with the WVML - they have developed a web page providing recommendations and resources to support families on a reading journey supporting learning about inclusion and diversity. The library has also developed a family reading challenge that will launch on March 11<sup>th</sup>: <https://westvanlibrary.ca/west-vancouver-schools-inclusion-resources-hub/>

### **Speaker Opportunity – Mental Health:**

Hayley Winter from Refuel Health and Wellness has provided Mental Health and Mindfulness workshops through two of our PACs, they have been highly recommended for the practical tools that she provides for parents and kids. Information on her workshops and options has been posted to Slack, or you can contact me for more information if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.

### **Open Discussion Topic**

Just a reminder that we have been asked to share ideas around staff appreciation ideas that PACs have been using this year, as many of the events we have traditionally done do not work with the Covid-19 health and safety measures. Please plan to stick around to discuss this and other topics your PACs might be interested in.

### **Update: DPAC Zoom License – Danielle Katerberg**

BCCPAC has upgraded the DPAC Zoom license so multiple users can now book on the same date/time for zoom use (our license used to be more limited and we could not “double book”). Please contact Danielle if you would like to book a meeting using the DPAC Zoom license.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### Parents as Education & Career Coaches Presentation

Wednesday, March 10, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Rockridge Secondary in conjunction with Education Planner BC are hosting an interactive session designed to support parents in guiding their student in making informed decisions about their education and career choices after high school. [Information Poster](#)

Contact Leesa Alldred at [lalldred@wvschools](mailto:lalldred@wvschools) for more information. Register [here](#).

#### Talking About Inclusion, Anti-Racism and Diversity: Virtual Event

Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30pm. More information and registration link can be found [here](#).

#### April DPAC General Meeting

Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:15 am Online. Zoom link to be emailed to all PAC Chairs and DPAC reps.

#### WVSD Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 5pm Online. Contact [abarr@wvschools.ca](mailto:abarr@wvschools.ca) for link to the meeting.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Kelly Kerklaan**

**General Chequing Account** - Balance Forward- 28 February 2021 \$ 6,144.23

**Gaming Account** - Balance Forward – 28 February 2021 \$2,526.91

- Bank balances remain relatively unchanged from the prior month with an adjusted bank balance in the chequing account of \$6,144.23 and an adjusted bank balance in the gaming account of \$2,526.91.
- The only activity in February 2021 was interest income on the gaming account of 43 cents.
- [On April 8, 2021 at 7pm](#) via Zoom, BCCPAC is hosting a "Gaming Grant 2021-22 Overview - What You Need to Know". The presentation will cover an overview of the Community Gaming Grant program and revisions to the DPAC/PAC Guidelines and the Capital Project grant, advice and examples of eligible uses of PAC funding, commonly asked questions, and will include a Q&A period. [Register Now!](#)

## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance & Facilities – Kelly Richter**

#### 2020/21 Playground Grant

- No applications received this year; grant will be carried forward to next year meaning that there will be two \$10,000 grants available, each consisting of \$5000 in cash and \$5000 in labor.

#### COVID-19 funding update

- Increased costs for salaries & benefits, transportation, supplies and utilities to support the increased building filtration measures amounted to \$1.2 million between September and December 2020.
- Lost revenue for the same period totalled \$4.7 million, comprising mainly of lost international student revenue plus reduced enrollment in academies and loss of rental income.
- Total overall losses due to COVID-109 - \$5.9 million
- Offset by savings in international program costs, reduced travel costs, etc. amounting to \$1.0 million
- Net impact was \$4.9 million – offset by \$3.1 million in federal and provincial COVID funding

#### Amended annual budget 2020/21

- Preliminary budget updated to include Covid funding support mentioned above
- Detailed information can be found in the F&F minutes linked [here](#) but the key point being that the total operating costs for the current school year is expected to be \$74.2 million, compared to total operating revenue of \$73.8 million, which leads to a modest deficit of \$400,000, which is significantly less than projected in the preliminary budget prepared and presented last spring.

### **Human Resources – Monica Scoles**

#### Updated COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

- In February, COVID-19 health and safety guidelines were updated by the Ministry of Education and BC Centre for Disease Control. The guidelines reflect key learning by the medical community about the virus and the school community about protocols in practice. The key message from our health authority continues to be that schools are safe. Although the district has seen an increase in exposures recently, these are community transmissions coming into our schools NOT schools transmitting virus.
- There is a new safety plan available online and is available in every school site. The Safety Plan is a living document and will continue to be amended as necessary.

#### New Paid Leave Provision

- The Government of BC has imposed a new paid leave provision that requires employers to provide paid leave to any employee that is required to self-isolate by a health authority. This provision allows employees to stay home as required and will not draw from their sick days.

