

PAC Meeting Wednesday October 24, 2018 8:30 in the Art Room

# **Present:**

Brenda Radies (Chair, PAC)
Andrea Bradshaw (Co-Chair)
Alexa Bodel (Treasurer, PAC)
Keelin Costello (Secretary, PAC)
Aron Campbell (Principal)
Lisa Fairburn (DPAC Rep)
Robyn Markham (Traffic and Safety Committee Rep)

Lauren Gilchrist Amanda Cark Kelly Kerklaan Kirstie Simpson Shevaun Brown

Meeting called to order @ 8:41 am

Adjourned at 10:15 am

Adoption of minutes from Sept 19, 2018: Kirstie Simpson, Alexa Bodel

Adoption of the Agenda Oct 24, 2018: Lauren Gilchrist, Robyn Markham

# Treasurer's Report: Alexa Bodel

### **Deposits:**

Gaming Grant Received: \$5,736 (up from last year \$4,780)

Hot Lunch Revenue (combined with Spirit Wear as I am locked out of munch a lunch so cannot see breakdown):

\$35,900 - huge thanks to Brenda

Troller Pub Funds: \$1,200 - huge thanks to Kim Whittall

Fundraising Drive: \$6,170 from 45 families as of yesterday (Tuesday)

#### Payments:

- -High Tech High touch (\$1,318 under budget)
- -Hot Lunch payments
- -Admin payments (munch a lunch and accounting software)
- -The approx. spend on Spirit Wear is \$1,600 (Alexa does not have access to munchalunch system). Extra sets have been purchased to have available for people to buy during the school year.

# Traffic and Safety: Robyn Markham (T&S Rep)

Robyn attended the North Shore Traffic and Safety meeting.

Last year we asked for a flashing crosswalk on the roundabout by the school. The work has been contracted out and we are trying to get a timeline from the contactors. This is taking time.

There was a suggestion to get speed bumps on Marine drive going past the playing fields. It is thought that this may not be possible because of the fire station. This request would also involve the Ministry for Highways as this part of the road is so close to the highway.

The West Vancouver Police Traffic Unit will come out on request to ticket speeding and parking violations.

ICBC runs some safety programs – this could be a good resource to tap into for help.

Eagle Harbor was successful acquiring traffic calming measures. They had the support of the neighborhood. How did they achieve this?

Are there things we can do in school to raise awareness and promote traffic safety? Robyn will find out more from Aaron about "Elmar the Safety Elephant"

What is available for older students? West Vancouver gave out key chain tags a month ago. This is part of the "Walk to School" program developed by a North Vancouver parent. Tags are scannable and there are competitive game challenges.

Another example is to form a Student Traffic Committee. They could issue fake tickets.

It was decided to purchase 2 signs for the road "We 'heart' our kids - Slow Down". They cost \$150 each. They are waterproof. They can be attached to a telephone pole. Aaron will find a place for them and arrange security to attach them.

Westcot school has a picture cut-out sign in the shape of a kid – Ask Kelley to find out about this?

The Lions Overflow parking lot is reopened. This should help relieve our traffic parking problems.

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# **Design Cycle Thinking:** Kristy York

#### **Introduction by Aaron Campbell**

The school is building on its "Design Cycle Thinking" learnings from last year. Some teachers who had been trained have now moved on and new teachers must build their capacity and skills.

The first term is "Slow Knowing" as new staff come up to speed. The FSA for grades 4 and 7 takes up time in the first term. Not as much time is spent in the learning commons in the first term. The design cycle process is by its nature chaotic and requires different facilitation than classroom learning. Learning takes patience and time for teachers too.

There are lots of opportunities for Design Cycle Thinking but not a lot of time.

In term 2 the Zen Maker Space will be coming back.

For parents Destination Imagination is a good outside school opportunity where kids take on challenges and solve them. www.destinationimagination.org

# **Kristy York**

## Report on current activities:

The younger children are being introduced and getting familiar with the library section of the learning commons. Grade 5 are working on a slide show project, focusing on Applied Design Skills and Technology (ASDT). They are integrating digital storytelling and coding.

