



PAC AGM

Wednesday June 16, 2021

6:30 pm via Zoom

Present:

Shevaun Brown (Secretary, PAC)

Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)

Jenny Clark

Rachel Clearwater

Ian Davies

Marie Engelbert

Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)

Sean Fairburn

Polina Fink

Emily Gardiner

Lauren Gilchrist

Wendy Human

Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)

Danielle Lavallee

Heather Nelson

Kelly Richter (Vice-Chair, PAC)

Kirstie Simpson (Hot Lunch, PAC)

Anna Stewart

Meeting called to order @ 6:32 pm.

- LF welcomed attendees and thanked them for joining the meeting; requested attendees sign in via the chat thread, remember to mute microphones and write questions in the chat. It was noted that the meeting will be recorded to assist in documenting the meeting minutes. Polls will be used to record majority approval of m
- LF recognized that we are gathered together on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and extended thanks to our friends and colleagues in the Nation who are working with us to guide our understanding of the history of this land and its people; LF emphasized that we respect and honour the Elders past, present and future as we bring this knowledge to the students of our community. LF also acknowledged the tragedy of the findings at the Kamloops Indian Residential School and recognized this incomprehensible loss and its impact on Indigenous peoples.

Adoption of the Agenda (with addition of Hot Lunch update from Kirstie Simpson and Garden Report from Rachel Clearwater): Kirstie Simpson 1st, Kelly Kerklaan 2nd

Adoption of minutes from the May 12th meeting

Emily Gardiner 1st, Kirstie Simpson 2nd

Adoption of GEC PAC Constitution and Bylaws Amendments

- Proposed changes were discussed at the last PAC meeting and have been circulated to members and Principal, satisfying the requirements for such amendments outlined in the Bylaws; resolution for the proposed amendments requires 2/3 support.
- The proposed amendments were reviewed again, before Kelly Richter launched online polls for attendees to complete; motion carried with 100 % support from 13 votes cast.

Chair's Report (Lisa Fairburn)

- PAC goal to “encourage community” shifted during the pandemic to “support community”. Looking back on the past year: meetings held online, fundraising went virtual (Indigo, Fundscrip, WellFed, thermometers, etc) and we were able to hold two socially-distanced ‘Golf Game for the Kids’ fundraisers.
- Hot Lunch was relaunched with Kirstie Simpson at the helm; we had one of our best years in terms of profit despite a delayed start and a number of pizza challenges.
- Scholastic Book Fair went digital with help from Jessica Wolff von Gudenberg; new options being explored for next year.
- Spirit Wear was updated with new colours and product options.
- With healthy bank balance carried over from previous year and parent support for this year’s fundraising efforts, GEC PAC funded programs that were safe and within the Health and Safety guidelines: Saleema Noon, Circles and Art starts. The PAC was also able to fund additional classroom equipment, lockers, new iPads, self-regulation tools, playground equipment and bins, classroom funds, STEAM consumables, digital equipment, Rockridge bursaries, grad funds, etc.
- Parents donated generously to a Staff Appreciation fund, enabling the PAC to provide not one but three different events for our amazing teachers and support staff: a lunch supplied by Presto Catering (one of our hot lunch vendors) in December, a coffee & treats morning in February supplied by Blenz in HB and one final lunch coming up on June 25th catered by Olive and Anchor.
- Communication became more important than ever this past year, so the Gleneagles School WhatsApp thread came in handy for real time reminders and updates. If you haven’t signed up for this yet, you can email GECPACCHAIR@gmail.com with your name, child’s name and phone number to receive push notifications.
- Guest speakers brought in to give parents direct access to WVS admin: Chris Kennedy (WVS Superintendent), Sean Nosek (Associate Superintendent) and WV District Trustee Lynne Block.
- Garden projects went ahead as planned; update from Rachel Clearwater follows.
- In the coming year, we hope to resume meeting in person, convening for social events and performances. The GEC PAC will continue to enrich the experience of our children by funding modernization in our school, playground equipment, classroom supplies, digital equipment, workshops, extracurricular programming, digital literacy, etc. The GEC PAC also looks forward to funding events that encourage family community and celebrations.
- Kudos to Aron Campbell and Christine Hulme for their open communication with the PAC and their work in rising to the challenges of the pandemic. We are sad to say goodbye to Christine but wish her all the best in her new post as VP at Caulfeild Elementary.
- Thanks and acknowledgements also offered to the PAC Exec members moving on this year: Kelly Richter, Shevaun Brown and Wendy Human. LF encouraged parents who may wish to get involved in any way to please reach out and get in touch.