#### Teacher Evaluation & Conversions

- Jamie Ross has been hired again to assist with the teacher evaluation process. Jamie is a former Union President and Director of HR in the Coquitlam School District. He is currently in the process of completing the evaluations. Principals are also completing their evaluations. Once completed, Human Resources will then focus on early conversion of teachers. Staffing needs to be understood but some conversions may occur before Spring break.
- Question from attendee regarding “conversion”. Chris Kennedy clarified that teachers are initially hired on a “temporary” contract and after evaluation, their status may be converted to “permanent”.

#### Workplace Mental Health Leadership

- The district is pleased to offer the Queen’s University Certificate Workplace Mental Health Leadership program to all district Principals, Vice Principals and Managers. This program teaches leadership skills in supporting employees and promoting positive workplace mental health. West

Vancouver will be the first school district in BC to offer this program to all leaders. By the end of the week, most district leaders will have completed the training.

### Virtual Career Fairs

- Over the past few months, universities and colleges have been hosting their usual career fairs but have shifted to an online format. A positive change from this shift to virtual is that the district is able to participate in more career fairs and new career fairs. HR has travelled the country virtually to attend more universities in eastern Canada. The district hosted its first ever West Vancouver Schools Career fair, which focused on teacher candidates met through various career fairs and social media. The sessions were fun and included videos, interactive polls and games with prizes. The feedback was positive and will likely run again with a focus on Education Assistants and other employee groups.

### Indigenous Recruitment

- The district has recently met with Paul Wick, Director of Education, Employment and Training at the Squamish Nation to explore how to better reach candidates of indigenous background. They are seeking guidance on how to reach a wider audience for all positions within the school district organization. Mr. Wick shared strategies and possible avenues to better promote and feature our opportunities.

### HR Retention Initiative

- As a fun initiative and a way to connect with current staff, West Vancouver Schools baby onesies and bibs are being gifted to employees that are expecting.

### **Enhance West Van – Kyra Williams Smiljanic**

- Nothing to report this month

### **School Traffic Advisory – Renee Bouchier (STA Rep and Cypress Park)**

- Reminder that Bike to school week is coming up in May
- Encourage schools to apply for the mini grant (\$300) (Application & Guidelines can be found in Slack under # grants-and-gaming-grants
  - Suggested uses: bike to school or walk to school initiatives
- There is also a student video contest focusing on “the green can”
  - Launched the last week of February, running until mid-April
  - First prize is \$750
  - <https://westvancouver.ca/parks-recreation/youth/student-video-contest-student-video-contest-2021>
- Family friendly walking map should be posted on your school website. If not, please contact your principal
- Enforcement is done mostly during non-peak hours, i.e, speeding on Mathers
- Reminder about distracted driving: request PACs to ask parents to park and *then* text location to their children, not during driving.
- 5 schools are on active rotation with bylaws and enforcement. Schools are “chosen” based on those that have had the most complaints. Reminders include parking too close to driveways or blocking lanes/traffic flow
- If there are any traffic concerns at your school, please speak with your principal and they will direct it through the appropriate channels and steps
- Next meeting in May

### **Board of Trustees Report – Carolyn Broady**

#### Budget input

- Thank you to those schools who have provided budget input, will look at them in the next few weeks

- Traditional budget timeline (\*note, not this year):
  - Throne speech and provincial budget announced
  - Allocation given on March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Work through budget process
  - Final budget approved in May
- Tentative timeline this year:
  - Throne speech and provincial budget are delayed
  - *Tentative* allocation given on March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Work through budget process based on previous years
  - Throne speech and provincial budget are presented
  - Final allocation given
  - Final budget approved in June

#### Harry Jerome Oval

- Relaunched last week in February
- Encourage parents to visit Place for Sport site: <https://wvpfs.org>
- Last and final fundraising push
- Need to raise \$1.2-1.3 million
- Oval is incredible asset for the West Vancouver community. Use for students, athletes, and community members since it is one of the few soft, flat surfaces in West Vancouver
- Encourage everyone to donate, is a wonderful and worthwhile legacy for West Vancouver

#### Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force (Covid-19)

- Mayor Booth has asked Chair Broady to sit on this task force. Chair Broady sits on the Marketing Subcommittee, will be representing school district, parents and families
- Looking at how to engage and improve the shopping experience in West Vancouver (Ambleside, Dundarave, Caulfeild, Bowen)
- Trying to revitalize local areas; encourage shop and live local
- Would like feedback:
  - what do you want to see in West Van
  - what parents would like to see for their children and families
  - Examples of questions: what would entice you to stay and have dinner in West Van, or shop in Ambleside and Dundarave?
  - What issues do you face, ie, parking
- Email [cbroady@wvschools.ca](mailto:cbroady@wvschools.ca) with your feedback

