

**West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting**  
**Virtual – Zoom Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 2, 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
Lions Bay	Pauline Johnson	Ridgeview	Rockridge
Sentinel	West Bay	Westcot	WVSS

Also present: Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

32 participants attended in total.

Regrets: Eagle Harbor, Carolyn Broady - Chair, Board of Education

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

**Adoption of Agenda:** Tanya Imhoff and Renee Bouchier

**Adoption of Minutes:** December 2021 minutes approved; Robin TurnTurnhill and Renee Bouchier

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.

At this time we also acknowledge the tragedy of the findings at the St. Joseph's Mission in Williams Lake and recognize this incomprehensible loss and its impact on First Nations people.

**Chair's Report: Kelly Richter**

March – Trustee Liaison Meeting:

- Reminder – this year's Trustee Liaison meeting has been rescheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup>, in place of our regular March DPAC meeting.
- This annual event includes our Trustees and District Leadership Team and the topic is "Emerging from COVID – What are we seeing? What are we doing?" and will include presentations from various schools around Foundation Skills – literacy & numeracy; Social Emotional Learning and the mental health challenges seen through the pandemic and the interventions the district is putting in place; and Rebuilding Community.
- Registration will take place through the school Principals

Traffic & Safety:

- DPAC has a new Traffic & Safety representative starting this month, Jatinder Sidhu, who has kids attending both West Bay and Sentinel.
- The North Shore Safety Council has a number of programs available, including:
  - A crossing guard program offering training for students & parents
  - Safety Blitzes
  - Bike Rodeo Programs for schools
- Interested schools can contact Kulvir Mann for details – [kulvirm@gmail.com](mailto:kulvirm@gmail.com)

#### Healthy Food Environments at School:

- NVPAC and Vancouver Coastal Health are hosting a virtual workshop for parents and educators on collaborating to promote healthy food environments at school. Online event February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Registration details in the chat + sent out in yesterday's email.

#### DPAC Email Issues:

- Over the past few months, we have been having challenges with a large number of your emails bouncing back in MailChimp, which we use for DPAC email newsletters.
- Nessa van Bergen has investigated the problem on our behalf, and to sort out the issue we need a number of you to take a few steps to ensure you will receive emails going forward.
- You can include the attached image which are tips for making sure our DPAC emails are prioritized which greatly reduces the chance they will be flagged as Spam or Junk.
- A number of emails have been 'Cleaned' by Mailchimp which means your profile has essentially been 'Unsubscribed' and you will need to sign back up to receive any further communications. You can sign up again here: <http://eepurl.com/hTAjrL> (if your profile is fine, it will tell you are already subscribed)
- This QR code can also be used:



**WHITELIST AND PRIORITIZE ALL  
EMAIL FROM DPAC.**

It's really quick and  
simple. Here's how:

**1.**

If you are a Gmail user or any other  
free email service, just "drag" any of  
our emails into your 'main' email folder.

**2.**

Set up a special DPAC folder!  
Simply move each email over manually  
after reading them.

**BONUS**

- \*Add our address to your Contacts.
- \*Open our emails before they are  
deleted or filed.
- \*It's also helpful if you immediately  
mark messages from DPAC as  
**Important.**

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/dpac>  
[dpac@wvschools.ca](mailto:dpac@wvschools.ca)

### **Upcoming Events**

- WVS Board Meeting - Online  
February 15, 5:00 pm – to join you can request link from Amanda Barr
- DPAC Parent Education Event featuring Dr. Yong Zhao  
February 17, 2022  
Link to register for the event - [Register here](#)
- DPAC January Trustee Liaison Meeting - Online  
March 2, 9:15 am

