



PAC Meeting

Wednesday January 13, 2021

6:30 pm via Zoom

Present:

Stephanie Beattie

Craig Bench

Alexa Bodel

Shevaun Brown (Secretary, PAC)

Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)

Jenny Clark

Lane Clark

Rachel Clearwater

Ian Davies

Douglas Davis

Mitchell Davis

Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)

Pippa Fry

Sara Gardner

Lauren Gilchrist

Katie Hlynsky

Wendy Human (DPAC Rep, PAC)

Waldemar Jonsson

Chris Kennedy (Superintendent, WV Schools)

Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)

Danielle Lavallee

Christina Lee

Vanessa McLaughlin

Giovanna Meire

Joel Meire

Heather Nigh

Kirsty Pappas

Heather Ramsbottom

Kelly Richter (Vice-Chair, PAC)

Kirstie Simpson (Hot Lunch, PAC)

Lisa Sturdy

Jenn Tieche

Rachel Trask

Catalda Van Dyke

Meeting called to order @ 6:31 pm.

- LF welcomed attendees and thanked them for joining the meeting; requested attendees sign in via the chat thread and remember to mute microphones. An extra welcome to our guest speaker WV Schools Superintendent, Chris Kennedy as well as several parents joining us from the Lions Bay community. Note that the meeting will be recorded to accommodate the documentation of meeting minutes. Please remember to write questions in the chat and we'll get to them in due course.

Adoption of the Agenda

*LF noted one amendment: Kelly Richter to present DPAC report in place of Wendy Human.

Kirstie Simpson 1st, Shevaun Brown 2nd

Adoption of minutes from the Nov 18th meeting.

Kirsty Pappas 1st, Steph Beattie 2nd

Chair's Report (Lisa Fairburn):

- LF noted that all our PAC meeting agendas and minutes as well as links to ongoing PAC fundraisers are posted on the school website
<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/gleneagles-elementary/>
- 2nd Hot Lunch Term launched successfully this week; more details to follow from KS.
- DPAC Trustee Liaison Meeting last week: GEC well represented by Kelly Richter, Kelly Kerklaan (both on behalf of DPAC), Wendy Human, Shevaun Brown and LF; lots of interesting topics discussed; KR to follow with more details in DPAC Report and AC as well in his Principal's report.
- Saleema Noon Body Science program returning to Gleneagles this year with PAC funding. "Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators are a group of smart and current professionals with a focus on providing safe, inclusive and practical information to children, teens and parents. With over twenty-five years combined teaching experience, they achieve a perfect balance of tackling serious topics in a way that is youthful, fun and lighthearted."
 - This year's program will involve classroom educators showing the Body Science Online workshops via live Zoom to the kids in their classroom; the educator will be able to pause the recording at any time for questions that come up during the workshops. (This is the closest to in person delivery.) The pre-recorded workshops were done by Saleema herself and are apparently very good.
 - Parent Info component via Zoom on March 1st 6:30 – 8pm, with in class student workshops to follow on March 3rd & 4th; more info on workshop details will be sent out by the office shortly.
 - Saleema Noon, in person, booked for January 2022.
- The PAC Exec is also working with Gleneagles Golf Course to book another golf tournament for May of this year. There will be handicaps for the applicable ringers. All are welcome; stay tuned for details.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- KK presented the bank balances at Dec 31 and highlighted recent income/expenses.
 - Chequing account less adjustments (hot lunch expenses to be billed + outstanding Munchalunch credits) leaves balance of **\$39,925.18**
 - Gaming account sits at **\$5,444.98**
 - Trust account less invoices to be paid this week has a balance of **\$5,990.40**

Income

- Staff appreciation fundraiser raised \$1,548.97 through Munchalunch donations
- Online fundraisers raised \$1,116.39 (Well Fed \$230, Gift cards \$614, Thermometers \$272)
- Spirit wear sales increased to \$189 through Munchalunch sales of stock on hand
- Hot lunch increased to an anticipated profit of almost \$8,300. This includes all sales for Term 2 (which have not occurred) so this number may fluctuate in the future.
- Miscellaneous income increased to \$169 due to \$160 annual admin contribution from the School Board.

