

**West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

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	Sentinel
West Bay	WVSS		

Also present: Chris Kennedy, Superintendent, Carolyn Broady, Board Chair
Regrets: Eagle Harbor, Lions Bay, Westcot

Welcome and Call to Order: 9:20 am

Adoption of Agenda: Tanya Imhoff and Monica Scoles

Adoption of Minutes: Not required; March meeting was the DPAC Trustee Liaison meeting and minutes were not taken

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 honor the Elders past, present and future as we bring this knowledge to the students of our community.

Chair's Report: Kelly Richter

Input – Annual School District Budget Process

The school district is asking schools and partner groups to provide input for the annual budget planning process again this year. All PACs are invited to complete a budget input form, and submit it to Amanda Barr (abarr@wvschools.ca) by Tuesday April 26. Input will be presented at the Finance & Facilities meeting on May 17 and used by staff to prepare recommendations for the 2022-23 preliminary budget, and by the Board in their decision making process. Parents are also invited to submit their own budget recommendations directly to the district. A link to the form will be sent out with the minutes. (Link [HERE](#))

Meeting Format

The DPAC exec are considering opportunities to return to in-person meetings this year. At this point, our plan is to continue with the virtual format for May, and looking at returning to in person for our June AGM & general meeting, which is traditionally followed by a luncheon with the District Leadership Team & Trustees. We will continue to monitor public health guidelines as we get closer to June.

- Anonymous poll conducted: 72% in favour of June in-person, 6% opposed, 22% unsure/undecided.

DPAC Executive – Succession

Nominations for next year's DPAC Executive will open at the May General Meeting, and the election will take place at the June 1st AGM, which is the final meeting of the year. If any of you are interested in learning more about what the DPAC does, or are interested in joining the team, please contact the Chair (dpac@wvschools.ca) for more information. Many of the current executive have reached term limits this year, so we are hoping to have some new parents join the team. All positions are open.

BCCPAC Parent Education Conference

The BCCPAC annual parent education conference is taking place in person this year on Friday April 29 and Saturday April 30. The theme is "Making Connections, Moving Forward", and any of you that are members will have received information by email. The early bird rate is available until tomorrow. There is a great lineup of speakers and breakout sessions, including Jennifer Whiteside, the Minister of Education. Registration:

<https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/conferences/conference-agm/registration>

Upcoming Events

- WVS Board Meeting – In Person
April 19, 5:30 pm

Treasurer's Report - Kelly Kerklaan

General Chequing Account

Balance Forward- 1 July 2021 \$7,785.20

- Current Balance as at March 31 2022 (statement) \$9,327.13

Gaming Account

Balance Forward – 1 July 2021 \$47.38

- Current Balance as at March 31 2022(statement) \$3,126.68

Motion to increase the parent education expenses from \$2500 to \$4000 for this year; passed with a majority in favour.

Notes:

- In March 2022, it was realized that we had not deposited our Indieflix refund into our gaming account (where it was initially paid from). We contacted the Community Gaming Grants Branch to let them know and they advised us that we needed to deposit the refund into the gaming account; this was done in March 2022. We were unable to use the refund to cover past parent ed costs, so we asked for an extension to use \$600 of our gaming funds from this year to next year. Our request was approved to extend the use of \$600 for parent ed events up until June 30, 2023. Usually gaming funds for DPACs must be used within 12 months of receipt.
- Don't forget to apply for your 2022/2023 gaming grant. Application period opened on April 1, 2022 and closes June 30, 2022.
- Note for high schools: The 2022-23 grant year will be the last year PAC funding may be used for scholarships or bursaries. In 2023-24, scholarships and bursaries will no longer be an eligible use of gaming funds.

- Question (Marisa): is an elementary school able to use gaming grant funds for scholarships for high school students?
 - Answer (Kelly K): No; this has never been an eligible expense for elementary schools, but it was an eligible expense for high schools (and will be this year), however it will not be going forward. To clarify, elementary school PACs can support scholarships, however gaming funds cannot be used for this.

Committee Reports

Human Resources – Monica Scoles

Recruitment

- Custodians who held supplemental COVID related positions have been shifted to casual status
- A part-time EA has been hired to support deaf and hard of hearing students
- Recruitment continues for casual office support clerks and EAs
- Practicum students have been hired to support the IT team, international department, school board office and Rockridge Secondary. Recruitment efforts including career fairs and info sessions at Capilano U, UBC and Langara were highlighted.

Health & Safety

- All sites & schools have held joint health & safety committee meetings to review updated Provincial COVID Communicable Disease K-12 Guidelines and complete a COVID checklist.

Mental Health & Wellness

- WVS is offering a range of training initiatives to support employee mental health

Summer Learning

- Director of Instruction Liz Hill will be joined by Kathy Grant, Lindsay Morton and Debbie Tobin as school administrators. Postings are now closed and hiring decisions will be made in the coming weeks. Currently 714 students are registered for summer learning – registration opened April 4 – this is a huge response already.