### **Treasurer's Report - Kelly Kerklaan**

#### **General Chequing Account**

Balance Forward- 1 July 2021 \$7,785.20

- Current Balance as at January 31st 2022 (statement) \$7,785.20

#### **Gaming Account**

Balance Forward – 1 July 2021 \$47.38

- Current Balance as at January 31st 2022(statement) \$2548.47

## **Committee Reports**

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

- Excellence Through Recruitment
  - We are going to continue highlighting new employees. In this meeting, Education Assistants Sheila Gelinias, Ecole Pauline Johnson and Aoiffe Bagnall, Ridgeview Elementary were highlighted.
- Recruitment
  - Exempt Staff Changes
    - École Pauline Johnson Vice Principal Kirsten Dixon is on leave and Cindy Stevenson was hired to fill the position.
    - Corrine Kinnon started her new role as District Principal, Inclusive Education in mid-January.
    - Associate Superintendent Kim Martin is on leave. Director of HR Stephanie Mascoe will fill in until her intended return in the Spring.
    - The district is looking to create a pool of future Vice Principals and is currently shortlisting and interviewing. The process is expected to be completed at the end of February.
  - Postings and Opportunities
    - Recruitment of casual office support clerks is a focus due to absences. There are a few EA vacancies, but the casual list is stable. Casual custodians continue to be recruited. In efforts to increase the number of applicants, the district is increasing its advertising efforts through traditional advertising and social media campaigns.
  - Career Fairs
    - The HR department has been participating in numerous career fairs but will be evaluating which fairs generate the most interest and are an effective use of resources.
- Health & Safety
  - Communicable Disease Plan
    - During the Winter Break, the Public Health Authority released an addendum to the K-12 Guidelines.
    - Joint Health and Safety Committees at all schools and sites reviewed the new guidelines, completed a checklist that reviewed the new protocols and sent tracking documents to HR within the first week of school.
  - Masks and Rapid Tests
    - The West Vancouver School Board has purchased 5000 KN95 masks. Each employee will have access to five masks each. This is in addition to the two masks the WVTA provided to each district staff member. Rapid antigen tests will be received by the end of the first week of February. Two tests per employee will be distributed and regular distribution from the public health authority is expected in the future.
    - It was also noted that funding from the government has been received to make further updates to school ventilation systems. Currently, all schools have up to date and well working ventilation systems so these funds will support further improvements and discussions are being held on which schools spaces to direct funds to.
    - Two first aid courses will be offered to all WVMEA employees during the May professional development day as well as smaller more specialized training sessions in the Spring.

## Enhance WV – Kyra Williams Smiljanic (read by Kelly Richter)

- Community Education series on Athletics & the Olympics, presentation was last night. Covered sport, adversity in sport and what it takes to be an Olympian, featuring three Olympic speakers
- Excitement over the announcement that the Harry Jerome Track is moving forward

## Equity Diversity & Inclusion – Kyra Williams Smiljanic (Kelly)

- An EDI Book Club & Learning Channel is in development – will be a multi-source channel / website for reading and learning for all ages
  - Will be linked from WV school libraries' web sites to the WVML site. Plan to be more accessible to all levels of readers and include materials for families where English is the second language. Launch planned for next month.
  - If you have suggestions of materials that you have seen that has moved you or changed the way you perceive inclusion or diversity, please send it by email to Kyra: [ksmiljanic@gmail.com](mailto:ksmiljanic@gmail.com)
- Committee is in the process of booking a spring speaker for Chapter Three in the community engagement series.
- Patricia Lesku (WVML) has organized Lit Circle Kits – originally intended for Teachers and Librarians but hoping to extend this to families:
  - Idea is a book club aimed at teachers/librarians, set of 6 books.
  - If interested, [click here](#)
  - Purchase of these kits funded by WVML Foundation
  - Collection is located in Kids Fiction – after “Z”, and staff are happy to help you find the kids or learn more about the program

## WV Place for Sport – Danielle Katerberg

- Announcement made recently that funds raised to date were close enough to the goal that council was able to close the gap to ensure that construction can begin this year
- Approximately 400 donors have contributed to the project, including every PAC in West Vancouver, and the recent sizeable donation from the Armitage family
- The committee will be meeting next week to discuss next steps
- This week, DPAC sent a letter to mayor and council thanking them for their commitment to ensuring this project goes through. Individual PACs may wish to do the same.

## Parent Education – Tanja Imhoff

TEACHING STUDENTS TO BECOME SELF DETERMINED LEARNERS IN A POST COVID WORLD

WEST VANCOUVER DPAC INVITES YOU TO A PARENT EDUCATION EVENING FEATURING DR. YONG ZHAO

Dr. Yong Zhao is a leading expert in the field of education. He is the author of the book "Big Person Little People: How to Raise Children in a Post-COVID World" and is currently a professor at the University of Toronto. He will be speaking on the topic of "Teaching Students to Become Self-Determined Learners in a Post-COVID World".

