



### **PAC Meeting**

**Wednesday October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**6:30 pm via Zoom**

#### **Present:**

Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)	Catalda Van Dyke
Heather Nelson (Member at Large, PAC)	Meg Rosen
Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)	Ian Davies
Kirstie Simpson (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)	Lauren Gilchrist
Jenny Clark (DPAC Rep, PAC)	Polina Fink
Kelly Richter	John Fink
Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)	Ben Lavallee
Emily Gardiner (Secretary, PAC)	Pete Clearwater
Lisa Sturdy	Wendy Human
Laura Snow	Darcy Baker
Shevaun Brown	Mark Manly
Danielle Lavallee (Member at Large, PAC)	Mitchell Davis
Amanda Clark (Vice-Chair, PAC)	Delores Altin
Rachel Clearwater	Heather Nigh

#### **Meeting called to order @ 6:35 pm.**

- LF provided land acknowledgement, welcomed attendees, and thanked them for joining the meeting. 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.
- LF thanked Heather Nelson for setting up the Zoom meeting. LF apologized for the school's email issues over the last week and for not having the PAC meeting agenda out sooner; the email issue has been remedied by the District.

#### **Adoption of the Agenda**

Kirstie Simpson 1<sup>st</sup>, Shevaun Brown 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### **Adoption of minutes from September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

Danielle Lavallee 1<sup>st</sup>, Amanda Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

- LF extended special welcome to Delores Altin, Landscape Designer, who is working with the Outdoor Enhancement Committee.

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- LF thanked those who emailed their feedback on Addressing Covid Concerns for the West Van District. The PAC Exec proposed the important questions shared, and were able to get a true representation of how the parent body at Gleneagles wanted to participate. The PAC Exec was given notice on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> that if acted on quickly, we (West Vancouver DPAC) could join other schools in requesting additional mandates be enacted by the Ministry of Health. The GEC PAC Exec concluded that we were uncomfortable making that decision without feedback from our parent body, and decided to work with the DPAC to provide the feedback they needed on whether to create a letter for West Van to submit on their own or if it was even important to parents.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Golf Game for the Kids will run October 7<sup>th</sup>. 66 golfers are signed up and two GEC parents have opened up the Orchard Restaurant. They have a liquor license and a paired down menu for golfers and non-golfers as they finish their round or just plan to join. Covid protocols will be in place; Covid passports and ID will be required for entrance.
- Heather Nelson thanked those who volunteered to be class parents. This role involves being the point person for supporting communication between teachers and classroom parents, such as when a teacher is organizing classroom activities that might require parent participation or volunteers. It also involves organizing the class gift at Christmas and at year-end. This year, the responsibilities are less due to Covid. Maria Pistilli will be in touch with those who have already volunteered.
- Kelly Kerklaan has organized another Babysitting & Stay Safe Course to be held at the school on the November 12<sup>th</sup> Pro D Day. The Stay Safe! (Home Alone) Course will run from 9am-3pm, and the Babysitting Course will run from 9am-4pm. A link will be sent in the October 7<sup>th</sup> e-bulletin and on the WhatsApp School thread. Parents will need to submit payment and registration to the GEC PAC Treasurer email ([gecpactreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:gecpactreasurer@gmail.com)). These courses sell out quickly.

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

- KK reviewed that as of September 30, 2021, the chequing account balance was **\$69,618.81**. After adjustments for things such as amounts owing to Hot Lunch vendors and outstanding cheques totaling \$46,254.16, the adjusted cash balance is **\$23,365.65**.
- 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 our Trust account at the School Board is **\$30,056.00**, which are primarily set aside for the Outdoor Enhancement Initiative.

**Income**

- Golf Game for the Kids raised \$6,700;
- Spirit Wear sales raised \$376 in profit. This merchandise is expected after Thanksgiving, and will be distributed to the classes;
- \$7,967 profit from Hot Lunch sales;
- \$314 from a PST refund. PST refund was applied for in the summer for the first time and it covers the last 3 years.

**Expenses**

- \$4,100 for classroom funds to be used by teachers;
- \$750 for a Principal's discretionary fund;
- \$210 for an Aboriginal education film;

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- \$565 for lumber for the Gaga Ball pit;
- \$2.50 for bank fees.

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

- KS noted that we are now in the second week of Hot Lunch. Munchalunch will open from October 7<sup>th</sup> until midnight on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> to allow for changes to existing orders, and also to create new orders. Detailed step-by-step instructions on how to change lunch orders will go out as an attachment in the October 7<sup>th</sup> e-bulletin. After Munchalunch closes on Sunday, there will be no option to make changes for the rest of this term.

