

SENTINEL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:00AM - 11:00AM
In-Person Meeting

EXECUTIVE IN ATTENDANCE:

Nora Gambioli (sepac@wvschools.ca)	Chair	Tonia Liao	Vice-Chair
Yvonne Lau	Secretary	Joy Zhou	DPAC Representative

PRESENT: Danie Shoar, Gem Chu, Leslie Zhang, Sharon Lee-Flynn, Jennifer Zhu, Rong Zeng, Dan Feng Tan, Sam Ridgeway, Marina Kosheleva, Tenzin Khangsar, Jane Sun, Anna Chin, Kerry Farhadi (Keyhani), Michelle Morgan, Principal Mike Finch.

WVSD School Trustee & Sentinel Liaison: Felicia Zhu

8:45am - Coffee chat.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

Nora started the meeting by welcoming all to Sentinel PAC and members at large, and introduced Trustee Felicia Zhu to the meeting.

Motion to approve the November 14, 2024 Agenda by Tonia Liao, second by Joy Zhou. CARRIED.

Motion to approve Minutes from October 10, 2024 by Diane Shoar, second by Tonia Liao. CARRIED.

2024-25 Budget:

Nora presented the budget. See attachment – Highlights:

- Income:
 - Legacy fundraising: \$40K is a number Legacy team is motivated to fundraise, subject to the projects to be fundraised. Pending update from Sentinel admin.
- Expenses:
 - Amendment = Grade Parent Social will be under budget, PAC agrees to allocate \$1000; \$500 to Multicultural Lunch tables and \$500 to Staff Baking event (Feb)
- Reserves to spend this year from surplus: this is the shortlist of projects as prioritised by PAC members in the Oct 2024 meeting. Social spaces project is separate because it is from the Legacy funds raised.

Motion to approve budget & supplemental budget: by Tonia Liao. Seconded by Yvonne Lau. CARRIED

PAC Updates / Reports:

1. Wishlist Team - Nora & Dana

- A list has been compiled. Finalized list on what will be given at the December meeting.

2. Parent Education – Empowering Parents, Enriching Futures – Diane Shoar

- Parent Education Workshops
 - Supporting Our Boys - Tue Dec 3 7pm at Sentinel Library. Speaker: Walter & Laura.
- Traffic Education:

- Signage: obtained additional signs and cones to support the student traffic team. School traffic department from WVSD is supportive of installing additional signs and PAC will pay at cost. A suggestion is made to educate the students to influence the parents for alternative drop-offs.

3. Events – Rong

- **Used book / school supplies sales:** Target sales date on Nov 21-22 at Foyer.
- **Senior Girls Volleyball Provincials:** Sentinel and West Van Secondary will co-host the Senior Girls Volleyball Provincials tournament this year (end Nov - early Dec)! Volunteers (parents & students) are needed to help support the event (ticket sales, concession, etc...) and a google sheet sign up sheet is circulated on whatsapp and eBulletin.
- **Christmas decoration (Dec 3):** PAC volunteers work alongside with students on decorating the school.
- **Staff Appreciation (Dec 17):** the first one is Winter Holiday Lunch (which requires parents' contribution and volunteer). Will rely on Grade 8 & 10 parents to help.
- **A Christmas Carol (Dec 4-16):** Sentinel Jazz Band will be a part of this show with Presentation House (N Van).

4. Grad Team - Gem Chu

- Parent social on October 22 - 50 people in attendance, along with Mr. Finch, Mr. Anderson and Ms. Ulinder (Counselor). Ms. Ulinder spoke about stress management for grade 12 parents and how parents can foster independence in their grade 12 children.
- Grad photo (Nov 22-Dec 1) at portable studio in courtyard.
- A student-only semi-formal took place on Nov 1 and it was a successful event. Next event is Jan.