The intermediate grades are hoping to work in partnership with the West Vancouver Memorial Library. The library is doing pilot programs with some schools around screen free or screen activities. Kristy can bring the children to the library. Also, the West Van Library is now equipped with VR Goggles.

Cari Wilson now has drones which she can bring to schools and work with intermediate grades.

## **Summary by Aron Campbell**

The hope for this year is to increase the digital capacity of both children and teachers in the school.

Regarding digital devices, as hardware changes happen so fast it was decided by the district to put the onus on parents to supply their children with devices.

The district chose to work with google classroom and google suite of software tools. However, google suite and iPads do not work very well together (Apple V. Microsoft). As children are doing projects that require videos and pictures the question arose about equipping the learning commons with ipods, these would be more portable and usable for this function. Lauren Gilchrist mentioned that her husband is an IT manager in North Vancouver and said he may be able to offer some advice.

The Innovation grant has been approved. Grades 6-7 are doing a capstone project. "Cities of the Future" set in a local context - Design a city that can withstand a natural disaster and survive 100 years. The children will have a chance to showcase their work in the library.

This project gives them experience taking on a project, use the different skills they have and working collaboratively. This kind of project work helps prepare them to move towards a future we can't predict.

Brenda Radies mentioned that she has a lot of supplies that she can donate to the project.

# Other business - Aron Campbell

See attached notes

- Basketball Well done to both teams and thank you to Lisa Fairburn. The girl's team won their last game. The
  boys team lost, better luck next time.
- FSA grades 4 and 7 are currently doing the FSA exams. Results will be available for parents.
- Parent Education Evening 'How the Brain Learns to Read' presented by Sandra-Lynn Shorthall was well attended and a great success. All student DIBLS assessments have now been completed.
- Sex Ed Saleema Noon sessions for parents and children have been completed.
- Grade 7 end of year award system is being simplified. There will be a wider range of awards e.g. athletic, character, leadership and less academic awards.
- The Circles program now running in every Thursday in 3 classes, division 1, 2 and 3. We are fortunate to get a discounted rate of \$800 as the full price is 2 or 3 times that amount.
- 'Roots of Empathy' facilitator training is being taken by Heather Nelson. The cost is partly covered by the PAC. This program is run with the primary classes and helps young children to think about the needs of a baby. The facilitators will aim to bring babies into the classroom as part of the program. The program helps to reduce bullying by encouraging empathy.
- College of Design students are working with Gleneagles to modernize the grade 6 -7 wing of the school. A survey has been sent out to parents to get their input. Encouraged to think big. The changes will be made in stages.
- The Meet the Teacher Evening. Mr. Campbell would like to know what parents think about purchasing tickets in advance for the Meet the Teacher Evening next year? Up to now the food has been donated by parents, Pastamelli restaurant contributed the food this year. It is a lot of work. If parents purchased tickets beforehand, then there would be a budget to purchase food. No decision was made.

Jump Start math work books.

Parents would like to know why they must pay for the work book this year? It has been free for at least 8 years. Mr. Campbell explained that the district says parents should have been paying for this item all along as it is a consumable, therefore cannot be reused. It costs \$15. Parents asked why we are still using the 'Math Makes Sense' text book? The general comment was that this text book does not make sense.

## Parent Social – Shevaun Brown

Shevaun reported that Caulfield Cove Hall is the first choice for venue. They have been slow to respond. Work is continuing to find a venue. The theme will be Mexican Fiesta. A Mexican food truck could provide food and we could hire a Latin band (\$100). The social must be self-financing. Good dates for us would be Feb 23rd or March 2<sup>nd</sup>, however, the availability of a venue will dictate the date.

# **DPAC Report – Lisa Fairburn.**

See attached notes.

Comments:

Re: Parent email communications – Lisa will draft a stock 'obtaining email consent' letter, which can be sent out to class reps for their use.

Re: Emergency preparedness – The keys for the emergency bins are held by Aron and Maria. It is important that they are in a place where they can be accessed when needed.