**DPAC Report** (presented by Jenny Clark, DPAC Rep)

- JC introduced herself, and reviewed topics covered in October 6<sup>th</sup> DPAC meeting. At this meeting, DPAC Chair Kelly Richter acknowledged parents' opinions and concerns regarding school Covid 19 protocols, and noted efforts to gather information for October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and vote.
- Traffic and Advisory member, Renee Bouchier reminded attendees that the proper course of action if questions/concerns arise regarding traffic in school zones is to contact school Principal ([ACampbell@wvschools.ca](mailto:ACampbell@wvschools.ca)) or herself ([renee.bouchier@gmail.com](mailto:renee.bouchier@gmail.com)) first.
- Board member, Carolyn Broady spoke about the new order put in place by the PHO announcing that over 30k public servants will be required to get vaccinated, and that this is a fluid situation. As of 4pm October 5<sup>th</sup>, the Board met regarding this new mandate as it relates to the public school sector in West Vancouver and will continue talks early next week at their next Board meeting. As for visitors requiring vaccines, they are seeking direction on that and will have more information in the next few weeks.
- Superintendent Chris Kennedy reminded attendees that West Vancouver is one of the only school districts that still has daytime custodians and that we have some of the strongest cleaning protocols in BC. All West Vancouver schools have HVAC systems equipped with MERV 13 filters that are replaced every 3-4 months. Exceptions, such as learning portables that are non-HVAC, have all been equipped with HEPA portable filters.
- CK acknowledged the new K-Grade 3 mask mandate implemented on Monday October 4<sup>th</sup>, and mentioned that all schools have access to swish/gargle tests. If a child comes down with symptoms at school, parents will be offered this test at pick up, which they can drop off at a Life Labs when completed. CK indicated that if a class has to isolate at home, teachers are prepared to teach remotely via Google Classroom. If a few individuals within a classroom are isolating, parents will receive instruction from the teacher. In high school, isolating youth will receive instruction from youth workers and counselors.
- CK acknowledged that although visitors are not supposed to be in schools, parents should reach out to their child's teacher if they need to speak with them.
- As of now, no vaccine passport is required in schools in BC, and any field trips taken will be where one is not required.
- There were three motions for the West Vancouver DPAC to include in the letter to the Minister of Education, Minister of Health, and Provincial Health Office:
  1. **Enhanced contact tracing – Covid-19 Exposures at School.** *Motion approved.*

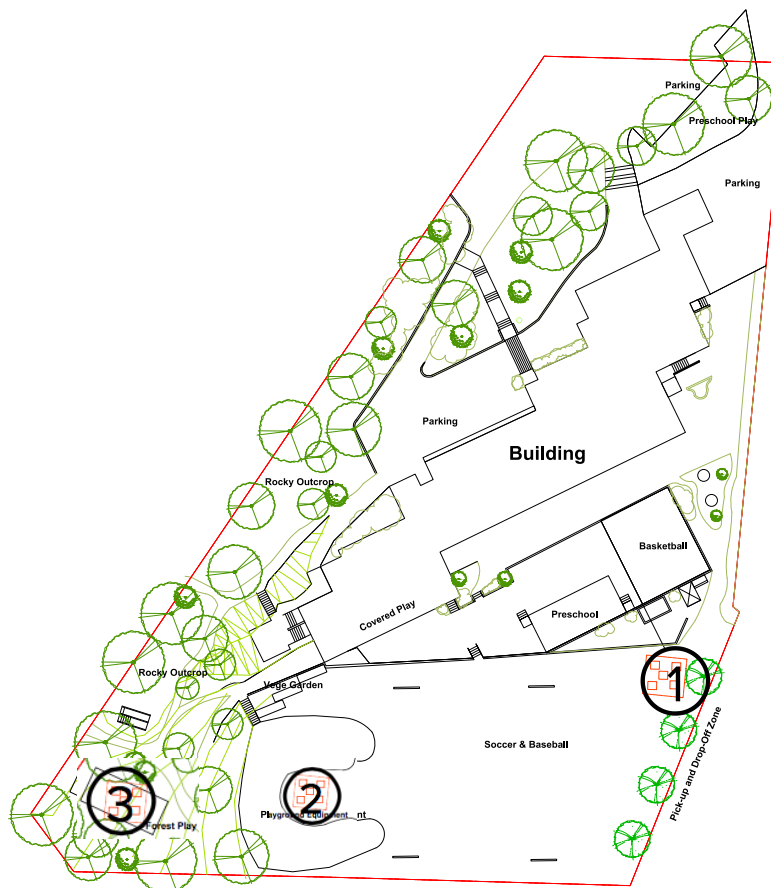
“To ensure that accurate and timely identification of potential close contacts within school settings are identified, we ask that teachers and staff have increased involvement in contact tracing efforts.”