Finance & Facilities (Kelly Richter)

Capital Funding Reallocation

- Due to delays with the West Bay building envelope project (issues – permits, material delays), this project is now on hold. WVS has applied to the Ministry to reallocate these funds plus left-over funds from the GEC boiler project for use at Eagle Harbour for a new HVAC system. Anticipate favourable reply from the Ministry, just waiting for confirmation.
- Capital Funds – plan filed for \$1.3 million (Caulfeild – HVAC installation) + \$500,000 (Cedardale HVAC upgrades); together this plus the Eagle Harbour HVAC project mentioned previously will ensure that all WVS ventilation systems will be in great shape overall.
- Discussion around 2022/23 Revenue projections; although local and international student enrollment are trending upwards for next year, the budget is still tight without much room for changes, mention that is a consideration in the budget input process.

Equity Diversity & Inclusion – Kyra Williams Smiljanic

- Committee is in the process of booking a spring speaker for Chapter Three in the community engagement series; we are in discussion with Ian Kennedy (WVS) and Chris Lewis (Squamish First Nation, SFU) for an event in late May.

WV Place for Sport – Danielle Katerberg

The WVPFS steering committee met on March 30th to review the plans to date. Chris will give a more detailed update on the scope of the project. I will give an update on the fundraising:

- While council has backed the project to ensure that construction may begin, the scope of the project may be limited. For example, currently, a bathroom, and improvements to the bleachers are not included in the plans. The fundraising committee remains committed to seek funding for the complete project.
- If anyone was sitting on the fence about donating, now is a time when you can be confident that the project will go ahead, with construction set to begin this year.
- The fundraising committee is extremely grateful to the PACs who have already made a contribution. Many of these donations were made years ago. A \$2500 donation will be recognized on the donor wall with a bronze leaf; a \$5000 donation with a silver leaf, and a gold leaf for donations over \$10,000.
- Most PACs have donated at the bronze level, with a few PACs at the silver level. If your PAC is able to increase your donation to the silver level, (perhaps you have unused funds due to the Covid restrictions?), you are invited to consider this in your budget planning.
- If you are unsure about your own PAC's contribution, you can see the list of Maple Leaf donors at <https://wvpfs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/WVPFS-Presentation-slide-deck-1.pdf> (*please note: this slide deck needs to be updated)

School Traffic & Safety – Jatinder Sidhu

Contact: jaywalking@me.com / 236-880-4782

Jatinder recently assumed the Traffic & Safety role; PACs should contact him with any concerns regarding traffic and safety within your school community.

- Working on active transportation month with Sentinel, student council and Nora Gambioli
- Bike to School week – coming up in May
- Working on a safe transport to school movie with “Wolfie” at West Bay, also starting a walking school bus and safety blitz. Happy to work with other schools interested in working on similar issues/projects
- Working with Kulvir Mann / North Shore Safety Council on initiatives
- Question (Nessa) – regarding suggested improvements on websites for a schools/district regarding safe transportation to school.
 - Answer: Working on this with the district & Trustee Donahue.

Board of Education Trustee's Report – Carolyn Broady

- Focus on budget- MoE has indicated it will be a status quo budget; no increases for inflation. Good news – no big surprises. District is out for consultation on budget priorities, asking partner groups, DPAC, PACs, staff & individual parents for submissions on budget priorities.
- As of Friday, no vaccine passports required in BC; will make planning for grads much easier as it will be more of a normal process for booking venues, etc. Continue to work closely with MoE, CDC and PHO as they continue to review and assess guidelines.
- Early childhood education/ childcare has moved until the umbrella of MoE; still figuring out what this will look like, more information coming out in the coming months. Integrated approach from birth to graduation.
- Change to graduation requirements – 4 credit Indigenous Education course now required. Asked for by BCTF, Indigenous steering committees. PACs/Individuals can give feedback until April 22nd – through the site here: Link to the Ministry survey: <https://feedback.engage.gov.bc.ca/536988?lang=en>
- Vice Chair Sheelah Donahue will be attending the May DPAC meeting as Carolyn will be out of town.

Superintendent's Report – Chris Kennedy (PPT presentation distributed with minutes)

Indigenous Course Requirement at Secondary

- Will come into effect for our current grade 10 students; won't impact current grade 11/12. Won't necessarily be a course above and beyond; likely can be achieved with language arts 10 with an Indigenous focus or similar, or a grade 11 or 12 elective course with an Indigenous focus.

West Vancouver Place for Sport

- Scope: some caution around budget numbers as all of the details are not yet public.
- Rubberized track, artificial turf, lined for soccer, football & rugby, 4 light standards for LED lighting, perimeter fence around infield to prevent balls from disrupting the track. Washroom facilities – not part of the scope of the project at this time, not to say that it won't happen down the road. Anticipated, facilities being roughed in.
- Shared use facility – school use M-F 8-5, public use beyond that time. Generates funds to pay for future maintenance.
- Project Manager will be hired in the next week or so; that will help finalize the timing.

