

West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting - ILC Wednesday Feb 7 2024

Attendees:

Caulfeild : DPAC Exec Aneela Mallick; **Chartwell** : PAC Chair Golnaz Yazdi; **Eagle Harbor**: DPAC Rep Megan Bessendale; **Ecole Cederdale**: DPAC Rep Cintia Martis; **Gleneagles**: Chair Emily Gardener, DPAC Rep Amanda Clerk; **Hollyburn**: Chair Sogol Zaimi; **Irwin Park**: DPAC Rep Negar Agnew; **Pauline Johnson**: DPAC Rep Laureline Balzar; **Rockridge**: Chair Kelly Richter; **Sentinel**: Chair Nora Gambini, DPAC Rep Stacey Boothman,; **Westbay**: DPAC Rep Nikki Ardakanni; **Westcot**: DPAC Rep Lirica Hawkins; **WVSS**: Joy Zhou; **DPAC Exec**: Tanja Imahoff, Jatinder Sidhu, Nikki Ardakanni, Tonia Lio, Aneela Mallick, Marisa Yang, Kelly Richter
Aneela as secretary

[Welcome and Call to order - Tanya](#)

[Meeting Decorum](#) *“Our DPAC has a strong commitment to ethical conduct. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that our meetings are conducted in a safe and respectful manner.”*

[DPAC Business](#)

[Adoption of the Agenda and Minutes](#)

Slight change to the agenda, we will also have a report from HR committee, by Marisa Yang.

Adoption of Agenda

Aneela motioned to approve the revised meeting agenda. Seconded by Kelly. So moved.

Adoption of Minutes

Aneela motioned to approve the November 2023 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Tonia.

[Chair's Report – Tanja](#)

Reminder to begin with our general meeting we wanted to go over some procedural reminders for our DPAC meetings to maintain an inclusive environment as outlined by Robert's Rules of Order.

1. **Sign-In Requirement:** To ensure accurate record-keeping, we kindly request all attendees to sign in their name/school and PAC position. We kindly ask that all attendees state their name and school affiliation before addressing DPAC. This will help us maintain an organized record of attendees and facilitate smoother meeting logistics.

2. **Speaking Opportunities:** As per Robert's Rules, all questions should be

directed to the Chair. All members are asked to raise the hand and wait until recognized by the Chair before speaking if they wish to speak. This will help maintain an orderly and respectful exchange of ideas during our meetings.

3. We will be sticking to the agenda schedule. That means if there are many speakers, or the topic has run its course we will limit the speaking opportunity to 2 minutes per person for a maximum 10 minutes. If there isn't time to address a question or topic, we would be happy to defer the question for another time.

4. Equal Opportunity to Speak: When a discussion or debate is ongoing, each individual has the opportunity to speak once on the given topic or motion before anyone is allowed to speak a second time. This encourages active participation from all members, giving each person the opportunity to share their viewpoints and ideas without interruption.

5. Transparency in Discussions: Everyone has the right to know what is going on in the discussion, so topics must be clearly identified by the speaker.

6. Respecting Speaker Priority: Only urgent matters can interrupt a speaker. We ask that you hold any questions until each report has been presented and that questions pertain to the topic presented.

It's been a while since our last general meeting, due to 2 wonderful events. A big thank you to all who participated in the World Cafe event in December. The gathering was a resounding success, filled with valuable insights and information exchange. We hope each Parent Advisory Council (PAC) was able to take away something beneficial for their respective schools. We're looking forward to making this an annual tradition as we work toward our goal of building strong PAC's

Thank you also to those who joined us for the trustee liaison meeting in January, which focused on AI and technology. The event featured three excellent presentations: 'Digital Tools in the Classroom,' 'Technology and Home/School Connections,' and 'Digital Citizenship.' The subsequent discussions with parents, school and district admin were informative and engaging. As a follow-up, DPAC is exploring the possibility of hosting a parent education with an AI specialist in the early spring.

Finally, I must announce a change in our DPAC Executive team. Ling He, has stepped down due to relocation to Seattle for a new job opportunity.

[Upcoming Events -Tanja](#)

Lots of parent ed coming up (all virtual)

EDI- March 5th Diana Devechio- How to help Kids develop Peer relations

Sentinel Virtual parent ed -

JANUARY 23: Communicating with Teens

- FEBRUARY 27: Teens and Technology
- APRIL 23: Teens and Anxiety
- MAY 28: Developing Resilience in Teens

Mar 13 6:30pm Parents as Education & Career Coaches seminar with Lisa Aldred (Post Secondary Education). important for parents in grades 10-12.

Recommendation please don't leave to last minute if you have a kid in 11 or 12. Library has many lunar new year and Family Day events. Will prob be added to school bulletins.

