



### **PAC Meeting**

**Wednesday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**6:30 pm via Zoom**

#### **Present:**

Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)

Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)

Kirstie Simpson (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)

Amanda Clark (Vice-Chair, PAC)

Rachel Clearwater

Kelly Richter

Emily Gardiner (Secretary, PAC)

Houman Javedan

Shevaun Brown

Jenny Clark (DPAC Rep, PAC)

Heidi Scorgie

Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)

Kate Hughes

Magdalena Sepulveda

Danielle Lavalley (Member at Large, PAC)

Catalda Van Dyke

Heather Nelson (Member at Large, PAC)

Russel Snow

Ian Davies

Corrie Davis

Alison Pienaar

Wendy Human

Jae Im

Paul Taylor

Lisa Sturdy

Lisa Leeson

Lauren Fuhre

#### **Meeting called to order @ 6:34 pm.**

- LF provided land acknowledgement and welcomed attendees to first PAC meeting of 2021/22 school year. LF requested that attendees sign in via the chat thread and remember to mute microphones. Noted that the meeting will be recorded to accommodate the documentation of meeting minutes.

#### **Adoption of the Agenda** (including addition of Gardening Program and Hot Lunch updates)

Kirstie Simpson 1<sup>st</sup>, Amanda Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### **Adoption of minutes from June 16<sup>th</sup> AGM meeting.**

Danielle Lavalley 1<sup>st</sup>, Jenny Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### **Chair's Report** (Lisa Fairburn):

- LF introduced self and GEC PAC Executive, and the purpose of the GEC PAC (as per our PAC constitution): to support, encourage and improve the quality of education and the wellbeing of the Gleneagles Ch'axay School students. We work together to:
  1. Advise the Principal and staff on parents' views on matters relating to School programs,

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- policies, plans and activities;
  - 2. Communicate with parents and promote cooperation and support with the School in providing the best education for our children;
  - 3. Assist parents in gaining access to resources in the educational system;
  - 4. Organize, in conjunction with the Principal, volunteer PAC activities and events which support the School; and
  - 5. Contribute to the effectiveness of the School by promoting the involvement of parents and other community members.
- Parents interested in finding out more about the PAC or in volunteering are asked to contact any member of PAC Executive ([gecpacchair@gmail.com](mailto:gecpacchair@gmail.com)); Heather Nelson is the contact for Class Parents ([heatherkitamura@gmail.com](mailto:heatherkitamura@gmail.com)). Please contact Heather if interested in having your name put forward for Class Parent.
  - LF encouraged parents to join the GEC PAC WhatsApp thread. If interested, please email [gecpacchair@gmail.com](mailto:gecpacchair@gmail.com) with your name, child's name and phone number; a link will be emailed back to you to sign up.
  - Fundraising update – most, if not all, programs will continue:
    - Details on social fundraiser for this Fall are being confirmed;
    - Another Golf Game for the Kids will occur in the Spring;
    - Fundraising efforts will steer toward Outdoor Enhancement Initiative.

**Treasurer's Report** (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- KK reviewed PAC budget 2020/21; adjusted balance in the chequing account is **\$26,668.33**. There are no restrictions on the use of these funds.
- Adjusted balance in the gaming account is **\$4,522.48**. These funds can only be used for activities approved by the Gaming Commission.
- Adjusted balance in the Trust account at the School Board is **\$25,137.37**. These funds are primarily set aside for the Outdoor Enhancement Initiative.
- KK reviewed 2021/22 budget approved in June; highlighted adjusted cash balance of **\$56,328.18** at August 31, 2021.
- We had an excess of revenue over costs of \$10,000 for the year-ended August 31, 2021. Most of this excess was due to some programs not being able to go ahead due to COVID, as well as success of fundraisers.
- Two line items (Circles and Grounds & Gardens) include accrued amounts for invoices, which are expected but have not yet been received.
- Past fundraising efforts, as well as the current year's fundraising will help pay for the Outdoor Enhancement Initiative.
- Approved budget for current year (2021/22) includes activities and events that were not possible last year due to COVID.
- \$60,000 is budgeted for the Outdoor Enhancement Initiative.
- The deficit of \$33,000 will either be reduced by additional fundraising and events, or we will be drawing down our cash balance.

