



PAC Meeting
Wednesday February 10, 2021
6:30 pm via Zoom

Present:

Stephanie Beattie
Craig Bench
Shevaun Brown (Secretary, PAC)
Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)
Jenny Clark
Lane Clark
Tanya Cosgrove
Ian Davies
Mitchell Davis
Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)
Sean Fairburn
Pippa Fry
Emily Gardner

Lauren Gilchrist
Katie Hlynsky
Christine Hulme (Vice Principal, GEC)
Wendy Human (DPAC Rep, PAC)
Negar Jazbi
Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)
Jill McNeill
Heather Nelson
Heather Nigh
Kelly Richter (Vice-Chair, PAC)
Kirstie Simpson (Hot Lunch, PAC)
Anna Stewart
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. Note that the meeting will be recorded to assist in documenting the meeting minutes. Please remember to write questions in the chat and we'll get to them in due course.

Adoption of the Agenda

Wendy Human 1st, Kirstie Simpson 2nd

Adoption of minutes from the Jan 13th meeting.

Kirstie Simpson 1st, Kelly Richter 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/>

- Motion to approve expenditure of \$5k for upgrading learning commons iPads (previously itemized in the budget with cost to be determined).
 - Background to Mr. Campbell's request: Over the past few years, Gleneagles' learning goal focus has been on Applied Skills, Design and Technology. The library set of iPads has been put to good use. They have been instrumental in facilitating student learning and discovery experiences in areas like Stop Motion Videos, Coding and Programming of the Dash Robots as well as things like visual storytelling. With this capacity being built in both students and teachers alike, the need to modernize our school owned tablets has become greater than ever; specifically, in the Gr 4-7 area where a number of classes are exploring stop motion video, visual storytelling, and digital media more regularly. Our current iPad tablets used for this sort of learning have been in use for over 6 years. They have 16 GB with very little capacity remaining and are no longer capable of updating apps.
 - KK provided context for requested expenditure: Although there is a lot of potential volatility in our forecast for the rest of the year (i.e. if hot lunch had to be shut down or we couldn't hold our next golf tournament in May or if additional programs need to be cancelled due to COVID restrictions), we are currently forecasting to breakeven for the year (i.e. we expect to spend the same amount that we have raised through grants, fundraising and hot lunch). The \$5,000 purchase of the tablets would put us in a deficit for the year which would be funded by excess reserves that were built up in past years.
 - Kelly R coordinated online poll for approval of the motion to purchase 10 x 32GB iPads + charging/security station at a cost of \$5000; poll completed with 94% approval; motion carried.
- Response from the West Vancouver School Board regarding Mask Protocol - In response to the growing voice of parents within our greater school community asking for enhanced mask protocols in schools, the DPAC Executive sent a letter (attached) to the School Board and Trustees on February 1, 2021. The DPAC received a response from the Chair of the Board, Carolyn Broady on Feb 5 explaining that West Vancouver Schools are working with elementary principals on creating a culture of mask wearing in schools, especially in the upper intermediate grades. Based on the recent Public Health Officer's guidelines, mask usage for these students remains a personal choice, but families of course can influence the behaviour of their own children. We are one of the few schools who have not had a reported case...yet. We are also one of the lowest mask-wearing schools; AC mentioned roughly 10% of students are actually wearing masks. The PAC has an opportunity to help encourage mask culture at our school and we are interested in your ideas.
 - A number of PACs in the district are selling masks with their school logos; this could be done as a fundraiser or it could merely be aimed at piquing student interest. We have the vendor info and some samples if that is something the parent community would be interested in; we can sell on Munchalunch and students could show their spirit by wearing their school mask. If there are any other ideas, please speak up or email your ideas to gecpacchair@gmail.com
 - Masks only provide one layer of protection against Covid-19 and the West Van School Board is encouraging PACs to remind families of the importance of the daily health check; keeping students home if they are sick; hand hygiene and physical distancing. Please see updated 'Provincial Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings' included with the meeting minutes.