Expenses

- Art supplies increased by \$169 to \$1,156 due to the purchase of additional art supplies
- More soccer balls and basketballs were purchased for the playground costing \$219.

- The emergency bin supplies were replenished with a cost of \$440
- Additional books and readers were purchased for the learning commons with a cost of \$254
- Office supplies increased by \$90 for the purchase of stamps
- The staff appreciation lunch cost \$258. We got great pricing from one of our new hot lunch vendors Presto Catering.
- We spent \$200 on gift cards for the two custodians to show our appreciation of all of their work during the pandemic.

Hot Lunch Report (presented by Kirstie Simpson, Hot Lunch Coordinator):

- Thanks to GEC staff & students for managing the distribution this year in absence of parent volunteers.
- Covid protocols have required vendors to be more organized this year which has made distribution more straightforward.
- Only minor hiccup seems to be students/parents remembering to bring their own cutlery (though this is an ongoing issue).
- New vendor added for Term 2 - Presto Catering – so we are now offering hot lunch for 3 days/week.
- Once we have gone through a full delivery cycle, there will be an opportunity for parents to make changes to their Term 2 orders; once the change window closes, it will not be possible to make any changes for the remainder of Term 2.
- New ordering window will eventually open up for Term 3.

DPAC Report (presented by Kelly Richter, DPAC Chair & GEC PAC Vice-Chair)

- This month's DPAC meeting was the annual School Trustee Liaison Meeting, which brings together Trustees, District Leadership Team, Principals and PAC Leaders to learn and share ideas about a topical issue or interest. This year the focus of our meeting was inclusion and accepting diversity, and featured presentations from both elementary and high school principals on Indigenous Education, SOGI (Sexual Orientation Gender Identity) and Anti-Racism Initiatives. The six presentations were excellent and demonstrated how WV schools have embraced inclusion. Links to these presentations can be found on the GEC school website: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/dpac/>
- This event is about the various stakeholders within the district coming together to share ideas on key ideas and was a great opportunity to hear directly from parents on what is working, what is needed to support these areas further, and how to move forward.
- WVDPAC has struck an Inclusion and Diversity Committee, made up of parents, and representatives from WVS and WV Memorial Library. The team is putting together a parent education and engagement series, exploring a number of topics around inclusion. We are putting this together like chapters in a story and are working closely with the Library to incorporate a reading program that expands upon the presentations.
- Our PAC is interested in ensuring that our own school library includes recommended books on inclusion and diversity appropriate for elementary school readers and will be

looking at the WV Memorial Library recommendations and supporting the purchase of recommended books that we may not already have in our own library collection.

Principal Report (presented by Aron Campbell):

- AC expressed thanks from the staff for the tokens of appreciation that came from families over the holidays; the Parent Volunteer Lunch purchase was terrific despite the COVID Safety Plans. AC noted that he has worked hard to convey the appreciation and gratitude that is expressed to him in regard to the hard work that teachers are doing.
- AC expressed gratitude for parent generosity and support of the pre-Christmas food drive and charity fundraiser; shared message of thanks from our Sponsored North Shore Families from the Adopt a Family Food Drive held by GEC in December. Note that parent contributions in lieu of the Winter Concert admission fees raised enough funds for not one but 2 families.
- Enrollment increase: GEC started the year with 247 students enrolled across 11 divisions; by Jan 2021 enrollment has increased to 257 (highest number of students enrolled at GEC in the last decade) and we are on track to start Sept 2021 with 257 students as well. Increase is due to the arrival of a number of families from near and far: UK, Texas, Bermuda, Vancouver, California
- Health and Safety measures continue; addition of spray bottle sanitizers in the intermediate classes, meaning these are now available in all 11 divisions. Face mask use by students increasing; still hovering around 10-15% of each class.
- Rockridge Orientation – Mr. Garth Thomson (Rockridge VP) visited Gr 7s at GEC this week to present snapshot of what to be excited about in Gr 8; Registrations forms will go home to families shortly and there is discussion around a GEC Parents Only Virtual session with Mr. Thomson.
- AC outlined GEC's Indigenous Education Plan – this is a formal plan that is submitted each school year to the District and subsequently made available to the BC Ministry of Education; aims to increase the exposure of all students to indigenous culture and learning through genuine avenues and authentic success.
 - 2020-2021 Committee includes: AC, Christine Hulme, Ms Wimmer, Ms McIntyre, Mrs. Staples and works together to review initiatives and efforts to enhance, examine and integrate Indigenous Culture and Education into our school lives.
 - Indigenous Education Enhancement Agreement aims to not only support our Indigenous learners, but to "... further our understandings and actions of Truth and Reconciliation, and to cement our commitments and relationships with our Indigenous partners." (based on the First People's Principles of Learning)
 - Term 1 Indigenous Education accomplishments at GEC:
 1. Continued recognition and dialogue around Orange Shirt Day
 2. Residential School impact upon Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians
 3. Empathy, understanding, compassion via literacy and discussion
 4. Gr 6/7 Visits with Sah7plek (Bob Baker) to learn about Squamish Nation protocols, culture and government as part of Social Studies Unit of Inquiry into forms of government
 5. Recognizing the contributions of Indigenous servicemen and service women in times of war, serving Canada

