



REGULAR GENERAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 25, 2016

MINUTES

**Present:** Rachel Lu (Chair), Jasmine Morton (Vice Chair), Maren Teisner (Secretary), Simone Kresnyak (Member at Large), Kristina Szakaly (Member at Large), Joanna Baxter (DPAC Rep), Principal Michelle LaBounty and approximately 15 parents (for portions of the meeting and/or the whole meeting).

**Absent:** Sara Rezamand (Treasurer)

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**1. Call to Order, Approval of the Minutes and Adoption of the Agenda**

- The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.
- Approval of the Minutes from the October 28, 2016 PAC Meeting.  
Motion to approve by Kirstin, seconded by Joanna. Approved unanimously.
- Motion to adopt the Agenda for today's meeting. Approved by Carol and seconded by Cintia. Approved unanimously.

**2. Principal's Report**

- **French Immersion and Beyond:** Mme. LaBounty attended the French Immersion and beyond meeting at PJ earlier in the week. She mentioned that French immersion parents are very focused on academics. Some parents were concerned about myths regarding students and success in the French immersion program. A lot of graphs and comparisons were being shown. Based on provincial testing (the English 12 final exam) French Immersion students are doing really well compared to students in the English program. The Grade 7 class will go to Sentinel in May to spend a day in High School. The Principal from Sentinel will be the guest speaker at the PAC meeting in June.
- **Mornings with Michelle:** Last Monday Mme. LaBounty hosted a "Mornings with Michelle" and the topic was communicating student learning. Mme. Dixon gave a presentation for a small group of parents. There is more focus on bringing parents in as partners in education and the students' voices are more heard in the new report card format. The idea is to communicate student learning and give parents a chance to enter into a conversation with the teacher. The Grade 10-12 curriculum is going through some changes. Provincial exams at the Grade 10 level have been eliminated. Other changes are that the FSA timeline will be changed to around September/October. The FSAs are a way for the government to see if the curriculum is being taught at the school and how well the students are doing. Mme. LaBounty's goal for the FSAs is for each student to feel good about the test and their efforts. By doing the FSAs earlier in the school year there will be more time to address and work on any issues a student might have.
- **Traffic:** Mme. LaBounty has met with the municipality regarding the ongoing traffic issues and the municipality is aware of the challenges Cedardale face. They are planning to install a sidewalk along Inglewood to continue it all the way to Taylor Way. They talked about the massive hedge on the corner of Burley and the possibility to make Burley a no parking zone during drop off and pick up. The district has the capacity to make the decision but they like to have the residents support.
- **We-Day:** 16 students attended We-day earlier this month. It is an opportunity for celebrities to encourage kids to help others and make changes in the world.
- **Family team activities** will take place next Friday. There was a family activity earlier this month where the focus was on being kind.
- **The Christmas concert** will take place on December 15 at 4:30 p.m. in the gym. This ensures the students are not too tired and that teachers do not have to stay too late. The school is choosing the Christmas concert as an opportunity to have all parents sign up for School Cash On Line by only making the tickets available through School Cash Online. Each family will be able to get two tickets. There will also be the opportunity to see the dress rehearsal in the morning (please check the exact time in the upcoming issues of the eBulletin).
- **The Card project** deadline is November 28 and so far the total raised is \$477. The cards make beautiful gifts and are a great fundraiser for the school.

- **Cheque Drive:** The focus this year of the Cheque Drive is to raise funds for the Music Program. This decision was made after conversations between the PAC and the teachers. The music program is the focus because all students will benefit from risers, extra xylophones and guitars, music stands etc. If you have questions please contact Mme. LaBounty.
- **Winter Sports:** The winter sports activities have been booked. K to Grade 2 will do 3 sessions of ice-skating. The Grade 3/4 classes will do snowshoeing and the Grade 5-7 will do 4 sessions of downhill skiing.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

There was nothing new to report.

### 4. PAC Committee Reports

- **Cheque Drive:** Cash Online generates a receipt for parents right away. Cash Online also allow other family members to sign up and donate as well. The Cheque Drive is only open for a certain amount of time so please make sure you donate.
- **Vice Chair vote:** Jasmine Morton had put her name forward for the position of Vice Chair. Motion to vote in Jasmine Morton as PAC Vice Chair. Approved by Carol and seconded by Cintia. All were in favour. Approved unanimously.
- **Fun Lunch:** has been more successful this year because we have more families ordering. Fun Lunch raises about \$16,000/year and so far this year \$10,000 has already been raised. The Fun Lunch funds cover the operating budget for PAC for cultural support, curriculum and teacher support. The Cheque Drive and Soiree are for larger capital expenses.

### 5. DPAC:

Joanna said the West Vancouver Police Department had attended the last DPAC meeting. They are trying to rebrand and create a more positive corporate identity. The Police Department is a big community resource for many issues (i.e. domestic violence, break ins). They also have volunteer opportunities available. The West Vancouver property crime rate is climbing. The good news is that our youth is really safe here.

### 6. Misc.:

- **Teacher gifts:** there was a question from a parent regarding gifts for teachers. Traditionally class parents arrange class gift. Mme. LaBounty recommended \$20 (\$10 for a Christmas gift and \$10 for a Year End gift). She did remind class parents that all children should have the opportunity to sign the cards. All correspondence from Class parents has to come through Mme. LaBounty for approval.
- **Library Book Sale** with an emphasis on French books will take place on Monday November 28 and Wednesday November 30. It is a great opportunity for parents to shop. The Library gets a percentage back and teachers get a chance to purchase French books for their classrooms. The Librarian is also signing up for a subscription to French books. If parents sign up the books will arrive in the mail eight times per year. The Librarian is meeting with the rep and should have more information soon, which will go in the eBulletin.
- **Bus Service:** A parent named Larry who had hired a bus driver came and informed parents about this service. There are currently 25 North Vancouver students riding on the bus to Sentinel and West Van High. The drop off time is 8.10 a.m. at Sentinel and 8.15 at West Van High. He would like to look into the bus going to PJ and Cedardale as well if there is enough interest and it works logistically. The bus currently picks up some PJ students after school. This service might help some parents who are currently relying on before and after school care. There is currently total flexibility and families can pick which day/direction they want to use it. There are also discounts for families. Grade 4 or older can ride on the bus unescorted. Younger students have to have someone escorting them on/off the bus. It was suggested to have a rotating volunteer role to have a parent meet students at the bus. Please look for more information about this service in the next eBulletin.

### 6. Adjournment

Motion by Carol to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Cintia. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS:**

**JANUARY 27, 2016 @ 9:00 A.M. IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY**