

Ecole Sentinel Secondary PAC Annual General Meeting

June 12, 2025, 9:00am, Library

Present:

Nora Gambioli	Chair	Parent Ed Team	Diane Shoar
Tonia Liao	Co-Chair	Grade 8 Rep	Amy Chen
Belinda Jia	Treasurer	Grade 9 Rep	Farzaneh Bamani
Yvonne Lau	Secretary	Grade 10 Rep	Chen Tan
Joy Zhou	DPAC Rep	Grade 11 Rep	Echo Wu
Gem Chu	Grad Team		

Other Attendees: Zahra Ahmadi, Zoe Li, Xiao Bin Li, Kerry Farhadi, Arzoo Babul, Zohreh Ansari

Chair welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes

Motion by Zohreh Ansari to approve today's agenda, seconded by Tonia Liao, **CARRIED**

Motion by Tonia Liao to approve minutes from May 15, seconded by Belinda Jia, **CARRIED**

By-Law Amendment – Tonia Liao

It is time to update the PAC Constitution & By-Laws as it was last updated in 2014. Tonia went through the proposed changes, mostly to reflect the structure of DPAC, WVSD and SPAC today and to reflect the changes brought forth by technology. The team also incorporated some of the best practices as shared by DPAC and PAC from WVSD schools. Spell check. Add SPAC in 11.6. Signature.

Motion by Joy to approve the By-Law amendment, seconded by Zoreh. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

School Update – Mike Finch

Recent Activities:

- Music: A night of orchestra performance last week, and 3 school bands were featured in WV Cultural Festival this year. Wrapping up with a Year-End concert last night.
- Incoming Grade 8's: 2 days of welcoming incoming grade 8's, hosted by student leaders & Ms. Armstrong.
- Grad BBQ was a huge success. Thank you for the support of parent volunteers and Ms Ulinder.
- Cabaret night at Sentinel Stage. The play was written, produced and acted entirely by Sentinel students.
- Grad Prep: scholarship meetings involving 15+ staff, making decisions on over 70+ scholarships. Grad commencement will take place this Saturday, with Kobe Sam being the valedictorian. Grad parade, a celebration with the Sentinel students and community, will take place next week. French Immersion grads will go to Cedardale and PJ to give a gift of appreciation to teachers while inspiring the students there.
- Student Council Election took place, Mina Wang and Nathaniel Hu elected as co-Presidents.
- Last day of class rotation is Monday June 23, with last official day and report cards out on Thu June 26.

Upcoming school year:

- Sentinel is a full school across all grades.
- Timetable for 2025-26 is being built.
- School Calendar (covering early dismissals, pro-d days, parent teacher conference) is finalized, as it's reviewed and signed off by PAC Chair.
- Schedule-wise (Day 1 & 2, block rotations) has been on two-week cycle, and will mostly remain the same as upcoming school years' schedule will be aligned with NVSD. There will be some in-sync days in between, which students will have to get used to.

- Cost of Grad and Public Education. Certain costs and activities (e.g. class material costs, AP exam fees, consumable items) require fees are responsibility of the parents of the students. A fee statement of these consumable items is produced by the school and is sent to parents a strictly at-cost basis. Mr. Finch is mindful of the administrators' job to better communicate these costs at the beginning so better personal budgeting can be done when it is called to pay for these fees. Note that grad celebrations is also part of such consumable items, which costs approx. \$20/person for commencement and \$150/person for grad banquet in 2024-25. Note that this year, a part of the cost is being absorbed by the school. Note that this cost could increase for students in upcoming years and school is not in position to sponsor these costs.
- While we have new gym in Sept, certain events, such as Grad Commencement, cannot be held at the new gym due to capacity limitations by the West Vancouver Fire & Rescue Service.

Mr. Finch expresses appreciation to the Sentinel PAC and the work all year.

Reflections of 2024-25 and Plans/Goals for 2025-26:

Zoe put together an infographic version of the annual report to be shared via PAC social media to parents and prospective parents. Mike will also share this with Sentinel staff to encourage further collaboration between the staff and parents (e.g. Wishlist).

Grad Team – Gem

Grad 25 would like to adopt 1 bench (\$800: amount to be confirmed with SPAC Treasurer) as a gift to the school. Grad 25 will supply a plaque to be installed onto the bench. Gem will liaise with Belinda to confirm the amount (proceeds from Grade 12 socials) and Ms. Ulinder on next steps.

Wishlist Team – Tonia

For any extra funds in this year, SPAC agrees it should be rolled over to the 2025-26 field trip fund.