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# Other business

#### Hot lunch program – new coordinator is needed

We need a parent to volunteer to take on the role of Hot Lunch coordinator. The hot lunch is a fundraising program and without a coordinator we will lose the event. Brenda and Andrea Bradshaw will temporarily take over the role until a new person is found. Lauren suggested that it would be helpful to send out a description of what the coordinator is expected to do. This would help people understand what they are signing up for. Briefly it involves setting up menus, taking to vendor, submitting orders, creating distribution lists and paying bills. Brenda Radies will write up a description.

#### Headlice

Parents would like to know why it is just the class with an outbreak that is informed? Children play with children in other classes therefore it would be helpful for all parents to know if there has been an outbreak in any class. The PAC has in previous years send out information to parents about dealing with head lice. Brenda will find this information and send it out in the PAC newsletter. Also, it was mentioned that Christine Mattern has given a talk about headlice to parents in the past. Brenda will talk to here to see if she would like to do this again.

Reminder that there will be a parent coffee on Tuesday morning, Nov 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:35 am to kick start the Book Fair. Volunteers are needed, please contact Kelly Richter.

There will be a student Bake Sale on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of October. Send money in with children if they would like to purchase goods.

Guess the amount of Unicorn Food draw will be on November 7th.

A very big thankyou to Janessa for being the Hot Lunch coordinator. We wish her the best of luck as she returns to her studies.

# PAC meeting times.

The November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting has been moved to the morning.

There is no meeting in December.

January meeting will be in the evening as per schedule.

# Oct 24, 2108 PAC report GPAC – Mr. Aron Campbell

Gratitude	Another action packed month		
	Classes settling inestablishing culture and common language		
Meet the Teacher evening	Terrific turn out and gratitude to Lisa Kim and Rachel Clearwater  Vegan Soup was a hit  Feedback  What if we changed the event to a food truck or pre purchased tickets? To ease the cost  food trucks, but this would have to be booked in May/June		
Basketball Teams	Girls: Lisa Fairburn and Kim Taylor  Boys: Christine Hulme and Eric Torres  Season kicked off		
FSA Assessments	<ul> <li>OngoingGr 4 and 7</li> <li>Hard to predict results</li> </ul>		
Early Literacy Parent Education Evening	<ul> <li>Terrific turnout of close to 35 parents who heard our District Early Literacy Team share out on the complexities of learning to read</li> <li>See link to Sandralynn Shortall's Slide Deck <a href="here">here</a></li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Explained the significance of the 5 aspects of a balanced literacy program and the discrimination between phonological awareness and phonemic awareness</li> <li>Phonemic Awareness: the ability to hear and identify sounds in spoken words.</li> <li>Phonics: the relationship between the letters of written language and the sounds of spoken language.</li> </ul>		
	Fluency: The capacity to read text accurately and quickly.  Vocabulary: All the words students must know to communicate effectively.		

	Comprehension: The ability to understand what has been read
	Primary Formative Assessments are complete  - Team is in the midst of setting up our plans for intervention to target areas requiring focus and improvement
DIBELS Assessments complete	
Innovation Grant #13	<ul> <li>GEC Design Gr 6/7 Capstone Pilot Project</li> <li>Christine Hulme, Shawnah Staples, Janet Hicks and Cari Wilson and Kristi Yorke and AC to collaborate</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Will involving students in a sustained, self-directed inquiry project within a local context enable them to: create new insights and develop deeper understanding communicate and collaborate effectively in a variety of situations demonstrate responsible action and take pride in their accomplishments</li> </ul>
	The grade sixes and sevens will be involved in this project throughout term 2 and 3. The first and second term Units of Inquiry will be designed in a way that will prepare the students for the third term culminating project by working on research, design thinking/inquiry and presentation skills. This project aims to help students develop stronger backgrounds in collaborative teamwork, independent research and 21st century knowledge and skills. The project will challenge students to:
	<ul> <li>Think critically and creatively to construct meaning or gain understanding Apply Design Thinking to a study or an investigation based on an area of interest</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Communicate and collaborate effectively with a variety of audiences in different situations</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Connect with local community members Integrate, synthesize and make cross-curricular connections</li> </ul>
	- Reflect on their work and their process
Cath Blythe Visit	Terrific turnout on the parent nighta good demonstration of the appetite at GEC for this work and support of parents for student/parent education
Gr 7 Awards	Will be very different this yearless is more  After polling the districtwe are handing out more than even close to average.  We would like to simplifyand would therefore like to share with the

