**SENTINEL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

#

Held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Library Mezzanine, 1250 Chartwell Drive

West Vancouver, BC V7S 2R2

**COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE:** Charlotte Wei President

 Cathy Yeung Vice President

 Effie Gomulia Treasure

 Arbao Wong Secretary

**PRESENT:** Angela Ye, Daniela Tolemann, Erica Long, Jennifer Kwong, Linshu Shang, Erdong Li, Xiaolin Liu, Shabnam Taheri, Hamid Payombarnia, Ann Li, Arghy Nia, Rong Wang, Tracy Gooding, Lisa Luo, Tracy Zhang, Shabnam Shahkarami, Tzmzyn Jones, Johnson Zhong, Muni Ismail, Tricia Jarvis

**Meeting was called to order at 9:00am.**

**Meeting Agenda**

1. Welcome Remarks - Charlotte (3 Minutes)
2. Approval of agenda and May 2019 AGM minutes – All (1 Minute)
3. Treasurer’s Report and Approval of 2019-2020 Budget Effie (10 Minute)
4. Principal Report – Mr. Finch (25 Minutes)
5. Computer Lab Project – Cathy (15 Minutes)
6. Parent-Teacher Interview Dinner - Charlotte (5 Minutes)
7. Miscellaneous Matters and Free Discussion (10 Minutes)

1. Charlotte started the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing the PAC committee as well as members at large. Our PAC have a very good tradition of working together with the school to accommodate school’s need to benefit our kids. She introduced that PAC will have regular meetings all through the year except for certain months and the minutes can be viewed in the school website under the Parent Icon/Parent resources.
2. Approval of the agenda. Moved first by Daniela and second by Cathy. Approval of the May 2019 minutes. Moved first by Cathy and second by Arghy.
3. Treasurer’s report by Effie:
4. Explained the amount difference between the budgeted and the actual one of the PAC Levy. We had a big drop of the amount collected since using school cash online instead of paper handouts. Mr. Finch added that $25 of PAC levy is funds raised by PAC and suggested to pay since the fund helps support school a lot.
5. Explained why $1,000 spent for SafeTeen program is something extra from last year’s Wish List since PAC has already budgeted $2,000 yearly to support this program. Further discussion will be held regarding whether PAC will increase the budget item to $3,000 or in addition to the already budgeted $2000, PAC should approve more spending as requested through Wish List. And Mr. Finch would try to collect the feedback or surveys from the previous SafeTeen program to see its values and impact.
6. Mr. Finch, Sentinel’s Principal:
7. Welcomed everyone attending the meeting, saying that Sentinel has a large student population with almost 1,300 students. All the teaching positions are filled, with some returning staff and a number of new staffs in P.E, French Immersion, Counselling and some other departments.
8. Although there will be no new gym thing as we said last term, a new floor will be placed in the Field House Gym, which was originally our school gym and will be improved a lot.
9. Sentinel has successfully downsized three hard computer labs to two to accommodate 14 computer-based classes. Moreover, school also got these two computer labs successfully replaced right before the new school year. We still need funds to replace the portable computer lab and loaner devices and are expecting a fund-raising sum of around $50,000 from PAC.
10. FIT, the flexible instruction time, is a new thing in our school. According to experiences from other schools, it is meaningful and functional, so we’re trying our best to educate the kids to do it right from the very beginning.
11. Grade 11s will do the Numeracy Assessment in Nov, Jan and April. Instead of the English Provincial, Grade 10s and Grade 12s will do the Literacy Assessment from year 2020-2021.
12. Course selection: Our course selection process starts early in January. At that time the counsellors spend sessions with kids to explain the courses and through April to June, kids have chance to change their minds and hand in the Course Verification Form. To build a timetable to suit 1,300 kids takes about 3 to 4 months and the timetable is built based on the selection of the kids at that time. It’s very difficult to re-arrange students’ timetables no matter what reasons they have, either they studied the course at summer school or online or they have changed their minds. The course change priority is from the higher grades to lower ones. Suggestions were given on noting down the information for the kids who have plans to take summer school or online course.
13. Upcoming trips and events:

We have a LA Theatre trip coming in the 4th week; the Dominican trip in May, and the exciting Antarctic trip in the end of November; presentations are expected from this group both for school district and PAC upon their return.

Meet the teacher night on Sept 19th. PAC traditionally host a brief welcome for the new Grade 8 parents from 6 to 6:30pm. Later then, the Spartan leaders will take tours for them and the class rotation starts at 7pm.

Grade 8 info night on Sept 24th, Terry Fox Run on Sept 26th, Grads Boat Cruise on Sept 27th, and Grade 12 info night on Oct 1st.

1. Following Principal’s speech on the school computer labs, Cathy briefly introduced the Portable Lab Project which needs the fund raising. Discussions and suggestions were made and given during the meeting, later on a fundraiser Cheque Writing Campaign was decided to launch to raise funds for the Portable Lab. $50,000 goal to go!
2. The parent-teacher conference is on Nov 7th, as a school tradition, grade 8s and 10s will provide staff hot dinner that evening as they cannot go home for regular meals.

Our next PAC meeting will be on Oct 9th and another one in November, which is normally the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.