- Discussion continued about what parents could do to help encourage mask wearing... Student-created posters to encourage mask wearing?
- Update on potential outdoor learning area at Gleneagles: Kelly Kerklaan & Kirstie Simpson have started to gather information and discuss this idea with Aron and the teaching staff. If this is something that you would be interested in getting involved with or have a network that could be helpful, we would love to hear from you; please reach out to the gecpacchair@gmail.com email or contact either Kelly or Kirstie directly. There will be a committee to focus on this endeavor that will no doubt stretch into next year.
- Saleema Noon Body Science program returning to Gleneagles this year with PAC funding.
 - This year's program will involve classroom educators showing Saleema Noon's Body Science workshops online via Zoom to the kids in their classroom; the recording can be paused at any time for questions that come up during the workshops.
 - Parent Info component will take place via Zoom on March 1st 6:30 – 8pm, with in class student workshops to follow on March 3rd & 4th.
 - This week the PAC also sent out a note about a free workshop that Saleema is offering for parents of preteens. If you haven't already checked out the link posted on WhatsApp, look for Ms Pistilli's email with more info.
 - Saleema Noon, in person, booked for January 2022.
- We are still working with Gleneagles Golf Course to book another golf tournament.
- The PAC is facilitating a Coffee & Treat morning for GEC staff on Feb 23 to celebrate the 100th day of school; catering to be purchased from Blenz in Horseshoe Bay with some of the parent donations collected pre-Christmas. It was noted that Blenz has been a generous supporter of our GEC community and PAC events over the years.

School District Budget Process (Kelly Richter, Vice-Chair):

- KR explained that SD45 soliciting parent suggestions/recommendations for funding as it puts together the budget for next year.
- Open discussion followed regarding areas (district-wide) which could benefit from additional funding.
- Feedback form included/attached with meeting minutes; completed forms to be emailed to Amanda Barr at abarr@wvschools.ca by March 2, 2021.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- KK presented the bank balances at Jan 31 and highlighted recent income/expenses.
 - Chequing account less adjustments (hot lunch expenses to be billed + outstanding Munchalunch credits) leaves balance of **\$32,148.99**
 - Gaming account sits at **\$5,444.98**
 - Trust account less invoices to be paid this week has a balance of **\$5,990.40**

Income

- Hot lunch increased to \$8,844.26 after the ordering was reopened for changes.
- Total income to date for 2020/2021 is \$24,691.98

Expenses

- Self-regulation items (puzzles and other stress relief toys) were purchased, bringing the total to \$249.75
- We booked Saleema Noon for early March which cost \$1,522.50
- \$123.60 was spent on Lunar New Year festivities
- \$61.09 was spent on a sign which is being used to advertise PAC and school events
- An additional \$28.69 was recorded in staff appreciation expenses for Christmas gifts

Fundraising opportunities

- Seed fundraiser through Make it Sow Inc - We will be holding a seed fundraiser later in February. This is an ideal opportunity for anyone who is considering planting a vegetable or flower garden (large or small!) to purchase a variety of seeds and support our school at the same time. They only use high quality seeds and they do not supply any GMO seeds and only use germination tested seeds ideal for Canadian climates. The Make It Sow Bonus program will also plant trees on our behalf. For every ten packages we sell they will plant one tree in Canada on our behalf.
- Gift cards – sale of select gift cards will be reopening for a short period. A percentage of each gift card sale is donated to our school PAC. You will get the face value of the gift card. Purchases can be made through your Munchalunch account or by emailing gecpactreasurer@gmail.com

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

- Hot Lunch rollout continues to go well; thanks to school staff & students who are facilitating delivery and troubleshooting as needed. AC pointed out that Ms Kaur and Mrs Ward should be recognized at the end of the year for their efforts to ensure the hot lunch program is delivered smoothly.
- Lots of order amendments made during change window as well as new orders placed.
- Carmen Gunn has taken over Spirit Wear role; more to come from her in due course.

