



West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Present: Representatives from the following schools:

Caulfeild – Aneela Mallick (DPAC Rep)

Cedardale – Cintia Martins (DPAC Rep)

Chartwell – Maryam Goodarzi (parent)

Cypress Park – Josette Calleja (DPAC Rep)

Gleneagles – Emily Gardiner (Co-Chair)

Hollyburn – Sogol Zaimi (Co-Chair)

Irwin Park – Negar Agnew (DPAC Rep)

Pauline Johnson – Tayo Adeniui – DPAC Rep

Ridgeview – Shawn Lin

Rockridge – Amit Gatenyo (DPAC Rep)

Sentinel – Nora Gambioli (Chair)

West Bay – Neda Esmati (Chair)

Westcot – Lirica Hawkins (DPAC Rep)

WVSS – Joy Zhou (DPAC Rep)

DPAC Executive: Tanja Imhoff, Maria Bird, Jatinder Sidhu, Tonia Liao, Aneela Mallick, Marisa Yang, Kelly Richter

Chris Kennedy, WVS Superintendent

Nicole Brown, WVS Board Trustee

Tricia Buckley, WVS Communications Manager

Absent:

Bowen Island Community School, Eagle Harbour, Inglewood, Lions Bay

Welcome & call to order - Tanya

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 as we bring this knowledge to the students of our community.

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.

Adoption of the Agenda and Minutes

Adoption of Amended Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda:

Second: Joy Zhou, WVSS

So moved.

Adoption of Minutes

Motion to approve the February 7 202 meeting minutes:

Second: Marisa Yang, Rockridge/DPAC Representative

So moved.

Chairs' Report – Tanja Imhoff

- Welcome to the March meeting. As we enter the home stretch, many PACs are beginning to consider succession planning and the initial stages of budget planning for the next year. Our role is to support PACs through this process, and it's encouraging to witness PACs connecting with each other through Whatsapp. We will continue the Hot Lunch discussion later today.
- **Grants:** As promised during the February Meeting, I have compiled a document listing available grants for PACs. This document will be accessible on the DPAC website under resources. Please share any grants you are aware of that could be added to the list. Some grants may require a Charitable Organization number, which SD45 can provide, but the submission must be reviewed and approved by the SD45 Finance team. Send those grant applications to Shayle Duffield for review and processing (SDuffield@wvschools.ca)
- **PAC Supplies:** Efforts are ongoing to create a document listing items in PAC storage that could be lent or rented out to other PACs, such as Lunar New Year décor, bingo sets, costumes, grad décor, etc. Kindly send the list of available items to DPAC.
- **PAC Emails:** In our commitment to make PAC life easier, we will introduce a new district PAC treasurer email for the 2024/25 year. So along with current district one these email accounts will be structured to allow shared access. For instance, if there are two PAC chairs, each chair will receive their own login credentials for the one email account. Moving forward, all official district and DPAC correspondence will be directed to these designated email addresses.
- Working with WVS IT for PAC data storage options for future
- **2024/25 DPAC Meeting Schedule:** We have a tentative DPAC meeting schedule for next year. Please refer to this before setting PAC meeting dates to avoid conflicts. This year several schools had conflicting meeting dates and we don't want anyone missing our DPAC meetings.

Note DPAC Meeting Protocols:

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.

Treasurer's Report – Nessa van Bergen

Nessa not present; brief report. No changes from prior month.

Committee Reports 9:25 am -

Finance and Facilities- Kelly Richter

Meeting Feb 13th; key projects discussed:

- Gleneagles retaining wall – RFP sent out, all bidding contractors ready to start. Waiting for work permit from WV District, hoping for quick turnaround. Project duration 2-4 weeks, large area of school field will be fenced off. Currently Jumpstart Preschool families are being accommodated at Chartwell.
- Sentinel – flooding insurance claim: 2 separate pipe bursts during one weather event, quick response helped to mitigate scope of damage. Insurance – provincial, no deductible
- WVPFS Update – somewhat slowed down by BC Hydro 15th Street project. Changes to upper parking lot (moving hydro poles, island). Soil stripping and tree removal completed, some soil contamination was found. Washroom upgrade plan moving ahead.

Amended 23/24 Budget – Expenses reviewed

- Changes to the current year's planned expenses project a modest structural deficit (\$140,064) however the hope is that by June 30th it will turn into a modest surplus.
- Looking ahead to 2024/25, expectation that local enrolment will be status quo, international student numbers will stabilize or see a modest increase. Technology costs remain unfunded and a challenge to the budget.

