

SENTINEL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday, September 14, 2016
Library Mezzanine
1250 Chartwell Drive
West Vancouver, BC V7S 2R2

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE:	Max Liu	President
	Stefanie Leuty	Vice President
	Karim Virani	Treasurer
	Arbao Wong	Secretary
	Farzaneh Bamani-Roboubi	Past Chair
	Charlotte Wei	DPAC representative

PRESENT: Jane Zou, George Liu, Effie Gomulia, Soudi Moussavi, Roya Nezakati, Stacey Perron, Nina Nie, Nola Weiss, Coryn Hemsley, Zohreh Mirshamsi, Annakarin Torngvist, Connie Zhu, Arghy Nia, Mindy, Cathy Song, Sharon Smith, Hollise Brown, Larry Soukoreff

Meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

Meeting Agenda

- 1) Welcome and introduction of Executives – PAC Chair
- 2) Welcome – PAC Vice Chair
- 3) Approval of agenda – PAC Chair
- 4) Upcoming events – Welcome grade 8 parents – PAC Chair
- 5) Budget
- 6) Wish List
- 7) Sentinel Principal – Mike Finch

- 1) Max Liu, President of PAC, introduced himself and welcomed all PAC members. He said that the PAC executives had a meeting following the AGM and also had met with the principal, already got prepared for the new school year.

PAC has successfully hosted a lunch appreciation for the teachers. There were 85 teachers who attended the great food that parents brought. Many appreciations to the parents for the supports they have given.

- 2) Stefanie Leuty, the Vice President of PAC, introduced herself and said the PAC open to all new and constructive ideas.

Due to the fact that Sentinel is such a multi-cultural school with so many different backgrounds, proper and efficient communication is key in achieving our ultimate goal which is to better our children's experience at Sentinel. The PAC needs lots of help from all parents throughout the year. We encourage all kinds of participation in the PAC like sending emails and joining different activities.

- 3) Farzaneh Bamani-Roboubi, the past chair, added that the PAC has 3 sources of funding. First is from gaming grant; Second is the PAC levy, 25 dollars contribution from each student's family; The last one are the funds raised from the Multi-cultural Lunch held every year. It can raise 6-8k dollars each year.
- 4) Karim Virani mentioned that the budget already discussed and presented to the AGM. It needs to be approved by the next meeting on Oct 12th.
- 5) Regarding the Wish List, Mike Finch, the principal, explained that the funds cannot be used to purchase curricular items such as textbooks, instead, they could be allocated for other non-curriculum stuff related to studies as teachers wish. The PAC wish list committee will review the wish list handed in by the teachers. The basic rule is to favor items that benefit as many students as possible and have the strongest impact on the school's learning activities. Usually 2 weeks' period will be enough for the teachers to apply for their request.
- 6) Larry Soukoreff introduced the school bus plan saying details can be seen on the school district website.
- 7) Mr. Finch, Sentinel's Principal:
 - a. Welcomed the new PAC as well all of the new parents and expressed his sincere thanks for the teachers' appreciation lunch held end of the last school year. The multi-cultural lunch has a very good impact not only on our kids, but also our community. Thanks to the organizers of last year.
 - b. Our school has a strong enrolment this year, about 1272 kids enrolling. The class size is satisfying so far and still under control.
 - c. The process of course changes are outlined. Courses are selected in Feb/Mar of previous year and the timetable was built then on selections students made at that time. It's is hugely challenging to re-arrange student timetables when they want to change their courses now.

- d. The staff are excited and exploring the openness of the new curriculum. The school will see if they can do an information session for parents who are interested in learning more on this subject.
- e. Aligned with Hockey Canada, Hockey Academy has new format this year. Elite program offered to grade 10 's only. Students from all over the province are attending this team.
- f. School divided into 3 Spirit teams (Blue, White and Silver) according to the last name alphabet. Events planned throughout the year will incorporate teams.
- g. We need 3-5 parent volunteers for our planning council which starts next week. Through developing a new Code of Conduct, the staff and parent volunteers will be looking into building school culture and spirit together.
- h. Please remind all the parents who haven't completed the electronic permissions to fill it ASAP since this may affect some of the students' course.
- i. The school will try to move the Parent-teacher conferences forward to November and try to see if they can add one more meeting around Jan/Feb 2017. Date to be confirmed later. The paper report card will be sent out in Jan.
- j. Regarding the Wish List items, Mike is wondering when the form might be coming out.
- k. Lots of events are coming soon: Grade 8 BBQ on Sept 21, Parent Walkabout on Thursday Sept 22, PD day on 23rd, Terry Fox Run on on 29th. Grade 12 parent information night. Welcome new parents evening on this coming Thursday. In order to match the elementary school's timetable, the parent walk-through time will be adjusted to 7pm.
- l. Hope the grads are aware of the difference between sanctioned and non-sanctioned events, so that they can have good, clean and safe fun! It's important to remember sanctioned events (like Boat Cruise, Semi) have staff sponsors and are promoted by school. Non-sanctioned events (sleep-out, grad kidnap, S-trip/Ski-trip) no staff accompanying, are not promoted by school and too often include serious safety concerns. The first school grad event is the boat cruise at the end of September.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.