

**West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting Minutes
Virtual Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, May 5, 2021**

School Attendance

All West Vancouver parents and guardians are welcome to attend General DPAC meetings. Please try to ensure that at least one representative from your school is in attendance.

Representatives were present from the following schools:

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|
| Caulfeild | Hollyburn | Sentinel |
| Cedardale | Irwin Park | West Bay |
| Chartwell | Pauline Johnson | Westcot |
| Cypress Park | Ridgeview | WVSS |
| Gleneagles | Rockridge | |

Absent: BICS, Eagle Harbour, Lions Bay

Also present: Carolyn Broady, Board Chair
Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

Guests: John Lo, Chief Constable — West Vancouver Police Department
Sandra-Lynn Shortall, Director of Instruction, Student Support Services

Welcome and Call to Order: 9:15 am

Adoption of Agenda: Moved by Tanya Mah, Seconded by Monica Scoles

Adoption of April 2021 Meeting Minutes: Moved by Kyra Williams-Smiljanic, seconded by Tanya Mah

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.

Chairs Report: Kelly Richter:

DPAC Inclusion & Diversity Committee:

The second chapter in the community engagement series took place April 27th, featuring the personal story of Residential School and Indian Day School survivor Sempulyan, and his inspiring healing journey. We had over 40 people attend the event, which generated roughly \$500 in donations that will help to fund future Inclusion, Anti-Racism & Diversity events in the upcoming school year.

A reminder about our partnership with the WVML, and the reading hub for children, youth and adults on inclusion and diversity: they have updated resources to include books on Indigenous stories to coincide with our recent speaker.

<https://westvanlibrary.ca/west-vancouver-schools-inclusion-resources-hub/>

Nominations for DPAC Executive are Open!

Nominations for next year's DPAC Executive are now open; the election will take place at our AGM June 2nd. Tanya Mah has volunteered to be our elections officer this year. Anyone

interested in learning more about what we do or feel that you might be interested in joining the team, please email Tanya (jefftanya@shaw.ca).

We are in a situation where many of our team will be at term limits in the coming year, so we are eagerly welcoming fresh faces onto our team.

Open Discussion Reminder

Our open PAC discussion will be held directly following the meeting; suggestions for topics include revisions to PAC bylaws and PAC succession.

Upcoming Events

WVS Board Meeting
May 18, 5:00 pm

DPAC General Meeting & AGM
June 2, 9:15 am

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Kerklaan

Our adjusted bank balance in the operating account is \$7,375.31.

Our adjusted bank balance in the gaming account is \$427.73.

In April, we had the following transactions:

- \$1,596.85 in revenue from two online parent education events
- Earned 0.43 interest in Gaming Account
- Paid \$2100.00 for Alden Habacon – parent education speaker
- Received refund of \$12.97 for partial month of cancelled Zoom webinar license
- Paid \$210 for 6 DPAC Exec members to attend BCCPAC Parent Conference

Constitution and Bylaws Review: Danielle Katerberg

We have reviewed our constitution and bylaws and have proposed some changes. As a reminder, it is a good idea for all PACs to review their own Constitution and Bylaws to ensure they are kept up to date.

The changes we are proposing are to:

- Update the nomination and election process to add clarity and reflect the use of online polls in voting
- Update our practices for transparency with bookkeeping and the role of treasurer, as suggested by the BCCPAC, to include the requirement that an additional executive member has access to the books
- Add a code of conduct for nominees to ensure they are familiar and comfortable with the expectations of serving as an executive member prior to accepting a position

All of the proposed changes are printed in blue in the document sent out in the latest e-news; please have a look and let us know if you have any questions or comments. We will vote to approve the proposed changes next month at our AGM.

Finance & Facilities: Kelly Richter

- Recap of work completed by Facilities during Spring Break

- Lions Bay Village – parking proposal to add pay parking in the school parking lot during non-school hours; Village of Lions Bay will be responsible for installation and collections, WVS will participate in revenue.
- Childcare BC New Spaces Fund – There was a plan for a new purpose built structure at WVSS, the grant offered was \$200,000 short of what was needed. Decision was made not to accept that financial risk during Covid. The funding stream is now closed, so there is not any capital available for a new child care site at this time.
- District playground grant (\$5000 cash, \$5000 labour) was not applied for this year; Board reviewed the grant and has decided to consider outdoor classroom projects for this funding if the playground grant is not awarded in a calendar year. 2021 grant has been awarded to Rockridge for their outdoor classroom project.
- 2021/22 Capital Plan – awarded \$1 million for West Bay building envelope project. Cash received for phase 1 – windows and glazing on left side of the entrance and back. Project goal – reduce any impact on students or school operations. This will be a year-round project.
- Budget process for the next school year is continuing; budget will be presented at the June Board Meeting for adoption.
- Budget focus for DLT:
 1. Support in person learning, health & safety
 2. Provide stability and certainty for students, staff & parents

Calendar Committee: Kyra Williams-Smiljanic

The preliminary school year calendar is posted to the website for review.