School Traffic Advisory – Jatinder Sidhu

- Considerable amount of construction in the school areas (PJ, WVSS, Sentinel) due to various projects; no significant parent complaints. BC Hydro work will be completed at the beginning of May on 15th and Cross Creek Drive.
- NVD looking to extend the Spirit Trail

EDI – Nikta Razavi (absent; reported by Secretary)

- With the backing of the School Board Office, we are delighted to announce the hosting of a parent education session featuring Dr. Diana Divecha, a developmental psychologist at the Yale Child Center and an author of numerous parenting articles, particularly focusing on supporting children in establishing peer relations. The session will kick off on the evening of Thursday, March 7th, with a one-hour presentation, followed by a 30-minute Q&A session responding to pre-registered questions (questions to be sent to dpac@wvschools.ca). The session will be recorded for future reference.
DPAC will be distributing the Zoom link to those who have RSVPed for the event a day prior to the event. Our sincere thanks to DPAC chairs for supporting and executing the logistics of this whole-district event.
- In another development, the EDI is collaborating with the district's digital instruction leader, Cari Wilson, to improve communication within the broader community. Our goal is to engage parents from non-English backgrounds, gather their feedback, and implement programs that address the diverse needs of our community. We have recruited representative from many of our dominant language minority groups to help with translation of documents for parents. The focus has been on improving our channels of communication so that we narrow the home-school gap.

Upcoming Events - Maria

Lots of parent ed coming up (all virtual)

EDI- March 7th Diana Devechio- How families can help kids develop peer relations

Sentinel Virtual parent ed:

- April 23: Teens and Anxiety

• May 28: Developing Resilience in Teens

March 13: 6:30pm Parents as Education & Career Coaches seminar with Leesa Alldred. important for parents in grades 10-12.

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

- International student enrollment steady
- Engaging with schools and partner groups as part of budget consultation process. Feedback can be provided by email to Karen Leeson – deadline March 15th. Projections for next year are stable, able to maintain staffing levels – no significant reductions.
- BC Throne Speech – education was not the focus (housing, health care were). Cyberbullying legislation, nutrition, vaping education, bubble zones around school sites to prevent protests at school sites.
- WVPFS – massive project, expected to be ready for start of next school year

Superintendent's Report –9:40 am

- Tricia Buckley, Communications Manager present at today's meeting to receive feedback from guest speakers.
- AI Key Topic. Note: WVS parent education session in April
 - Want kids to be using AI in thoughtful, ethical ways
 - Difference between reactive (Roomba, Alexa), predictive (Netflix – suggestions for you based on your profile) and generative AI models. Chat GPT – generative.
 - Lots of discussion around essay writing and use of AI
 - Play with quickdraw.withgoogle.com as a group
 - ChatGPT – v.3 is free, v.4 is upgrade for fee. Key to better results is prompting effectively. Showing written and graphic responses.
 - Presentation for Hollyburn PAC next week – including session on
 - April parent ed session – showing “Magic School” program – “skin” on top of AI to make it work for teaching and learning. Eg – set up a learning session geared towards kids at varying learning levels. Looking at assessment, process pieces (outputs will be fairly standardized and easy).
 - PACs – can invite Chris, Cari, to meetings for a similar session. Can include ethical concerns around AI (inherent bias, etc.)
 - Q: are students being taught how to use this? A: we need to get our staff up to speed first. Need to close the adult/kid gap first.
 - Opening Day presenter – around national AI policy pieces.

Presentations 10:00

Presentation 1: Understanding the Post Secondary Transition Process in WVS	Leesa Alldred (WVS Post Secondary Advisor) and Lisa Ulinder (Sentinel Secondary Counsellor)
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- Working with transitions beyond high school
- Careers courses from grade 8 through 12
 - Goal setting, presentations, career research and fairs, university presentations
 - Grade 8 & 9 – in FIT block. Grade 10 “Career-Life Education” in course calendar (required for graduation), Grade 11 & 12 “Career-Life Connections A&B” – focus is mainly on post-secondary programs, university fairs, writing