	students early in the year what awards will be given to kids at the end of the year	
CIRCLES in classrooms	<ul> <li>North Shore Restorative Justice Society has extended and offered its CIRCLES Program in one WVSD SChoolGEC.</li> <li>Currently involved every Thursday in Div 1/2/3 45 min class meetings meetings</li> <li>AC and Kelly Richter sit on the NSRJS School Connection program</li> <li>Circles promotes strong core competencies in the area of Communication and Personal Social Comps in regard to respect, acceptance, conflict resolution, etc.</li> <li>With Zofia and Chloe Reps of the NSRJS; 3rd year with GEC</li> <li>Have secured 3 classes to participate in Circles Meetings, breaking down barriers, character development and self awareness,</li> <li>Building cohesiveness</li> </ul>	
Communicating Student Learning	<ul> <li>Teachers spent time on the Thurs early dismissal learning more about the new CSL Platform that will be delivered through My ED BC</li> <li>Will allow CSL Docs to be communicated digitally by 3rd term</li> <li>Againemploys new language around student progress</li> <li>No longer using grades to measure progress but instead language that provides a description as to where the learner falls on a continuum of growth in relation to the CUrricular Competencies</li> <li>Beginning, Developing, Applying and Extending</li> </ul>	
Roots of Empathy Opportunity	<ul> <li>Heather Nelson, mother of Connor and Jacob is our ROE Facilitator; very grateful</li> <li>She will embark on a weekly visit to the classroom each Monday and welcome our baby to the class once every 4-5 weeks</li> <li>Meaghan Robertson and Judy Downie</li> <li>Involves a 3 day training portion</li> </ul>	
LaSalle College of Applied Design and Technology Visit	<ul> <li>12 students and their professor, Sehr Latif, visited and spent two hours with Mr. Campbell touring the school and learning about the culture and common language used amongst community members</li> <li>Will be presenting a host of redesign plans and modernization ideas to Facilities</li> <li>Have shared priorities in areas of 1) school exterior beautification and recognition; 2) Meeting Space Creation 3) Modernization and redesign of the Gr 6/7 wing and classrooms</li> </ul>	
Upcoming Events		
Halloween	School Wide Assembly  - Cross Country Team Recognition - Choir Performance	

- Gr ⅓ Thriller Performance - Div 6 Joke telling Strong Expectations around costumes on that day students	will go home to parents and
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# DPAC Notes - Oct. 3rd Lisa Fairburn

- 1. DPAC Canoe Purchase
  - a. 12 Students able to experience Squamish Nation culture; options for teachers/students to use.
  - b. Indigenous education on the water
  - \*\*Possibility for Gleneagles to take advantage of experience?
- 2. Gaming Act grant summary report up 20% (\$24/kid)
- 3. Slack sign up to access public events, share experiences, access to info.
- 4. Facilities
  - a. Erwin Park new building envelope
  - b. Sentinel gym delayed
  - \*\*Every building being assessed
- 5. Health
  - a. MDI Results middle years development instrument; grades 4 & 7
  - b. Sleep week Feb 18-22; contests and giveaways (studying the way sleep impacts learning)
  - \*\*Feb 27th Parent Education evening at Kay Meek Drs from UBC speak on kid's mental health
- 6. Enrollment #s in district
  - a. 6797 regular students, 537 international; West Van families declining #s
  - b. 65 teachers retired
  - c. 9 unfilled teaching positions + 3 staff positions

<sup>\*\*</sup>Opportunities for first aid, playground supervision

- 7. Babysitting Course offered by Chartwell PAC Oct 19th
- 8. Chris Kennedy's role
  - a. Works with Trustees and system (Principals)
  - b. Parents email communications (see handout)
  - \*\*Stock letter; resources for class parents
- 9. Emergency Preparedness
  - a. North Shore Planning Consultants; Drop/Cover/Hold on
    - i. All hazard emergency; storms, earthquakes, fires
    - ii. Plans, Car kits, School priorities; respond vs. react teachers are not trained responders.