

SENTINEL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021
Virtual Zoom Meeting

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE:

Cathy Yeung President
Jia Lu Vice President Sunny Sun DPAC Representative
Effie Gomulia Treasurer

PRESENT: Shabnam Taheri, Julia Ho, Mr. Finch, Victoria

Meeting was called to order at 9:30am.

Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Remarks - Cathy (1 Minutes)
 2. Approval of agenda and Jan., 2021 minutes - All (1 Minute)
 3. Financial Update – Effie (5 Minutes)
 4. Principals Report: Mr. Finch (30 Mins)
 5. DPAC Report Sunny Sun (5 Mins)
 6. MCL Fundraiser Update (3 Mins)
 7. Misc. Matters and free discussion (10 Mins)
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1. Cathy started the meeting by welcoming all to Sentinel PAC.
 2. Approval of the agenda and January 2021 minutes. Motion to approve the agenda and the minutes first by Shabnam and second by Jia. All in favor.
 3. Effie gave us an updated financial report.
 4. a) Mr. Finch would like to give a Huge thank you to all PAC members for their outstanding contributions towards the MCL fundraiser. Although no MCL event, we were still able to raise a considerable amount of funds

b) PAC Wishlist: Huge thanks to PAC, particularly those on the committee, for round 2 of wish list. Staff were once again very keen to have access to some classroom enhancements.

c) Grad updates: Grad class visits week of April 7 – 9. (grad, write-ups, scholarships etc.) Grad. week (April 12 -16) is planned to provide Grads with some fun activities here at the school. Culminates in a Food Truck on April 16.

- d) Q4 Updates: April 22 (last day Q3), April 23 (transition day), April 26 (first day of Q4).
- e) French Immersion Updates: currently we have over 330 students enrolled at Sentinel. Most students come from CE and PJ, but also Out of Dist. Concern in Q system that not all immersion students have Fr. Courses in each Q. Hope for next year is to create balance throughout the year. Each school has its' own Fr. Immersion Coordinator (Mme. Lleres @ SE). Will continue this model for next year. Teachers from all 3 schools would like to connect and collaborate on planning and transitioning. A committee of FRIM students meets on Weds. with Mme. Lleres. FRIM support is offered by Mme. Placed on Thursday afternoons during X-Block.
- f) Grade 7 Orientation: Needs to be virtual. Looking to distribute in late May.
- g) Audits: In addition to dealing with COVID, school/District has been undergoing a SPED audit, and next week we will begin a financial audit. All signs are that things are in great shape.
- h) 2021 – 22 Budget: Input was provided by a variety of schools and PAC's. SE noted; IT/Wireless connectivity, Some staffing reductions and small school projects (tennis courts, gym floor, doors etc). SBO noted its important to recognize the difference between on-going items (staffing) vs one time funding (tennis court, gym floor). Large portion of Federal funding can be allocated to updating District connectivity in schools. They are doing this. Otherwise, good shape!
- i) 1 year Anniversary of COVID: Amazing to think how things have changed and time has flown by. Things are going very well! Parent support/reminders at home are a big help. Despite students (and staff) showing a little fatigue, we continue to follow all VCH protocols; mask wearing, social distancing, cohorting, (no cafeteria, no gym at lunch). People continue to do a fantastic job. Proud of students and staff.
- j) DPAC Community Event - Alden Habacon will be hosting an information evening on inclusion, diversity and anti-racism. The virtual event takes place on Tuesday, March 30 @ 7 p.m. - Register for the event at westvancouver.schools.ca/dpac
- k) Sentinel's Garden Guru's are looking for a parent participant in supporting the new garden expansion. Please contact Mr. Finch at school if interested.
- l) First Responders Club: Starting the week of April 7 we will have student First Responders providing First Aid to those in need. - This group of students is highly trained in First Aid and will respond to all medical calls that come into the office. Staff supervision will be on hand if additional support is needed.

m) Timetable for 2021 – 22 School Year: - The following information summarizes some of the key findings and provides a high-level overview of our Secondary Schedule planning for the 2021-2022 School Year. Please note; **given current and projected COVID-19 information we have to plan and prepare for quarters. We may still have cohorts.** A Semester System is a possibility if guidelines allow. **Current Context**

We are planning the 2021-2022 Secondary Schedule with the understanding that we will still be in the COVID 19 pandemic.

The 2021-2022 school year is a “Transitional Year”

We do not know what the MOE/Health Guidelines will be for September 2021.

The 2021-2022 Secondary schedule needs to be flexible and scalable between Stages 1 and 2 of the BC Restart Plan. We are anticipating 100% in-person instruction.

- Takeaways from Stakeholder Survey:

The Quarter System has been working in the context of the pandemic.

Focusing on fewer courses at a time has been easier for students to manage.

The Hybrid experience, as provided this year, was less effective than in-person instruction.

X Block is highly effective, and with refinement, has greater potential.

A Semester Schedule is viewed by all stakeholder groups to be the most effective schedule for student learning.

Next Steps:

We are beginning our planning around the Quarter System as it provides maximum flexibility.

We are optimistic that guidelines will permit us to transition from our Quarter System planning to a Semester Schedule for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Although we are not running a traditional linear schedule next year, there will be some linear course options available.

Regardless of the schedule above, we will continue to have X Block to provide linear programming and student support.

n) Important Upcoming Dates

1. School re-opens: March 29
2. Easter Weekend: April 2 – 6
3. Literacy/Numeracy Assessments: April 12-16
Last Day of Q3: April 22
4. Transition Day: April 23 First Day of Q4: April 26
5. AP Exams: May 4 – 14

5. DPAC Meeting Update:

Parents as Education & Career Coaches Presentation

Wednesday, March 10, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Rockridge Secondary in conjunction with Education Planner BC are hosting an interactive session designed to support parents in guiding their student in making informed decisions about their education and career choices after high school. Information Poster

Contact Leesa Alldred at lalldred@wvschools for more information. Register here at:

<https://sfu.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5EkdemqqjkvG9Fsg3tp00v3UgIkL6hAUf0c> .

Talking About Inclusion, Anti-Racism and Diversity: Virtual Event

Tuesday, March 30th, 7-8:30pm. More information and registration link can be found at:

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/dpac/talking-about-inclusion-anti-racism-diversity-virtual-event/>

Encourage parents to register for March 30th DPAC event and watch with their kids. A lot of teachers will be “attending” also • Reminder that Bike to school week is coming up in May

- Encourage schools to apply for the mini grant (\$300) (Application & Guidelines can be found in

Slack under # grants-and-gaming-grants o Suggested uses: bike to school or walk to school initiatives

- There is also a student video contest focusing on “the green can” o Launched the last week of February, running until mid-April o First prize is \$750

TTP Temporary transition program is extended till June, 250 or 3%-4% of district students are current in TTP program. A large number of TTP students will return to school after spring break.

6. MCL Fundraiser Update: Our sincere thanks to all those parents that contributed. We appreciate your support. We have so far collected CAD \$4500.00

Meeting was adjourned @10.30am