- a personal profile (uni application prep). Grade 12 includes a capstone project.
- Optional Career Courses: Work Experience, Youth Train in Trades (Level 1 carpentry program at WVSS), Youth Work in Trades (credit for workplace experience – eg. culinary experience – credits towards graduation, can be volunteer or paid work, allows for exploration within a career)
 - Community Connections – Grade 9 Take our Kids to Work / Grade 10 Personal Project (Youth & Philanthropy Initiative) / Grades 11 & 12 Career Expo, Alumni Insights Event, Post-Secondary events (CUE – Canadian University Event)
 - Helping grade 11 & 12 transition to post secondary
 - Develop career paths
 - Refine a university list
 - Liaise with university admissions officers
 - Write references for applications and scholarships
 - Provide university application workshops
 - Aid with course selection
 - Organize and host post-secondary fairs and visits
 - Provide PSAT testing for student interested in writing SATs
 - Support families through the admission process
 - All power points and course planning presentations are on their [website: Sentinel link – ask CK?](#)
 - Methods of Delivery: Google Classroom, in-person, myBlueprint, Google Calendar (for post-secondary fairs and presentations) emails an Calendly
 - Service Learning: students must do 30 hours of volunteering to graduate – either in-school or outside of school. Great opportunities for career exploration and university applications.
 - Post-Secondary Options
 - 85% of WVS students transition to university within one year. More than average number of students going directly to university.
 - Less than 5% of BC students go out of province for college/university. Half of WVS students leave the province to study. Approx 8-10% leave Canada. WVS is more aware of out-of-BC educational options to fit kids needs.
 - Finding the best fit: program, location, cost, academics. Every family weighs things differently.
 - Program: degree specifics, requirements, size of university (eg. Acadia 3000, UofT 97,000), direct entry vs. transfer program (eg. from Associate Degree from Langara, Capilano U, Douglas College) – less expensive, smaller classes.
 - Location: distance from home & family, urban suburban or rural areas, housing and type & availability of residence/off campus housing.
 - Academics: program course requirements for different areas of study are different. Engineering vs. Arts for example.
 - In Canada GPA is typically calculated on 4-6 grade 12 academic marks if available. If not look at grade 11 marks.
 - Grade 11 course requirements in BC include 2nd language
 - GPA minimums (Arts McGill 92.5% vs. U of Alberta 80%)
 - Holistic vs. marks-based admissions
 - Costs – vary by post-secondary location
 - Extra considerations:
 - Work integrated learning (co-op, internship, practicum)
 - Sports facilities/teams

- International study opportunities
 - Quality of career services & alumni network
 - Research opportunities (sometimes this is easier to do in small undergrad institutions)
 - Retention rates after 1st year – do students stay at universities after the first year
- University application timelines
 - Canada: early application/scholarship opportunities but mid-January for most. Offers can start as early as January; most mid-February to late April
 - US: November early deadline
 - UK: October 15
 - March 1 – many scholarship deadlines
- Links to resources (in ppt). Education planner – BC education portal, shows different programs, admission requirements, costs etc. for various professions.
- Post Secondary Event Calendar – open to all grade 12 students and parents. Access available to all via link.
- Parents as Education and Career Coaches event – March 13th. Register and recording will be available if you can't attend.
- April 27th – Vancouver Convention Centre: Vancouver International Universities Fair.
- WVS is the only district that has a Post-Secondary Advisor role (Leesa Alldred) – understand that we are competing with private schools and our students are very mobile and we need to understand opportunities to share knowledge with students and families.
- Leesa has a Google Classroom with notes from all post-secondary – available to all school counsellors and staff.
- Kids who feel part of the post-secondary community feel more connected and increases success – stay, graduate, success finding employment, etc. Benefit of living on campus (residence, similar facilities).
- Gap Year support – (link in ppt). Recommend that students apply to post secondary, and then defer for a year. Easier to apply and go through the process with the support of the high school teams. Resources available for students taking a gap year.
- Students – relationships with staff and counselling are key. Last beyond graduation, referrals, recommendation and practice with building relationships that will benefit in post-secondary.
- Recommend kids keep their options open with course selections through high school. Explore as much as they can – many kids do not know what they want to study post-secondary.

Presentation 2: DPAC Guided Discussion: Hot Lunch Grants Parent Ed	Tanja Imhoff and Maria Bird
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Adjourn meeting 11:25

Motion to adjourn business portion of the meeting.

Second:

So moved.