5. District PAC - Joy Zhou

- WV Place for Sport - Track will be ready by Christmas 2024. Ribbon cutting Dec 10, 2024. WVFC will be responsible for raising funds for a separate soccer bubble to the south.
- **Post-Secondary and Career Presentation (grade 11-12):** Nov 26 Kay Meek.
- **BCPAC:** Annual AGM, Resources, By-laws are here to support BC PAC members, of which Sentinel PAC is a part of.
- **Traffic Advisory:** There is a \$300 grant for each school. Sentinel PAC can apply.
- **Facility projects (2024):** various projects are taking place across WVSD schools.
- **Mathematics** presentation is given by 3 teachers at the DPAC meeting.
- **Meeting with Police (Jack Yee).** He is the police liaison for WV school to ensure students that police are in the community to be friendly, and helpful. Jack is here at Sentinel at least once a week. Mike mentions that other than Jack, there are 2 other police liaisons who also engage the WV schools.

6. Legacy Team – Sam Ridgway

- This year's social is less about fundraising but more social and community building. We still managed to raise \$13,000 in donations for Social Spaces Project, with 1 generous donor and \$5,000 from ticket sales.
- Current project - Student social spaces. A local business donated timber via PAC to be used for building benches and other furniture for the hallways and other spaces. Woodwork teacher Mr. Visser and students will work on these throughout the course of the year. Await direction on whether additional funding is required and whether Legacy Team will need to fundraise more on this.

Motion to donate \$13,000 to the Social Spaces Project: by Tenzin Khangsar and seconded by Joy Zhou. CARRIED.

- Next project: gym floor and enhancement. Await direction on whether additional funding is required and how the Legacy Team will be involved.

School Update – Principal Mike Finch

- Mike commented on the parent-socials; an amazing way to build up the Sentinel community.
- **Sports:** A few Sentinel sports teams have won zone championships.
- 3 Sentinel Artists are featured as Artist in Residence (22nd and Lonsdale).
- Winter music concert date is shifted to January 2025.
- **Events from last six weeks:**
 - Inclusions: Inclusion Conversation (Nov 26) - "Understanding". 40+ countries are represented in school.
 - Grad semi-formal
 - First round of grade assessments (numerical and literacy). Next round is in Jan.

- Grade 9 - work with your parent day (Nov 6)
- Remembrance Day ceremony. (Nov 8)
- Grade 9 immunization (Nov 13)
- **Upcoming events:**
 - Sr Girls Volleyball provincials: Sentinel will host the Sr Girls Provincials championship.
 - Zone tournaments
 - PJ Drive via donation (\$5 can purchase a PJ). Class that raises the most money gets the pizza. Selected students will give the PJ's to the school we sponsor.
 - Learning update: end-Nov 2024.
 - Parent-Ed night: Dec 3, 2024 for Boys Club.
 - Last day of Class: Dec 20.
 - International excursion: Spain & Portugal (Spring) - cancelled due to low participation, French trip (Spring), Dominican Republic (May),
 - Sister school grade 10 immersion school exchange - subsidized by the government and YMCA.
- **Updates to PAC project:**
 - **Wishlist:** Dana, Nora and Mike working through the applications.
 - **Social Spaces:** Wood is still being dried, and will be worked on as benches with Mr. Visser and students. It will come out in stages. Additional furniture ideas and quotes are presented. Nora and Mike are reviewing these ideas and will make purchases, timing it with the benches. \$15,000 has already been used for lockers, walls, ceilings.
 - **Gym Floor & Enhancements:** Enhancements alone: Mountings. Referee stands. Painting. Logo & Cresting. Mike will meet with the Legacy team on details.
 - **Traffic flow enhancements:** Mike is in touch with the City and believes the traffic work will take up to Jan 2025. Increase signage to enable the flow.
- **School Pedagogy / Goal:**
 - Implementing the reporting framework (no grades for grade 8-9, skill-based feedback)
 - Inclusive teaching practices to ensure equitable outcome for all students
- **Pre-AP Courses:**
 - Currently there are AP courses that are in grade 12, while there are a number of students who are not grade 12 but are taking AP classes together with the grade 12 courses. Pre-AP courses in grade 11 are offered today.
 - While it's admirable for students to challenge themselves, a few are overwhelmed. This leaves out those who could be ready for Pre-AP courses but aren't in it.
 - Currently a discussion is taking place to whether Pre-AP courses should be offered, so we can still offer some elements of the pre-AP courses that are in the regular program.
 - Mike would like to host a small session at PAC in a workshop.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Next PAC meeting – Thu December 12, 2025 9am-11am.