PLEASE REGISTER AT [EVENTSITE](#)

FEBRUARY 17TH, 2022 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT OUT WHEN TICKETS ARE ORDERED THROUGH EVENTSITE

THE PRESENTATION WILL BE OF INTEREST TO PARENTS WHO STUDY IN ALL GRADES.

Link to register for the event - [Register here](#)

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

- West Vancouver Place for sport -
  - Easier access for the school district.
  - To be completed by summer 2022
- Yong Zhao Event
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKWr\\_OCdVEs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKWr_OCdVEs)
  -
- Liaison Meeting Reminder
  - Rollout again next month
- Government Exam Postponement
  - Grade 12 literacy exam is postponed to April-June
  - No student will be impacted for university admissions.
- Secondary School Timetable Survey
  - Survey is now made available to high school staff and students.
  - Feedback will be used short as well as long-term planning
- Registration and Planning for 2022-23
  - On-going process.
  - Videos for high school for Grade 8 available online.
  - Academy registration on-going
- School Sports Tournaments
  - Community sports are allowed
  - Grade 7 and high school games are taking place with no tournaments.
  - Tournaments are on hold and will have more information on Feb 4th
- Rapid Antigen Tests - Staff & Students
  - First batch was distributed today to every staff member.
  - Commitment for students in BC is available and currently distributed in rural and remote areas. WVS district is not part of the distribution yet.
- Vaccination Clinics
  - School district is trying to reduce barriers to access for vaccination.
  - Regular school vaccination clinics are behind due to COVID restrictions; discussions w/VCH around adding COVID vaccine to that schedule.
  - Parent consent will be required before giving any vaccines – including COVID vaccine – which is in line with regular vaccination clinic requirements.
  - North Shore is highest in BC for vaccination percentage.
- Attendance
  - Staff
    - Week #1 Between 90% - 93%
    - Week #2 Between 91% - 92%
    - Week # 3 Between 92% - 96%
  - Student
    - Week 1 Overall Attendance b/w 80% - 84% Illness Rate 5-6%
    - Week 1 Overall Attendance b/w 81% - 84% Illness Rate 5-6%
    - Week 1 Overall Attendance b/w 85% - 87% Illness Rate 4%
- Some parents are waiting to get their kids fully vaccinated before attending school, especially in elementary schools, which is part of the reason behind the difference between illness /overall attendance percentages.
- District is keeping close track of attendance. Marginal change from prior years.
- Q around what would trigger a functional closure – 30% of staff not in attendance.
- Have not run out of TTOCs for coverage to date within the district

## **Questions and Answers for Chris:**

- Q: Kelly Kerklaan: If tournaments become allowed, would the elementary school basketball tournaments go ahead? Or is it just the high schools?

- Chris: Tournaments will only be held for high schools only.
- Q Nessa: What is the follow up on Emergency Communication?
  - Chris: Don't have any update and will share when made available.

### **Guest Speakers- 10:04 am**

DPAC welcomes back Liz Hill, Director of Instruction to present an overview of the district's final Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) goals, and will explain some of the strategies that are being used to attain these goals. Part of her presentation will include receiving feedback from you on how the goals are being received, what is liked/disliked, and other feedback as our district moves into year 2 of the plan.

Liz's presentation is shared separately along with the meeting minutes.

#### **Q&A for speakers:**

- Q: Jane Miller - what are some specifics regarding indigenous aspects and positive career planning
  - A:Liz Hill - Current data regarding the indigenous community gives us the evidence on the areas/opportunity of growth. Also a survey is sent to the families to collect first hand experience from our indigenous families to understand their feeling of belonging. Survey will be sent next week.
- Q: Jenny Clark: Interested in learning more about what information you received from your surveys regarding what changes kids would like to see to increase their sense of belonging?
  - A: Liz:current strategy is to survey out to the indigenous families next week and integrate it seamlessly to our other focussed strategy. Their will ve specific questions in case schools want to add theirs.
- Q: Helen Hall: How are the students chosen for the groups? Do they volunteer or are asked by teachers so that the shy children are included.
  - A: Liz: Each school will have about 10 students that will be used as a focussed group.
- Q: Nessa: Where would a person find it on the WVSD website?
  - A: Liz: Can be found here - <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/resources/students/health-wellness>

**Adjournment:** 10:35 am