Tip of the Month

Notes from Tanja

Treasurer's Report

(Attach 2 worksheets)

- Only activity is interest in the amount of \$3.78.
- \$6,325 in General Account
- \$2,408 in Gaming Grant; almost all of this is earmarked for honorariums.
- Noted that DPAC has not been able to login to our website, therefore minutes, agendas and other resources have not been updated. Apologies, working to rectify this as soon as possible.
- Discussion about best practices for budget presentation (spreadsheet). Noted that all budget changes need to be voted on by PAC membership, according to your PAC bylaws.

Committee Reports

Traffic & Safety: Jatinder Sidhu

- NSSC meeting cancelled and there has not been a START meeting due to snow.
- Q: has WVS requested that WV District shovel the snow from sidewalk along Crosscreek to 15th (Sentinel – students walking to bus stop). A: Yes, we identify these areas adjacent to school properties to the district, appreciate the feedback.

Finance & Facilities: Kelly Richter

- Presentation of 2023 Amended Annual Budget, highlighting how the budget supports the district's FESL goals of Human and Social Development, Intellectual Development and Career Development.
- In accordance with the new Ministry of Education and Child Care requirement for districts to prepare multi-year financial plans, Secretary Treasurer Leiterman presented the plan covering the current year through 2024/25.
- It was noted that financial challenges are forecasted to continue with the expected decline in international student enrollment and increasing IT cost requirements.

Equity Diversity & Inclusion: Nikta Razavi

- Parent speaker topic interest survey results shared (**attach ppt**).
 - Most popular – preparing for life after grade 12, 2nd – Anti-bullying
- Online vs. in person – equal
- Evening vs. daytime – strong preference for evening
- Experts on most popular topics: Dr. Yong Zhao (DPAC Presentation last year) or Dr. Hayley Watson – presentation planned for later this spring.
- Also – Shelly Hyme (UBC professor – anti-bullying) and Ryan Broadfoot – student and parent presentation options.
- Looking at various options – larger presentation, interactive round-table discussions, documentary screening
- Community engagement / “Ask Anything” style events with partners such as WVML, School Administrators, NV Presentation House, local colleges and universities.

Board of Education Trustee's Report – Vice Chair Nicole Brown

- Appreciation for the Trustee Liaison sessions, first time doing it in this format. Great to have the opportunity to sit down and hash out a large range of issues, especially in light of the coming challenging budget planning / upcoming 4 year strategic plan cycle. Allows for sharing of school values, goals. Key issues – mental health, retaining supports in

classroom, programs of choice, building sense of community, transitions into and out of high school, effective communication.

- Provincial budget came out yesterday; no funding for inflationary cost pressures.
- Recruitment and retention; struggles around keeping staff being experienced across the province. WVS focus – how do we continue being a place staff want to come to / stay with, as there are many choices out there. High functioning happy staff greatly impact student success.
- Q: Is WVS starting to consider more part-time positions? A: (Chris) We have more staff wanting to not work full time, but preference to have continuing of teaching in a classroom. Getting push on this all the time, in a competitive work environment.

Superintendent’s Report – Chris Kennedy

- IT – appreciate comments about technology issues.
 - Asking PACs to be ever more cautious around data and privacy concerns. Seeing more cyber attacks, concerns from privacy commissioner and individual families.
 - Discussion around TikTok – will be off
- Admin moves – anticipate very few moves; will be announced in April.
- Parent Education – little anxious about attendance this evening. Suggestion that it be recorded as there are many competing events this evening.
- Q: speak to Chat GPT. A: Not inclined to ban this, need for interesting conversations around this as the technology and use evolves. Beginning of AI and how it impact the school system.

Upcoming Events

Events are all listed on the DPAC webpage

Physical Literacy Presentation	March 1, 7 pm
Parent as Coaches in Career ...	March 8
Blanket Exercise with Family of Schools	April 4, 5, & 12, 6-8pm
DPAC General Meeting	April 5, 9:15 am
Open Parachute with Dr. Hayley Watson	April 24, Kay Meek

Presentation #1: FESL & Strategic Planning: Liz Hill

Director of Instruction, Liz Hill provided a summary of the district’s current Framework for Enhancing Student Learning goals and strategies. DPAC members will then be asked to provide feedback and input to the potential areas of focus and direction for the future Framework for Enhancing Student Learning.