Garden Report (presented by Rachel Clearwater):

- RC reported that the garden has been all planted and is ready to grow over the summer; looking forward to harvesting with the students in the Fall.
- Last Fall's garden box sale raised \$1000, allowing for the construction of new garden boxes and the addition of more native plants (30 additional species purchased); long term plan would be to create a teaching space.
- This year, the pandemic has prevented larger scale gardening efforts which typically rely on parent volunteers; focus shifted toward student participation this year. Two students (Harry and Sydney from Div 6) started a student garden club.
- RC is optimistic that next year will allow for more parent involvement, especially in the maintenance of garden beds around the main entrance of the school, as these have been somewhat neglected this year.
- RC will shortly be circulating a schedule/sign-up for summer watering, along with instructional videos from the students.
- AC extended his thanks for Rachel's ongoing efforts to spearhead this project.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- KK presented the bank balances at May 31 and highlighted recent income/expenses; adjusted cash balances total almost \$63K.
 - Chequing account less adjustments (cheques/hot lunch expenses + outstanding Munchalunch credits) leaves balance of \$57,135.21
 - Gaming account sits at \$3,912.48
 - Trust account less adjustments has a balance of \$1,605.47
- Total income to date for 2020/2021 is \$46,900.80; expenses were \$28,082.09
- Changes since the last meeting:
 - 2nd Golf Game of the year raised \$9700 (thanks to all the parents who participated and to LF for spearheading the event organization);
 - \$475 of playground equipment and \$147 of Makerspace items were purchased;
 - \$2.50 monthly bank fee incurred in Gaming account
- KK went on to outline the proposed budget for next year:
 - BC gaming grant based on \$20/student so we expect to receive approximately the same amount next year;
 - PAC Exec planning to hold a social event in the Fall (similar to the Oktoberfest, Mexican Fiesta events held in previous years) + a golf tournament in the Spring.
 - Hot Lunch to be offered 3 days/week again next year – same vendors but some will offer broader choice of menu items, so similar profits anticipated.
 - Most of the proposed budgeted expenses for next year are similar to the current year's budget, but KK highlighted a handful of differences (eg updated \$ amount for teacher's classrooms, commitment to support Bike to School week going forward, Roots of Empathy program which is returning next year, office supplies budget increase to allow for purchase of our own GEC PAC Zoom license, etc)
 - The Outdoor Enhancement Initiative will be a big focus next year; KK explained that we can undertake this large project without much risk due to the excess cash that was accumulated in prior years. As per BCCPAC guidance, we should be trying to

spend down this balance unless we are saving for a large purchase (ie an outdoor classroom or playground). At the end of this year, we will have about \$49,000 in the bank and although we want to keep some buffer in case we fall short in fundraising or if unexpected costs come up, it does give us a head start on our fundraising efforts for the Outdoor Enhancement Initiative. The proposed budget has a projected cash balance at the end of next year of almost \$16,000.