**Spirit Wear Report** (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- Spirit wear has launched, and sales are open until Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- This year, we are using a third-party store to host the Spirit Wear sale, and are including new colours and options. Orders are packaged individually and sorted by class, making it easier for school staff to distribute.

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- Funds from sale of Spirit Wear are used to purchase t-shirts for new staff at GEC. Last year, these sales also funded a pizza party for the winners of the Spirit Day contest. We may be able to do this again this year if we raise enough funds.

**Gardening Program Report** (presented by Rachel Clearwater):

- Thank you to the 15 parents who did watering of veggie gardens over the summer months.
- Student Garden Club is doing some harvesting, and had a Scarlet Runner Bean sale on Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The remaining produce will be sold by donation at the planned Welcome Event (September 29<sup>th</sup>) market table, and if that event cannot happen, Friday pop-sales will continue.
- RC proposed putting market table sale funds toward purchasing more daffodil balls for outside the school, in area between Marine Drive and GEC; planning to tie this planting with the upcoming Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt days.
- RC is compiling ideas for garden projects to share with teachers. RC encouraged people to share ideas with her (ihp.rachel@gmail.com).

**Outdoor Enhancement Report** (presented by Kelly Kerklaan and Kirstie Simpson):

- Landscape designer, Dolores Altin, has been engaged to design a master plan as the first step in the design and construction of new outdoor learning and play areas.
- An Outdoor Enhancement Committee has been established, which includes both parents and teachers. Teachers have been surveyed, and Dolores is currently seeking input from the students. We hope to have a draft master plan by early October.
- Improvements will include an outdoor learning space for a class of 30 (ideally covered), learning pods for group learning, planting of trees, and improving some of the existing flower beds that are outside of Rachel's Gardening Program, adding natural play elements (e.g., beach logs, rounds, boulders, tree stump stools/tables), and murals.
- We hope to have a Gaga Ball Pit installed in the Fall. Thanks to Will Markham for sourcing the lumber for this project.
- LF asked about timeline for Outdoor Enhancement Initiative:
  - Expecting draft from Dolores by early October, so a submission for the District's Playground Grant can be submitted. The deadline to apply is end of October.
  - Anticipating this will be a 1-2 year project, and Dolores will help with estimating costs.

**Hot Lunch Report** (presented by Kirstie Simpson):

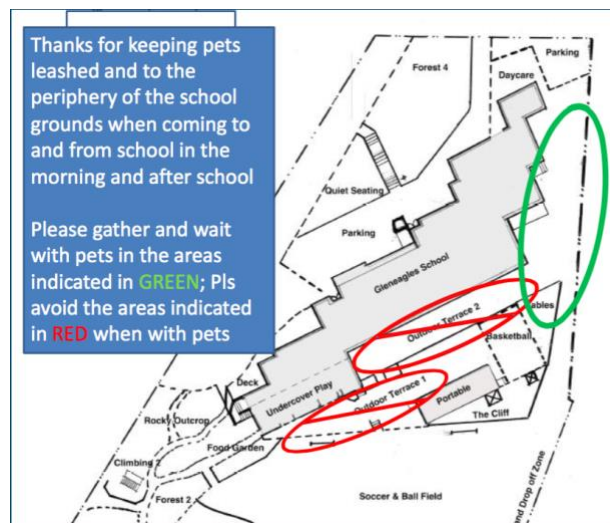
- Hot Lunch is being offered again this year with the same three vendors on the same days and with the same protocols as last year. The food is delivered pre-sorted by division; no parent volunteers will be involved as school staff deliver and distribute the lunches to students.
- Hot Lunch ordering is now open and will shut on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at midnight. A "change window" will open after two weeks to accommodate changes to existing orders and for new orders, after which it will shut for the remainder of the session.
- We have eliminated the two menu system because some parents provided feedback that it was confusing. A number of people have emailed to express disappointed with this change so we may revisit it.

**Principal's Report** (presented by Aron Campbell):

- AC expressed thanks to PAC Exec, attending parents, and to engaged parent community.