- Last 3 year – focus on Sense of Belonging, Numeracy and Career & Life Goals. Goals have helped focus work within the district.
 - Sense of belonging – 21/22 data is now higher than provincial average.
 - Numeracy goals – targeted supports to help specific (Indigenous) students, end up helping all students improve. Anecdotal feedback – slight trend upwards. Difficult to measure as this represents a small group of students.
 - Career Satisfaction – feeling of satisfaction for students was the goal; helping them understand why they are learning what they are in careers. 21/22 data is now higher than provincial average.
- Moving Forward: Examination of current WVS data available, and of Areas of Focus and Key Drivers for the district.

- Intellectual Data – based on grade 4&7 FSA and Grade 10 Literacy and Numeracy assessments
 - Compared to province, literacy results exceed provincial averages
 - Numeracy results also exceed provincial results
 - Both include disaggregated populations (Indigenous students, students with Disabilities or Diverse Abilities)
 - Data within WVS – Numeracy results are not as strong as Literacy results (although still higher than provincial average)
 - Human and Social Data trends – results are similar or only slightly above provincial average. Suggestion that there are areas of opportunity related to supporting adults within the community, sleep and general mental health.
- Career Development Data Trends
 - 5 year completion rates are above provincial average
 - Post secondary transitions are strong, anecdotal data only as only students attending BC post secondary are recorded (does not catch out-of-province or international post-secondary).
- Key Drivers for WVS: Numeracy, Indigenous Education, Core Competencies
 - Focus on Transitions (Early Learning, Elementary to Secondary, Post Secondary)
 - French Immersion Review (Successful transitions, French language and culture, sense of belonging and community connection)
 - New Student Reporting (focus on assessment principles, levels of proficiency)
 - Focus on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Moving Forward: Three Potential Areas of Focus for 2023/2027 FESL
 - Effective and Meaningful Transitions
 - Numeracy for All (application of skills – interpret, apply, solve, analyse and communicate)
 - Sense of Belonging for Optimal Learning (connection and care)
- Parent feedback & discussion
- Next Steps: meeting with students, teachers, administrators in coming weeks to finalize goals. Open feedback around specific strategies to follow. Liz welcomed direct feedback from parents as the process evolves (email).

Presentation #2: Traffic & Safety: Kulvir Mann, Jatinder Sidhu & Rowena Veylan

Presenters Jatinder Sidhu and School Board Trustee of North Vancouver District, Kulvir Mann, Rowena Veylan, PAC Chair – Pauline Johnson will be presenting on traffic challenges in our community and initiatives that can help improve safety at your school.

- Communication – provide opportunities for various ways to access the schools (without driving), provide clear messages around safety rules in school zones/property
- School Safety Audit Program – takes place each fall.
 - Site visits Sept/Nov, Analysis Dec/Jan. Quick fixes identified. Report to WV District council – Spring 2023.
 - RFB (Rectangular Flashing Beacons) – many requests for marked & flashing crosswalks, each costs \$10K
- School Streets – pilot program in other parts of Canada
- Benefits of active kids clearly communicated (physical literacy), promotion of active travel to and from school
- Pauline Johnson PAC: traffic awareness blitz

- PJ Dad volunteers directing traffic for one week, educating school community. WV Police came on Thursday & Friday, ICBC also attended one day.
- Distributed maps to parents on where to park safely
- Planning to repeat 2nd week back to school in September, after holiday break (January) and after Spring Break (March/April)
- Hoping new habits will be formed in September
- Kulvir Mann – NS Safety Council, advocating and raising awareness around safety concerns in the community & around schools
 - All WV PACs invited & welcome to attend
 - Conduct safety blitzes in coordination with ICBC
 - BCAA has a program – provide whistles, vests, cones for volunteers. Kulvir also available to train parent and student volunteers.
- Safety Blitzes – available for all schools. Reach out to Kulvir, take place in September, January and after Spring Break.
- Encourage participation during Bike to School week – May 29 to June 2
- New initiative focussed on slow streets within school communities; name of committee and meeting date to be confirmed
- Q: Discussion around signage around school areas to be brought forward to Engineering, as many options are not allowed. (PJ)
- Q: Is there a way to connect with Bylaws to ask that violations be ticketed during the safety blitz, not just provided with a warning as this is being ignored. A: Focus is on education during safety blitz however you can ask Bylaws to visit school at a different time, and in those situations violations are ticketed.
- Q: Does Engineering understand what the goals of the school are? Some findings from safety audit don't take goals into consideration. How to manage? A: Speak to Principal, ask to review the document and ensure goals are clearly communicated.
- Working on free transit buses for kids 13-18 years to assist with active transportation for high school kids.

Adjourn meeting – 11:41