Treasurer's Report

Nessa van Bergen wasn't able to attend, Her budget update is below. Usually the highlight is that we make money on the interest 😊



03-DPAC Budget vs Actual FEB 02 2024.pdf

Committee Reports

Finance and Facilities- Kelly Richter

Playground Grant

No elementary school applicants, so open to secondary schools. Rockridge PAC was awarded the grant for their outdoor basketball court improvement project.

West Vancouver Place for Sport

Heavy trucking activity starting; removal of existing soil and addition of better-quality soil to start. Updates can be found at the WV District website - can sign up for alerts and updates.

GEC Retaining Wall

Final design received last week. Structural engineer to verify the Jumpstart Preschool portable will be safe when work progresses - likely some shoring will be sufficient.

Building Permit application is next.

Winter weather

Multiple pipe bursts due to deep cold; Chartwell, Sentinel, facilities. Great job mediating the situation by staff and contractors; looking at some policy changes around heating to mitigate this in the future.

23/24 Amended Budget

Key points:

- Regular FTE up by 76 after summer break

- Increases to unique needs, ELL, summer learning. International numbers stable
- Net increase in operating grant funding: \$1.3 million
- Impact on reserves - cautious optimism, trending better. Expense side to be reviewed at next month's F&F

Question: Do we have a master list for grants ? We find out too late in our group chat ? Proactive? How can we do that?

Tanja will follow up but we need to find how these grants are announced and listed. We should get some direction soon. Its very time consuming for one person to do it all. Once you know something please do share.

London Drugs wlamart etc all have grants WVFoundation has a community grant it had too much response and was allowed to have a few PAC apply together.

Liz said that its probably for future grants, but we are unclear for this year.

Treasurers for PACs may need to follow up on some of these grants.

School Traffic Advisory – Jatinder Sidhu

School Traffic

Jatinder : Major disrupting is on 15th and Crosscreek affecting Sentinel and Chartwell. Will go on till March. Disruption for access even bus access is changed.

Nora : good news is BC Hydro owns the right of way. They can come and do whenever they need to. We can't tell them what hours. People are managing alternatives, there is a new drop off map bike and walk to school. We've been trying for 6 months, new bike racks haven't been installed; who will do them and when? We could def use them now. Gr 11 club for non driving kids we need to promote these.....

Liz Hill and Nicole Brown are representing Supervisor Kennedy and Chair Caroline Broady.

Jatinder : School travel mini grants are still open for applicants, \$300 encourage people for alternatives to driving

Bike/Walk to school week awards for highest mileage. KM club is also related. You can use it for signage. Official bike to school week is in May but you can do it any time.

Kelly : What happened with the maps that were created earlier ?

With all the constructions we could use the walking routes map.

Jatinder : They were old maps that didn't have any updated routes and transit info.

EDI – Nikta

Two things

1. Dr Dianna Devichi, development child psychologist at Yale, she will be doing a session. We've met with her to discuss the education event specifically for our school district. She's very positive to learn that we have been wanting to mitigate or prepare our parents for school yard incidences before they happen. Chris is covering the cost of this event. Trish is creating flyers for this.

2. EDI is focusing inclusion and having information being translated to make available to all parents. And with Carry Wilson we are starting a pilot project with translation for info booklets. She wants to keep doing this for most of her info blasts on an ongoing basis.

HR-Marissa

Human Resources Committee on Jan 30, 2024

1. Employee Spotlight

There are three French Immersion Co-ordinators, each in PJ, Cedardale and Sentinel. They support all other French immersion teachers. They have also developed Early Literacy Resources to be shared in the Elementary.

It was asked if there is similar support for Core French especially in high school level. Waiting for the response.

2. Recruitment and Staffing Updates

HR attended the biggest Career Fair in UBC and an in-person career fair in Edmonton. They collected candidate info for future contacts.

Some French Immersion Funding was used to create a recruitment video.

3. Health, Safety and Wellness Updates

There are two legislation changes effective from Jan 1, 2024. One being: Employees have a legal duty to co-operate with the employer and with Worksafe. The changes aimed at making sure employer and employees are working together in facilitating a safe and timely return-to-work. Schools may need to look into this more for their employees benefit.

Wellness: HR started a running and walking group during lunch time to encourage being active.

Introductions to Trustee Vice Chair Nicole Brown and Asst Superintendent Liz Hill – Tanja

We will have an opportunity to ask questions as it specifically pertains to their presentations at the end and reminder to raise your hand clearly mention your name, school and topic.