- Term 2 Indigenous Education accomplishments at GEC
 1. Sah7plek visits with Gr 2/3 and Gr 6/7 to share the Squamish cultural history or the CANOE, our waterways and protocol around this Canadian symbol
 2. Continuing to “indigenize” our Morning Announcement routine
 3. Integrating Squamish Language phrases and greetings to make this language more accepted and understood
 4. Indigenous Professional Development Day, Jan 29th – staff will begin integrating Coast Salish Spirit Animals to characterize each of the Core Competencies, with the idea that each animal represents the values and characteristics of a specific competency goal.
- Black Shirt Day - Friday, Jan 15th: In the spirit of our efforts as a District and as a school community to support diversity, tolerance, compassion and understanding, we are encouraging students to join us in recognizing #BlackShirtDay on Jan 15th, wearing a black shirt to highlight Anti Racism...and Black History Month in Februaryas well as our efforts to prompt discussion and awareness of the plight and experiences of all races; we are using announcements, classroom conversations and literacy resources to start that conversation.

Guest Speaker: Chris Kennedy, Superintendent, WVSD

- CK spoke about the changes to education that have occurred or sped up as a result of the pandemic, highlighting 3 key changes we have seen in the last year:
 - More digital learning
 - Greater flexibility in people’s time
 - Learning is often an outdoor activity
- Essentially, the pandemic has removed some obstacles, allowing us “to do old things better” or do new things we couldn’t do before. CK stressed that in this digitization process, we are striving to use/teach technology well. (While technology is a useful tool to help us learn, it is not the only form of learning.) “Good writing still matters” and we need to give students real world problems to solve, in preparation for life in the real world.
- CK explored what opportunities the next 12-24 months might present:
 - Harness innovation
 - Reimagine accountability
 - Remembering the power of the physical world
 - Supporting the most vulnerable
- He emphasized that coding, robotics and app development have gone from nowhere to everywhere; the job of educators is to stay relevant: celebrate risk-taking, shine a light on innovation; “be the voice, not the echo.” Educators are aiming to build digital resilience/digital competence where learning, not technology, is the driver. (Technology is a learning tool)
- CK responded to questions about technology ‘addiction’ by explaining that technology is used in schools for a purpose; it is not required all the time; he encouraged parents to consider their own use of technology and have discussions about this as a family.
- CK pointed out that Cari Wilson is developing curriculum guidance for technology use at various grade levels.

- CK noted that the pandemic has highlighted the not all subjects lend themselves to a condensed format; some are taught most effectively over a more extended period. Similarly, some students need more time than others to digest and absorb a certain concept or subject. Consequently, CK anticipates we can expect to see more variation in the length of courses in the years ahead.

Adjourned; 7:56 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 10th @ 6:30 pm (via Zoom).