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- AC reviewed class configurations. There are a total of 264 students enrolled, which is an increase of 14 students from last year.
- AC reviewed new staff to GEC: Mrs. Evans (VP, Gr. 7), Ms. Carter (KG), Mrs. Pelz (LST), Mrs. Sandisson (Library TA and Recess Supervisor), Mrs. Rashidi (Noon Hour Lunch Time Supervisor), Mrs. Smith (working with Maria in the office), Ms. Wu (ELL), and Ms. McLeod (School Counselor). EAs at GEC: Ms. Parsons, Mrs. Gibson, Ms. King, Ms. Boehm, Mrs. Brock, Mrs. Gallagher, Mrs. Zuniga.
- School is in Stage 1 for 2021/22 school year, which has no limits on cohort size, or physical distancing requirements. The School District has input some limitations, including utilizing the same daily schedules as last year, which involve staggered start, recess, lunch, and end times, and assigned entry and exit doors.
- Other health and safety precautions at GEC include:
  - Frequent hand washing / sanitizing before and after every transition;
  - Face masks are required for all staff, and students in Grades 4-7, and strongly encouraged for KG-Grade 3;
  - Conscious use of available space;
  - No physical distancing requirements; however, avoidance of unnecessary congestion;
  - Visitor log for all outside visitors with appointment.
- The custodial schedule has remained the same as last year. There are two shifts of custodians, which is unique to WVSD. Frequent disinfection of high touch surfaces is being done regularly (requirement is once/day).
- Extra curricular activities have returned, including BC Fruit and Veg Program, School sports (XC Running), Zen Maker Lab, Art with Sheri Summers, and Primary Dance opportunity (details TBC).
- LF question: Why is Art only up until Grade 5 – AC will reach out for clarification.
- XC Running: Practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:25-12:45 off school grounds, parent volunteers needed; Meets are at Ambleside Park (Tues Sept 21, 28, Oct 7: 3:45-4:45pm. Order: Gr 7,3,4,5,6).
- Regarding dogs on school grounds, AC reiterated that he wants to be sensitive to young children who have a fear of dogs. The expectations for dogs on school grounds include:
  1. Dogs are leashed and under control;
  2. Dogs are kept on the periphery of the school grounds when walking to and from school (i.e., along the fence);
  3. Please keep dogs and dog gatherings near the North East fence parallel to Marine Drive near the Gym Exit / Primary Hallway / Div 10 Exit doors [Please see green circle on image].



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- AC requested that parents please complete the online Policies and Procedures Forms ASAP (<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/news/policies-and-procedures-form>)
- AC reviewed important upcoming dates:
  - September 24<sup>th</sup> – Pro D Day
  - September 29<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Event (details TBD)
  - September 30<sup>th</sup> – Truth and Reconciliation Day (Stat Holiday)
  - October 1<sup>st</sup> – Student Photo Day
- AC reviewed Plans for Week 3 (September 20-24):
  - Expectations Assemblies with all new students to GEC have been completed;
  - BYOD and Acceptable Use Agreement presentation to all classes in Grades 4-7 on Monday-Wednesday;
  - Google Drive Intro to new Grades 4/5 classes on Wednesday-Friday;
  - Terry Fox Run Confirmation will require parent volunteers.
- KK asked a question about class configurations and class sizes. AC expressed appreciation for parent flexibility around child's classroom placement. In the case of Grade 7, there are 59 Grade 7 students, which is enough to allow classes of just this grade. There are caps on other grades, which influence groupings.
- KK asked a question about the amount of time for class placements to be confirmed. AC emphasized importance of "seeing kids in action" and influence of development over summer months. Educators take into account considerations such as interaction dynamics amongst students, as well as changes over the summer.
- The Gaga Ball Pit has been received, and we are waiting for the lumber, as well as the start date for the carpenter to put it together.
- KS asked question about dogs, and whether the restrictions pertain to after school. AC would ask dog owners to approach the playground tentatively, and use best judgment.
- AC's full presentation can be [viewed here](#).

**Upcoming Events/New Business:**

- KK discussed the Babysitter and Home Alone courses that will be offered at school on the November 12<sup>th</sup> Pro D Day. Sign up details will be coming out the week of September 20<sup>th</sup> through the school newsletter and GEC PAC WhatsApp.

**Adjourned:** 7:43 pm

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm (via Zoom)

**Upcoming PAC Meetings:**

October 6 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
December	No meeting
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
March	No meeting
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm
June 15 <sup>th</sup> AGM	6:30pm