#### BCSTA Provincial Council Update

- Motion passed: If we received a 3<sup>rd</sup> vaccine option (Astra Zeneca), people working in schools (support staff, custodial staff, admin and teachers) could all be prioritized as essential workers to receive the vaccine sooner
- Will be forwarded to PHO and Ministry shortly; link to letter is [here](#)

#### **Superintendent's Report – Chris Kennedy**

##### Alden Habacon

- School District is doing a lot of work with Alden and his team
- Alden has worked with the administrators and Board
- Booked as Opening Day speaker in September (Pro D Day before Labour Day)
- Encourage parents to register for March 30<sup>th</sup> DPAC event and watch with their kids
- A lot of teachers will be “attending” also

##### Harry Jerome Oval

- In discussions with Valerie Jerome to bring her in to speak with students and the community about her and Harry story growing up on the North Shore in 1950s and anti-racism

## Fall Update

- High School
  - will be receiving information next week, before Spring Break
  - “High Level Plan” explained in ebulletins, ie, plan for scheduling in the fall, ie, block structure, goals for the fall depending on health and safety situation
  - Thank you to parents for filling out the survey and their feedback
  - Will provide an in-depth virtual meeting after spring break (est mid-April) to review with parents the feedback received from the surveys and how it is being used to inform planning for the fall
- Elementary School
  - Goal is full-time in-person learning
  - Still working through details such as start times, staggered breaks, etc. Will depend on health and safety in the fall
- Post Spring Break conversations regarding changes implemented due to covid and what has been working and what we want to keep irregardless of the health and safety rules

## Budget Input

- Chris will present feedback from schools to Finance and Facilities meeting next week and will become part of the public record

## Temporary Transition Program (TTP)

- Program extended until June
- 250 students or 3-4% of school district is currently in TTP program
- A large number of students will be returning after spring break, starting in person learning again on March 29th

## Covid Questions forwarded by DPAC and asked at general meeting

- If there is a second covid case in a cohort, would a second letter be sent out?
  - Letters are usually about *exposure* dates, not number of students involved.
  - There may not be another letter sent out if exposure dates are the same for the second covid case in a cohort. If there are additional/different dates, a letter will go out.
  - If VCH thinks there may have been *transmission*, those are the cases that almost always end up in isolations.
  - Most cases have been exposures not transmissions and Coastal Health believe there was no spread that occurred
- Are schools provided with a list of staff and students required to self-isolate?
  - If there is an exposure at school, yes.
  - If the dates of exposure are not during school dates (ie, Spring Break), then no, the school district would not have that information unless a family/person chooses to disclose it
- If someone is in isolation and shows up, can the school/school district enforce it?
  - That has not occurred. If that were to happen, the child would be isolated and arrangements would be made to have them picked up
- What are the rules around isolation?
  - <http://www.vch.ca/documents/how-to-self-isolate.pdf>
- When there is a family member who tests positive, should kids be attending school? What about when a family member is told to self-isolate, should their kids be in school?
  - VCH (Vancouver Coastal Health) determines who is a close contact and advises accordingly. Anecdotally, what has happened is if a someone tests positive, family members who are living together in the same household are told to self-isolate
- When someone is told to self-isolate, should their kids/siblings attend school?
  - Yes, they should attend school, unless they are told to self-isolate. VCH will make that determination on who needs to self-isolate
- What opportunities are there regarding teachers and counselors reaching out to students who are self-isolating to touch base with them?

- There is a youth worker. Chris will look into doing something more systemic around reaching out.
- Plan for immunizations for Grade 6s this year?
  - School immunization program is currently on-hold during the pandemic.

**Guest Speakers: Ian Kennedy and Liz Hill, WVS Directors of Instruction**  
**Indigenous Education in West Vancouver Schools – Our Shared Journey**

Unpacking the Acknowledgement

- Acknowledgement is a journey and is also a self-journey
- Acknowledging the land and the people. Not taking the land for granted, acknowledge what the water and the land is giving us and has given us. Acknowledge the people we are having a conversation with, make a connection with the people we are with.
- Taking a moment to be reflective, to pause and be grateful to the land and the people and connect with others.
- Ha7th Skwayés ta nú yap – Good day to you all

WVS – Indigenous Education – Our Shared Journey

- Learning through the Canoe
  - Developing shared goals
  - Setting a course and direction
  - Pulling together
  - Always focusing on student success

Indigenous Students in WVS by year

- Growth seen in student population in WVS from 2010-2020
- More students self-identifying as indigenous also
- 2010 – 32 students; 2020 – 115 students

Nominal Roll WVS/SN

- Number of students enrolled in WVS who are living on Squamish Nation Reserve land (Capilano Reserve or Mission Reserve)
- 2016 – 5 students; 2020 – 25 students

Students with Indigenous Ancestry

- Metis – 26%
- Non-Status – 25%
- Status Off Reserve – 27%
- Squamish On Reserve – 22%

How are our Indigenous Students doing?