Board of Education Trustee's Report – Trustee Chair Nicole Brown 9:35 am

Just as an FYI the Walking/Running group will get t-shirts saying Join us at West Van. Ill start with Budget and cellphones: Board Policy outlines the roles of chair and all committees and we revise it every 4 years. We also ask for feedback on the website take a look and let us know.

I've been chairing HR for 10 years, for BCPC employers association. Theyre responsible for ALL staff management. Health and safety. Employment data analysis. AGM Last week one thing that stood out they started talking about bargaining. We do local bargaining, and provincial level our 3 year agreement ends June 30th 2025. All local bargaining will start in November.

Superintendent's Report – Liz Hill 9:40 am

So nice to be here. I've met most of you but I've been working with Wvschools for 25 years, teacher, director and now asst superintendent. And I'm proud to be part of this org my role can be different day to day mainly operations. Also oversee IT all devises, Wireless , data services and admission procedures. Ministry Processes as well as FESI for the district

UPDATES for today

FESL every district has to have a plan, we have robust plan and ministry has given good feedback we are focused on all the right things.

Three goals

Numeracy

Lietracy

Transitions:

Sense of belonging, includes early learning now. Includes strong start other programs

Just before KG range families who want kids to be prepared PreK

Grade 7-8 transition. Secondary school had open nights for all families three amazing schools to learn more for families. Transition will continue with feeder school visits.

Secondary is daunting, we have post secondary processes is overwhelming. A post secondary advisor has a calendar for guiding when to apply for what.

Cell phone topic: premier announced and lots of inaccurate information came out, there isn't a ban.

Restricting cell phones; removing images from social media and being accountable for being harmful

Limiting cell phone in school hours learning time and online safety is priority. We will be getting more info but we already have these restrictions in place. The information was portrayed in an unclear way

Budget is very early days. We're in a much better position. We don't need to make big changes, nothing stands out. Julia will finalize the 23-24 budget and then community will give input for the budget

International student landscape, new restrictions on international student numbers. Our budget is connected to this. Its mainly post secondary that is changing. Our numbers are looking optimistic and back to pre pandemic levels.

Q & A (5 minutes)

Question from Sogel : Feb is anti bullying month; we talked about digital footprint etc we are falling short when bullying is occurring in Hollyburn, what type of resources can we use for this. Bullies were going through anger management tools were being provided do we have that now? I have checked the code of conduct there's many phases before suspension. A boy is terrorizing an international student; why is this school not taking action. This kid is a repeat offender both kids get sat in the hallway and why that kid has to sit in the hallway with the offender. Tanja suggested that we come back to this as it's a very specific situation.

In terms of Sense of belonging what is the outcome?

Positive mental health aspects are on the forefront. Support structures for early learning team looks different in each school we know that when kids are connected, we know kids learn better FESL document has the information.

Questions for cell phones in the classroom; maybe we can clarify what happens. Are kids on their phones all the time.

We are also lucky to have, Lisa Aldred she has the job for posting all post-secondary programs, but her information is posted to all schools

Presentations

Presentation 1: <i>Assessment and Learning</i>	District Principal Michelle LaBounty, Hannah Kothe and Haley Mooney (Westcot) and Secondary Enhancement teachers Erin Kidd (WVSS), Christian Obeck (Sentinel), and Matt Trask (Rockridge).
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Question: How will the grade 11 child convert this new assessments to %ages and do they work the same across all schools?

So reality is there is no uniform mechanism. In terms of scales, we do need to use percentages. Each class and each teacher will do it according to what they have been using as a methodology. We do have more teacher collaboration than we have done before, so we hope we are all on the same playing field. EG English 12 grades were very similar this shows that the system is uniform across the district.

Question is there additional support available for teachers who are struggling with moving away from this old practice etc I wonder the mixed messages for kids as well.

Answer: We have seen that teachers are saying that this is an easier way, however yes there is learning curve. Certainly, there are structures, pro d days, collab times. And as enhancement teachers we do reach out. Sciences are more measurable. So we are approaching all subjects to be assessable and accountable.

Question: Proficiency scale is just across BC?

Answer: Mainly across BC but other provinces have adopted it. That is why we have traditional reporting for grade 12s.

Question: Completion of homework is not graded as much?

Answer: We're not saying don't do your homework its about the timeline, were saying being late won't take your percentage off. This the shift from extrinsic to intrinsic motivators these are crucial assignments to do for the final essay.

Question: Are the proficiency scales including 10?

Answer: No just upto grade 9,

Question: Was this developed outside Canada where was it created ?

Answer: Its definitely global and not unique to us.

Presentation 2: <i>How to Foster Engagement</i>	Tanja Imhoff
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New Business (10 minutes)

Reminder to raise your hand and wait to be called upon. When you do speak please state your name, school, and clearly state the topic.

Adjourn meeting 11:00