School Traffic and Safety Advisory Committee: Renee Bouchier

Translink presented:

- Youth Travel Strategy to promote active modes of travel by children. Phase 1 is Elementary schools.
- Bike to school week: May 31 - June 4
- Free Transit for those under 12 announced by TransLink.

Traffic and Safety in SD45:

- West Bay is doing a walk to school plan on Wednesdays
- Caulfeild applied for mini-grant
- Staggered entry for Sept under review; TBD.

Road work:

- Watermain construction on Taylor Way (Marine Drive to Keith Road)
 - Begins May 16 (2 weeks overnight)
 - Daytime after the long weekend
- Caulfield and Headland
 - Summer to September
- 4100 block Marine Drive
 - Summer- Sept

Harry Jerome Oval Update: Danielle Katerberg

Many will be familiar with this project as it has been in the works for about 5 years. You will likely notice an increase in momentum as the committee aims to raise the final funds needed this year. A letter writing campaign is currently underway to ask the government to allocate Federal Infrastructure Grant funds to this project. The committee is also wanting to share the story of local Olympic athlete Harry Jerome, for whom the Oval is named. It would be helpful if DPAC reps can bring awareness to their PACs about this project and encourage parents to donate and add their voices to the call for public funds. More information can be found at wvdfs.org.

Enhance West Van: Kyra Williams-Smiljanic

Enhance WV provided funding for:

- 100 headsets for the elderly to access classes or listen to music
- 30+ heavy duty outdoor toys for WVCC childcare centre
- Youth aquatics lifesaving program open
- WV Minor Hockey reporting need for additional ice facilities (i.e., renting Deep Cove ice space) to accommodate ongoing hockey and hockey for autism programs

WV Virtual Spring forum Event: June 1, 6:30 pm: “Post Pandemic Pivot”

- 4 panelists speaking on looking at the world post-pandemic through entertainment, work, and social lenses, featuring Shannon Walker (business), Rick Amantea or Park Royal (entertainment/ leisure) and representatives from Family Services.

Program Update**YOUTH ACTIVITY CENTER**

- BC Youth Week launch
- YAC released a survey on how youth lives have been affected by Covid
- Youth awards on hold due to pandemic restrictions
- Mayor announced WV clean-up campaign

SENIORS CENTER

Discussion of virtual programs in place and in development, including caregiver support, stress movement (Parkinson’s), chair yoga.

- Social worker hired to provide support
- Survey by Jill Lawlor to seniors regarding Senior’s Centre expansion
- Hotline for seniors – 700 calls per week; some in trouble and some just call to talk

School Board Chair’s Report: Carolyn Broady

- Recent Mayor’s Community Clean-up was a great success; nice way to engage the community and have youth and seniors connect. This type of connection has been lacking during the pandemic.
- School Boards in Vancouver & New Westminster recently voted to remove the School Police Liaison Officer programs in their school districts. This is not something WVS is considering; the relationship with WVPD is very positive. They assist in lockdown drills, police dog demonstrations, and as school liaisons working to help build strong relationships. If any families have negative experiences or are nervous about the police liaison program, they are encouraged to reach out to their school administrator to assist in building and supporting that relationship.

- Looking ahead to September with Covid-19, the focus will continue to be balancing health and safety in schools. Vaccines have now been approved for youth 12+, so all high school students should have the opportunity to receive a vaccine before fall. Mental wellness for all staff and students continues to be a focus.

Superintendents Report: Chris Kennedy

COVID:

- Approximately 90% of all staff in WVS have had access to vaccines; the remaining staff in the under 30 age group will be getting access to vaccinations this coming weekend. As adult to adult, and adult to child transmission is most common, it is hoped that having all adults vaccinated will significantly reduce the risk of transmission in schools.
- There has been a decline in exposure notices in school. This is reflective of the decline in community infection rates on the North Shore, there had been an increase after Spring Break
- Rapid test kits will be made available to all schools. If a child becomes sick while at school, they will have the option to complete a rapid test and deliver it to the lab for testing. Vancouver piloted this program, which helps make testing accessible.
- Question regarding who has the authority to determine when schools should be closed: the Phases are determined at the Provincial level by Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, in consultation with the Ministry of Health. Local School Boards do not have this authority.
- If there are outbreaks or clusters in schools, it is within the jurisdiction of the local health authority (In our case, Vancouver Coastal Health) to decide when it might be appropriate to close a school
- The Temporary Transition Program (TTP) has another return date next week with many students returning to in-person learning. A survey was completed to gauge the need for the program next year and found that a majority of families intend to return to full-time in-person learning next fall. Only a handful of families indicated that they would continue online/distance ed/homeschooling.