Communication – Zoe

Currently SPAC has WhatsApp (grade level), WeChat (Chinese parents), and social media (Facebook, Instagram) accounts to engage with the bigger community. In the upcoming school year, we will continue to amplify our voice and to engage our community via communication. Workflow will remain mainly the same: any communication will be sent to Nora and/or Zoe. Zoe can work on draft and will be signed off by Nora and the Lead (if relevant). We are looking for more creative ideas to get people involved in SPAC.

Grade Rep Changes

Maryam Morshedi will step down from being grade rep in upcoming school year. Sourosh Loghmani will step in as Grade 11 rep to replace Maryam.

Motion by Zohreh Ansari to appoint Sourosh Loghmani as the Grade 11 rep. Seconded by Farzaneh Bamani.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Events – Gem Chu (in Anna Chin's absence)

Last event this year: Staff appreciation lunch (June 24) needs volunteers, food and/or donations!!

For upcoming school year, the Events team would love to solicit help from students to do decorations (Christmas, Lunar New Year, Nowruz) for school. Mike recommends inviting student councils to solicit their support for them to direct them to the appropriate student clubs or Mike can also get volunteers from students.

DPAC – Joy Zhou

June 4 was DPAC's Annual General Meeting. Updates on upcoming DPAC executives and directors at large.

Parent Education –2 speaking engagements arranged for Sep & Oct 2025. Early Childhood Centre is closed for renovations, and discussion on Cypress Village’s development and positive impact it could have on elementary student enrollment at WVSD. SD’s educational budgets for 2024-25 is \$91M with actual cost of \$93M, running a \$1.8M in deficit. Reasons being that there are fewer elementary students and international student enrollment. Each International Student contribute 90% more than local students... Transportation: 5 schools received mini-grants. SPAC did not apply, and Joy recommends for SPAC to enroll.

Cypress Park shared their fundraising website with the DPAC, which wowed many PAC Presidents who attended the presentation. It is recommended for Tenzin, Zareh (who has website building experience) and Zoe to join the upcoming presentation in Sept 2025 to review best practices and how SPAC may do this.

Parent Education Report – Diane Shoar

Parent Education Online Workshop Series – Mindful Connections

- Final workshop, Fostering Healthy Relationships was held presented by Kristy Ambrose (West Coast Family Centres) to support parent-teen relationships.
- Attendance tends to dwindle after Spring Break, so will look into moving these educational workshops to earlier in the school year next year.

Upcoming Parent Engagement Events (2025–2026)

- West Coast Family Centre will continue to host parent education workshops for free in this school year.
- Oct 2025 – In-person presentation with the Community Services Team by West Vancouver Police Department.
- Mediate BC: exploring the possibility of inviting them to discuss topics in relations to topic resolutions, improving parent-teen communication, and handling school-related disputes. Perhaps a session in Nov.
- May 2026 – Mock Crash Scenario?

Mobility:

- Carpooling Initiative: A google form is created for parents to sign up, particularly aimed at new families to form community. Participants will be required to acknowledge that this program is organized by PAC. More detailed planning will continue over the summer. A grade 10 student is interested in arranging an app.
- The founders of Stop the Traffic student club is graduating this year. 3 students (grade 8, 9, 10) are stepping into keeping this student clubs running.

Legacy Team Report – Yvonne Lau (in Sam Ridgway’s Absence)

Due to a glitch in the past fundraising activity, we have to rescind a motion for \$23,000 donation to gym enhancement and replace with \$20,000.

Also, due to personal/work reasons, Sam will step aside as the Team Lead in Legacy in the upcoming school year.

Motion by Tonia Liao to rescind \$23,000 donation and to donate \$20,000 to support gym enhancements alongside with district funding, Seconded by Farzaneh Bamani. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Motion by Diane Shoar to appoint Tenzin Khangsar as Team Lead for Legacy for 2025-26, seconded by Kerry Farhadi. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Proposed 2025-26 Budget – Belinda Jia

Expenses is lower than Budget this year! Good fundraising and control this year.

Recommendation for 2025-26:

- Carrying the Wishlist Funds from 2025-26 into the new school year.
- Keep the funding (or potentially increase the amount) to support parents in setting up new tables in MCL
- Keep grade socials in October. Instead of having it at a restaurant, Zohreh recommends leveraging her connection to support the grade socials for free so all the proceeds can go into the PAC. Also, it is recommended by Yvonne (legacy) to involve Events team and Grade Reps to cohost the event. Gem, Zohreh will discuss on venue selections and set dates.

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am by Chair.