Principal and Vice-Principal Assignments

- Announcement will be made sometime between Easter & May DPAC meeting.
- Almost no changes the past 2 years. Expect some changes at the elementary level, not expecting any for high schools.

Communications Update

- In response to feedback at the last post-meeting discussion, a few things are coming into place:
 - Emergency text – parents have received a link to opt-in, and it has also been included in the weekly school bulletins. For issues like school closures, etc.
 - Newsletters – testing on issues around multiple clicks for newsletters. Also looking at a searchable archive – project at work.
 - Parent committee to meet with Sean Nosek, Tricia Buckley to discuss communications items and potential improvements.

How do we support students with unique health challenges?

- Continue to take direction from public health agencies; they have the background in medicine/science. We follow those set health standards, and then work to find education delivery solutions that work.
- Student who are immune compromised is not new, just takes on a greater profile with COVID. Process – family first speaks to Principal/school-based team. Program sometimes designed at that level, sometimes involves the district (hospital homebound program / Sandra-Lynn Shortall) to ensure continuity of learning.
- Feedback from every school to prepare for this question: roughly 20ish students with immune compromised situations; unique programs – some are in part-time in person programming supported by Google classroom; some supported with part or full-time hospital homebound, some coming part time for outdoor activities only, some slowly increasing amount of in-person time. Wide variety of situations, not one model for everyone as every situation is slightly different. Individual and specialized for temporary or long-term challenges that families are dealing with.
- WVS does not have an online school – very hard to do in a small district. Often refer out to the Vancouver Learning Network through VSB, especially at the high school level.
- If you know someone who is immune compromised or has an issues within their family, please refer them to their Principal or to Chris Kennedy directly, to find the right connections.

How does Inglewood Secondary work?

- Campus located at the back of WVSS; roughly 25 students. Lower teacher:student ratios, additional youth worker/community support.

- How to access Inglewood – when programs at the school level (grades 9-12) are not working, students are referred here with parent permission and after school-based team meetings. Student must be in agreement – very important that this be the right fit for students. Focus – matching the right program to the student; Inglewood is one of the opportunities.

How to research high schools?

- Concept: high schools are “one school, three campuses” – we have more secondary students moving between campuses than any other district in the province. Largely due to academy programs.
- District programs – involve students moving from one campus to another (YELL, ACE-it carpentry, fashion, etc.). May not have enough students at one school but opening these opportunities to all three schools allows for more options.
- Recognition – every school had various programs (AP, IB) and some choice is needed.
- Secondary programming nights are held on different evenings so parents can see all of them; course information is available on school websites. Most students go to their catchment high school.

Questions and Answers for Chris:

- Question: (Nessa) is there a concession at the new track?
 - Answer: Not in the scope of work right now
- Question: (Tanja) regarding how to choose high schools – hard to find information on the web sites, information not as easy to find – can it be simplified? Can what is offered at different high schools be communicated better?
 - Answer: Good feedback, will take that back for consideration.
- Question: (Nessa) – summer learning has opened up, communication and offerings have been less clear than in past years. Especially – grade 7/8 transition course is not being offered this year, seems more important than ever with COVID and kids not being able to visit the high schools.
 - Answer: Chris/Liz Hill – summer learning is dynamic of what we can offer; can't offer the full complement of courses as full year; the grade 7 transition course is not a full course (summer school should be a full course). Have evolved to a “review and preview” model; all of them have a transition element build into them and are course specific.
 - Would be great if there were course descriptions offered – Liz – great feedback and will be reviewed. Not too late to sign up.
 - Q: are grade 7's getting preparation and transition into high school? A: yes, this is already taking place in all the feeder schools. Reinvigoration as we move through COVID. Grade 7 teachers also do a good job of bridging that transition.
- Question: (Cindy) as a parent of a grade 7 student, there was some frustration at finding the secondary school videos. Some worked, some didn't. Maybe there can be a grade 7 FAQ, centralized location for all of the videos, and high school registration information. Easier than going back and forth to individual school sites, academy & programs of choice sites.
 - Answer: links for district sites available in the chat:
 - <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/yell-entrepreneurship-12-program>
 - District Programs Tab: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/>
 - Centralizing videos etc. – might be a good idea, will review

Guest Speakers – Liz Hill & Ian Kennedy, Directors of Instruction

As touched upon at last month's Trustee Liaison session, student mental health has been a focus for the district. West Vancouver Schools recently invested in **Open Parachute**, an online video and prepared lesson resource to support positive mental health in our schools.

Liz and Ian are here to provide us with a brief overview of the platform, the importance of positive mental health, and provide us with information on the different components of the Open Parachute resource, including a sample of one of the parent modules.
Liz & Ian's presentation will be shared separately along with the meeting minutes.

Adjournment: 11:00 am