Grade 7 Farewells

Procedures were recently reviewed in order to come up with guidelines for celebrations. Parents must discuss plans with their Principal to determine what options exist within their school. Celebrations may vary depending on the size of the grade 7 cohorts.

Principal/ Vice-Principal Reassignments:

- There are fewer moves being made this year due to Covid, however there will likely be changes made next year. There are some limitations such as the French-speaking requirement for principals at French immersion schools
- Principals are generally moved after 5-7 years. This gives them enough time to see projects through. Vice Principals are moved more often, usually about every 3-4 years as it is helpful for Vice Principals to have experience with at least two different schools and administrators before they move on to become Principals.

Secondary School Planning for next year:

Feedback from a recent survey found that:

- The Quarter system was fine (not great, not terrible, just fine)
- The hybrid system was less effective
- Fewer courses at a time are easier to manage
- The X-Block has been effective
- The Semester system is viewed to be the most effective option

- Quarter system was found to be more manageable, however courses sometimes feel rushed, and missing a single day is equated to missing a week. Math was found to be more difficult in the quarter system, but some courses such as foods benefited from the quarter system as it allowed for a demo and the cooking to be done in the same day.
- Plans for next year: it is hoped that health restrictions will allow for a semester system. In the meantime, plans are for a quarter system, which can more easily be converted to a semester system rather than planning for a semester system and having to revert to the quarter system.

Q&A:

- Why are there split classes in elementary: there are several reasons why a school may have multiple 6/7 classes rather than straight-grade classes. One reason is for greater flexibility in meeting class size limits. Another reason to continue with split classes is because of the way some of the curriculum will have been structured to be delivered over a two-year period.
- Due to what has been learned during the pandemic, we probably won't ever go back completely to the way things were, as there have been some benefits. For example, the semester system will likely stay, and staggered schedules at elementary schools have been successful.

Guest Speaker: Chief Constable John Lo

The West Vancouver Police Department has a great relationship with West Vancouver Schools. The police offer presentations to schools on varying topics, such as K-4: general information and how the police can help; Grades 5-7: cyber bullying and general safety; grades 10-12 legal matters. Starting in fall of 2021, presentation to Grades 10-12 will also cover consent. The police assist with lockdown drills, the Student Work Advisory Team (SWAT), Law 12 mock trials, and the Police Youth Academy which helps teach teamwork and leadership skills

The West Vancouver Police are always open to doing better for our students, parents, teachers, and staff in West Vancouver Schools, and they welcome feedback. The police are not in schools for the purpose of enforcement or to conduct searches, rather they are there for building community and relationships.

For more on the Police Youth Academy, contact Constable Nicole Braithwaite at nicolebraithwaite@wvpc.ca

Chief John Lo can be reached at johnlo@wvpc.ca

Guest Speaker: Sandra-Lynn Shortall

How is WVS supporting education around navigating puberty, and health relationships?

- A review was given of the provincial physical health curriculum (which can be found at curriculum.gov.bc.ca) and how a partnership with SHIFT Education is helping to deliver Sex Ed in our changing world.
- Jessica Wollen of SHIFT Education works in schools teaching sexual health curriculum. Originally developed for neurodiverse students but found to be a valuable resource for neurotypical students as well. The approach is grounded in human rights: knowing your rights and recognizing your right to be safe. Helping kids to learn about healthy social skills and learning to develop healthy human relationships.
- Due to changing times, "sex ed" has to change and looks a lot different than it has in the past. Need to think about sexual health education differently:
 - Neurodiversity

- Cultural & language diversity
- Explicit teaching with a structured approach
- Home + school partnership

The Healthy Relationships curriculum consists of 10 units, including:

- Map Your World (a more approachable start than “Let’s talk about Sex Ed”)
- Public vs. Private
- Online Ninja (re: computers, smartphones, tablets etc. and how to be tech savvy)
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Sex and the Law

More information and resources can be found at shift-education.com.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:06 am