2. **Prioritize School Exposure Notifications.** *Motion approved.*  
"To ensure the potential of transmission in school settings is minimized, we ask that notifications for potential school exposures be prioritized and extended to include anyone who attends or works at the school with the Covid-19 positive individual. Detail of the classes affected should be made available."
  3. **Convenient Access to Rapid & PCR Testing.** *Motion approved.*  
"We ask that the BC government provide barrier-free, timely and convenient access to rapid testing and PCR testing for both symptomatic and pre-symptomatic/asymptomatic students."
- The [WV DPACs letter](#), including the three motions, was sent to the Minister of Education, Minister of Health, and Provincial Health Office on October 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - KK provided additional background that the North Vancouver DPAC had written a letter to the Minister of Health, Minister of Education, and Dr. Bonnie Henry, asking for particular Covid protocols to be improved. Vancouver DPAC then started a letter over the weekend of September 25<sup>th</sup> in preparation for their Board meeting on the following Monday, and encouraged other DPACs to sign. Burnaby, New Westminster, Sooke, and Surrey DPACs signed. This timeline was determined to be too quick for West Vancouver to gain consensus from their parents, and the WV DPAC decided to write their own, going through PAC Chairs, with each school deciding how they were going to get feedback. Motions were then put forward based on feedback received regarding what protocols WV would include in their letter.
  - KS asked if there was any discussion about a vaccination mandate for anyone eligible, including teachers, staff, and students. KK indicated that there was discussion mostly about teachers and support staff, and it sounds like there are discussions happening at higher levels. Guidance might be coming down from the government.
  - AC indicated that most staff at GEC, if not all, are vaccinated.

**Outdoor Enhancement Report** (presented by Dolores Altin, Landscape Architect):

- Dolores Altin shared Draft Masterplan presentation. DA's full presentation can be [viewed here](#).
- Her tasks were to:
  - Locate an outdoor gathering space for 25-30 students;
  - Provide weather protection;
  - Incorporate circle format, could be formal or informal seating;
  - Plus: Other locations for informal small group gatherings up to 20 and consider long-term enhancements.
- DA consulted with staff, and conducted student surveys (received ~110 responses) about where and how grounds are currently used, identifying opportunities and other enhancements:
  - 100% of children loved monkey bars and climbing, and would like to have more. No students liked the climbing wall.
  - 100% enjoyed playground to a certain extent; however, older children wanted bigger and more challenging slides and monkey bars, and more risky play such as tree climbing, tree house, zipline, and in-ground trampoline.
  - Primary students (Grades 1-3) were most likely to use forest for imaginary play, whereas older children found forest boring. Primary students were least likely to use hard surface areas, would rather use playground. Their suggested improvements included zipline, making the flying fox reachable, more monkey bars, swings, trampolines (in ground), enhance forest with tunnels, forts, treehouse, fairy doors, seating and outdoor tables to

- make art, add rope swings in forest.
- Grades 4 and 5 students preferred playground, and this group was looking for more risky and challenging play. The open field was their least favorite, and identified need for quiet play: gazebo, seating, reading places. Their suggested improvements included zipline, making the forest more interesting, Gaga Ball pit, converting some of gravel field to grass, and adding ping pong tables to undercover area.
- Grades 6 and 7 students were the most likely to use the open field, and biggest users of undercover area and friendship deck. Their suggested improvements included upgrades to field equipment, converting some field to grass, Gaga Ball pit, making the forest more interesting, and need for bigger equipment and more risky play.
- Opportunities for Outdoor Classrooms (see image below):
  - Option 1.** Flat underused area, could offer weather protection, road noise might be an issue;
  - Option 2.** Flat, underused area, could offer weather protection. Staggered recess could interfere with instruction;
  - Option 3.** Flat, underused area, weather protection could make it darker.



- Estimated Costs:
  - Shade sails are approximately 26K installed. These are 3-season shade sails, and should be taken down in snow.
  - WV District is no longer keen on woodchip base. Instead, ¾" minus, clear crush compacted would be approximately 4K (options 1 and 2 only).

- Additional 2-3 picnic tables are \$1300 each.
- Option 3 would not require sub-base or tables, however would need logs, stumps for seating (could be in-kind or purchased).
- Option 3 could have shade sail (light colour).
- Small Gathering Options (see image below):
  - Most would consist of logs and/or stumps and rocks for seating;
  - Areas would need top up with wood chips and other leveling, and safety measures;
  - Option 6 – friendship deck would need 2 additional benches along the rail.