- The PAC Exec hopes that the \$20,000 fundraising/grants amount for the outdoor initiative will be split about 50/50 between grants and fundraising. We are hopeful that we will be able to raise more than this but don't want to be too optimistic.
- The \$60,000 cost is an estimate based on the costs that Rockridge has incurred (\$90,000) and can be adjusted if we don't raise enough money or if the scope changes. The current hope is that the initiative will include an outdoor classroom area, as well as smaller play/seating areas and some playground upgrades, potentially including 'extras' such as a gaga ball pit, ping pong tables, oodle swing.
- KK noted that the PAC Exec has discussed the budget with Aron Campbell and Maria Pistilli and their input is reflected in the proposed expenses.
- **Adoption of Proposed 2021/2022 Budget** - Attendees polled for approval; 100% approval from eligible voters in attendance ~ motion carried.

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

- As the financial figures attest, Hot Lunch has been an incredibly successful fundraiser thanks to parent support (even without selling milk and ice cream treats this year); thanks also due to AC and the school staff for their support in hot lunch delivery.
- KS is hopeful that some of the Covid protocols we were required to introduce this year will remain in place for next year, as these made the whole program a lot simpler to coordinate; intends to use same vendors next year (some offering more menu options).

DPAC Report (presented by Wendy Human, DPAC Rep)

- Wendy shared highlights from the June 2 DPAC AGM, hosted by DPAC Chair (and GEC PAC Vice-Chair) Kelly Richter:
 - Carolyn Broady (School Board Chair) acknowledged the tragedy at Kamloops Indian Residential School and its impact around BC; expressed hope that by Fall 2021 parents can continue Indigenous learning in person
 - WVS budget for 2021/2022 mainly status quo despite significant cuts in other districts around the province;
 - Grad protocols around health & safety remain as per current plan; all school health & safety protocols remain in place until end of school year and summer school will likely operate under the same guidelines.
 - Superintendent Kennedy discussed plans for next year: almost certain that cohorts won't be part of the plan next year but won't know for sure until Ministry releases back to school plan nearer to Sept; outlined expectation that many protocols will continue next year (eg. daily health checks, staggered start/end and recess times) as there were some unexpected benefits including less traffic congestion. No prediction on mask protocols; cleaning supplies are in place for same cleaning regimes as this year. Expect high school cafeterias open, parent volunteers and return to inter-school sports and indoor after school programs.

- Harry Jerome Oval update – expecting an announcement on federal grant money later this month.
- Presentations by the 3 WV high schools to highlight innovative and interesting programs.
- DPAC Chair Kelly Richter reviewed activities and initiatives undertaken by DPAC in the past year; KR noted that as PAC executives are being elected at the end of this year they should be sending new executive contact information to dpac@wvschools.ca
- BCCPAC Zoom Licenses will expire at the end of this school year, so school PACs that wish to continue using Zoom next year will need to look into other options.
- Election of 2021/2022 DPAC Executive – our own Kelly Richter and Kelly Kerklaan continue as DPAC Chair and DPAC Treasurer respectively.

Principal Report (presented by Aron Campbell):

- AC thanked parents for their appreciation and support throughout this very different year, emphasizing that parents found ways to show their support despite being restricted to the school perimeter.
- AC shared slideshow of photos to demonstrate how many traditional activities looked a bit different this past year, but efforts were made to keep the weeks fresh and interesting and to ensure seasonal highlights continued to be included; it was noted that school spirit remained high, in large part due to the support of the community (with coordination from the PAC).
- SB and KS queried schedule for next year; AC confirmed that he does not anticipate any unusual delays to first week of school if case numbers remain low and vaccination rates continue to increase through the summer months. Staggered recess/lunch breaks will likely continue next year.

Acclamation of the 2021/2022 GEC PAC Executive

- The following people are deemed elected by acclamation because only one nomination was received for each executive position.
 - Chair – Lisa Fairburn
 - Vice Chair – Amanda Clark
 - Treasurer – Kelly Kerklaan
 - Secretary – Emily Gardiner
 - DPAC Rep – Jenny Clark
 - Hot Lunch Coordinator – Kirstie Simpson
 - Member at Large – Heather Nelson
 - Member at Large – Danielle Lavallee

Adjourned; 7:44 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 15th @ 6:30 pm