- Average Indigenous Student GPA Across Districts (60%-BC Average non-indigenous)
  - WVS – 68-69%
  - Compared to a provincial average of 60%, only 2 districts are exceeding, two are at the average and the rest are below

Graduation Rate/6 Year Completion Rate

- MoE (Ministry of Education) measures graduation rate is a six year completion rate

BC Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA)

- Agreement between BC MoE and fnesc (First Nations Education Steering Committee)

WVS Structures

- 5 key structures to help WVS support Indigenous education throughout the District
- WV/SN Protocol Agreement Team
  - WVS and Skwxwu7mesh Nation have worked together to draft a Government to Government Protocol Agreement as part of the Tripartite Agreement
  - Establishes and maintains a cooperative and collaborative relationship between WVS and the Skwxwu7mesh Nation
  - Outlines governance structures, communication, advocacy and consultation processes
  - How to make decisions and work together to support the students of the Skwxwu7mesh Nation

- Currently in draft form, living in the spirit of this protocol agreement. Currently in the hands of the Skwxwu7mesh Nation and they are taking it through their processes to go through and finalize.
- Once finalized, the Protocol Agreement Team will formally share this with the District.
- Student Success Team (Staffing)
  - Jada Harry – Elementary Indigenous Success Teacher
  - Carol Langley – Secondary Indigenous Success Counsellor
  - Stephanie Langlois – Secondary Indigenous Success Teacher
  - Steve Rauh – Secondary Indigenous Success Teacher
- WVS Indigenous Cultural Enhancement Team
- WVS Indigenous Circle
  - Ongoing, open, monthly virtual meeting opportunity for staff to get together to learn about Indigenous education
  - Share updates and what is happening in each others' schools
- WVS Indigenous Education Advisory Council
  - Developed an Enhancement Agreement (3 goals for the District)
    - To enhance the educational success of our First Nations, Metis, and Inuit students, and focus on 3 main goals to ensure they are supported intellectually, culturally, and emotionally.
      - 1) To use Indigenous ways of Knowing and Perspectives to inform and empower our teaching, learning and decision-making
      - 2) To enhance student success by facilitating transitions and pathways throughout the K-12 journey
      - 3) To create a sense of space and belonging for Indigenous students that is inclusive to all
  - Gifted the Enhancement Agreement to Superintendent Kennedy and Chair Broady

How to learn more?

- Visit our WVS Indigenous website: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/aboriginal-education/>
- Is there a list of contacts that PACs can use if they are interested in things such as gardens or murals?
  - As part of Protocol Agreement, if wanting access to resources, cultural or language requests, WVS makes request directly to the Skwxwu7mesh Nation.
  - So we know who those experts and knowledge-keepers are in the Community and so the Nation knows what is happening in and across the District
  - PACs should work with their principal who will know those pathways to either access directly with the Skwxwu7mesh Nation or can reach out to Liz and Ian.

Plans for Canoe?

- On hold due to covid

### **Adjournment: 10:43 am**

There was an open discussion afterwards on ideas for staff appreciation:

Suggestions were made as follows (following covid-safe protocols):

1. Individual lunches/meals
2. Reusable shopping bags (school logo'd)
3. Small potted plants
4. Appreciation video (kudo board)
5. School logo'd mask

There was also a discussion regarding hot lunch. A district Hot Lunch Working Group was formed and meets when required. Feedback regarding Hot Lunch has been excellent and the new protocols are working well. 3 questions arose from the discussion:



1. Can drinks/drink boxes be sold again (current revenue has been reduced due to cut backs in number of days per week) as it will help raise additional funds for the PAC.
  - No, given the additional mess and cleaning required
2. Can hot lunch days be expanded?
  - Previously, limit placed on the number of days a week for hot lunch. Recommendation will be removed, although it is noted that most schools seem to be maxing out at 3 days per week.
3. Can hot lunch delivery/distribution by parents?
  - Some schools seem to be having success with the vendor delivering to the front door individually labeled meals separated by divisions. From there, an individual parent volunteer delivers the lunches for the division to the classroom. Schools limit the number of parent volunteers on site and some have a support staff helping with hot lunch distribution.