- Enhancement possibilities:
  - Mural, spaces in forest area are ripe for this – paint rocks, stumps, carve stumps, fill stumps with soil and native plants;
  - Logs and stumps are multipurpose - could be configured for seating, climbing, play, as well as gathering spaces. This is better for informal breakout groups, as opposed to outdoor classroom;
  - “Hemispheria” – creative fort building using willow and other natural materials. Could be funded through ArtStarts grant (application due October 19<sup>th</sup>), could be done with students in Grades 4-7, up to ~8 kids at a time, and rotate so all can help out.
  - AC asked about the longevity of Hemispheria structures. DA said they are strong structures, are anchored into ground. Materials are brought in. If there is damage, Delores comes back to help rebuild.
- KK asked where Outdoor Classroom Option 1 is and if gate obstructed it. DA indicated area would not be situated right in front of gate on gravel field. AC clarified that gate is needed by District for field maintenance, and reminded that staggered recess is temporary measure.
- In future, if we are looking to develop climbing wall and zipline area further, this would impact where Outdoor Classroom would go.

- KK asked whether we could do something like logs at front of school – teachers did not want outdoor classroom near playground or in forest because Action Breaks and physical literacy take place out there and it is noisy. DA said that area at front (Option 1) would be best location at front. Could modify at front by stairs. KS indicated that teachers were keen for this (Option 1). AC's preference is for Option 2. DA indicated this area is small, could not do outdoor classroom here. Option 3 would be easy to level.
- JC expressed preference for outdoor classroom to be in forest over field. Shevaun Brown agreed with this, suggested we think about not making it too dark as that is already a dark area. DA said we can choose a shade sail in a light colour.

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

- AC expressed appreciation for parental support of Cross Country. This year was the strongest showing in the past 6 years at GEC. Over 70 students in Grades 3-7 were involved.
- Mask mandate has been smooth, AC appreciates parents' support ensuring that kids have masks coming to school, and reminded parents about this. GEC has limited replacements only.
- Mrs. Foster's Grade 4/5 class partnered with the WV Residents Association in their Save the Bay Initiative. Students were visited by Councilor Thompson, Mayor Booth, and WVFD Officer Roddy, and decorated cans. These will be placed throughout Horseshoe Bay parks, providing a place for visitors to place used cigarette butts.
- The CIRCLES program is continuing at GEC starting October 7<sup>th</sup>, and will involve both Grade 4/5 classes. Classes will meet with trained facilitators, and focus on issues of self-awareness, value systems, stereotyping, stigma, and compassion.
- Grades 4-7 attended and participated in *Acceptable Use Assembly* on September 27<sup>th</sup>, and Grade 7s were involved in a one-hour Safer Schools interactive presentation on October 5<sup>th</sup> with a focus on acting as digital citizens. BYOD Contracts have gone home, and parents are asked to sign and return ASAP.
- Foundational Skills Assessments designed to assess literacy and numeracy will take place October 4<sup>th</sup> - November 12<sup>th</sup> for students in Grades 4 and 7. Parents will be receiving information about this. Sample questions are available (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/program-management/assessment/foundation-skills-assessment/fsa-samples>). If you have questions, reach out to AC ([ACampbell@wvschools.ca](mailto:ACampbell@wvschools.ca)).
- Parent-Teacher Intake Conferences for all students Kindergarten – Grade 7 are being offered virtually on October 13<sup>th</sup> (through MS Teams) and in-person on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will send out Health and Safety specifics beforehand. Sign up at [www.SchoolAppointments.com](http://www.SchoolAppointments.com). Details about signing up were sent via email October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- If you have feedback about the Meet the Teacher / Welcome Orientation videos shared from teachers, please reach out to AC.
- LF liked recorded videos of children's teachers. Shevaun Brown liked flexibility of video option.
- Reminder about dogs on GEC grounds. Expectations include:
  1. Please ensure that all dogs are leashed and under control.
  2. Please keep dogs to the periphery of the school grounds, when walking to and from school.
  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.
- EG asked about school's ongoing email issues. AC will re-send invitation to parent-teacher meetings.

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- Question from Catalda Van Dyke about specifics for swish and gargle test for Covid. School has stock of these. These are given to the parent in the circumstance of a child arriving at school and beginning to show symptoms. The test is done at home and can be dropped off at Life Labs.
- AC's full presentation can be [viewed here](#).

**Adjourned:** 8:03 pm

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm (via Zoom)

**Upcoming PAC Meetings:**

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