DPAC Report (presented by Wendy Human, DPAC Rep)

- Wendy shared highlights from DPAC meeting held on Feb 3rd (full meeting minutes attached).
 - DPAC Inclusion & Diversity Committee met with Alden Habacon, a leading diversity and inclusion strategist to open up our speaker series this year; hoping to secure a date in March for this event. The WVML is finalizing a reading challenge and online book resource page for their website that will correspond to the topics covered through the speaker series and will provide recommendations for books for parents to read with their kids; books for children, youth and adults.
 - Budget process underway; WVS seeking stakeholder feedback.
 - Letter sent by DPAC to School Board in regard to mask protocols.
 - New programs launching this Spring at WV Community Centres.
 - Reminder that school traffic concerns should be directed to school principals as they are the ones in contact with WVPD.
 - Chris Kennedy spoke about enrollment and budget planning for 2021-2022; identified 7 lasting implications/trends of the Covid era:
 - 1) Nationalised conversation of education
 - 2) Essential use of communication tools
 - 3) High Schools are forever changed
 - 4) Health and Education are permanent partners
 - 5) Digitization

- 6) Equity – ensuring everyone has access to learning tools
- 7) Learning outside
- Guest Speaker: Shannon Ozirny, Head of Youth Services at West Van Memorial Library; provided update on recent changes at WVML. From March 15th, WVML will be open 7 days/week. Website link: <https://westvanlibrary.ca/kids-teens/supporting-west-vancouver-students-educators/>

Principal Report (presented by Aron Campbell):

- AC thanked PAC for iPad budget approval; great investment in accessibility.
- A busy February:
 - Lunar New Year – slide presentation circulated to all classes.
 - Black History Month – announcements and classroom focus on significant Black Canadians.
 - Pink Shirt Day - coming up on Feb 24th
- Student-Led Conferences date change – traditional open house cannot be held on Feb 19th due to Covid protocols; both primary and intermediate teaching teams have chosen to delay these conferences to May 6th/7th. Intermediate teams drafting plans to compile digital portfolios which can be shared with parents at home; primary classes will prepare traditional student portfolios of artefacts/work samples which can be taken home to share/discuss with families (+ feedback forms for parents to complete). Next feedback to parents will be in the form of Term 2 reports (sent home before March break).
- Gr 6/7 classes engaging in Young Entrepreneurs unit of inquiry. Each student has been challenged to plan, market and manufacture a product of their choosing; digital catalogues will be created by both divisions and distributed to broader student population for 'shopping'. Emails explaining more will be shared by all classroom teachers next week and kids will be informed via our morning announcements; AC encourages parent support.
- Health protocols continue – all staff are now asked to wear masks unless at their work space (desk or front of the class); reminder to parents to continue vigilance with daily health checks and keep sick kids at home. All students are encouraged to wear masks, especially our Gr 6/7s; announcements and poster campaign to encourage/normalize.
- Traffic warning – AC noted serious concerns about illegal/dangerous parking occurring along Marine Drive; to ensure the safety of all students, please use the drive through at the main entrance.
- AC shared Framework for Enhancing Student Learning 2020-2023; this is a 3-year, school-wide focus aimed at enhancing student learning. Shared powerpoint (see link in attached Principal's Report)
 - Goals must address:
 - 1) Intellectual development
 - 2) Human & Social development
 - 3) Career development
 - Previous themes: Fine Arts Integration (2014-2017); ADST & Design Thinking (2017-2020)
 - Themes proposed for 2020-2023:
 - 1) Literacy
 - 2) Numeracy
 - 3) Social Justice

- Survey for stakeholder input...
<https://forms.gle/DMDByHSFZmdyfY9v6>

Other Business

- Rachel Clearwater is looking for volunteers who are interested in helping with the school garden beds (planting & maintenance); please email ihp.rachel@gmail.com if interested.

Adjourned; 7:55 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 14th @ 6:30 pm (via Zoom). No meeting in March.