

PAC Meeting Wednesday November 17th, 2021 6:30 pm via Zoom

Present:

Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)
Heather Nelson (Member at Large, PAC)
Amanda Clark (Vice-Chair, PAC)
Jenny Clark (DPAC Rep, PAC)
Emily Gardiner (Secretary, PAC)
Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)
Russel Snow
Waldemar Jonsson
Lauren Gilchrist
Kirstie Simpson (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)
Danielle Lavallee (Member at Large, PAC)

Lisa Sturdy
Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)
Pippa Fry
Shevaun Brown
Catalda Van Dyke
Rachel Clearwater
Heather Nigh
Paul Schmid
Ken Berry
Ian Davies

Meeting called to order @ 6:34 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. LF noted that the meeting will be recorded to accommodate the documentation of meeting minutes.
- LF thanked Heather Nelson for setting up the Zoom meeting, and acknowledged those affected by the extreme flooding.

Adoption of the Agenda

Danielle Lavallee 1st, Lauren Gilchrist 2nd

Adoption of minutes from October 6th meeting.

Danielle Lavallee 1st, Amanda Clark 2nd

Chair's Report (Lisa Fairburn):

- Kelly Kerklaan shared that GEC PAC will be hosting an advance screening of Sing 2 on December 20th at 1pm at Park Royal Cineplex as a fundraiser for the Outdoor Enhancement Initiative.
 Information will be shared in an upcoming school newsletter, and tickets will be on sale through Munchalunch. GEC has entire theatre.
- LF indicated that at the General DPAC (District Parent Advisory Committee) Meeting, Board Chair Broady outlined the multi-step process that West Van Schools is undertaking as part of the

- consultation process around a potential vaccine policy for WVS employees. As outlined, this is a lengthy and detailed process, and the Board will be following the K-12 sector guidelines as stipulated by the Ministry of Education.
- Consultation with parents is one part of this process. The DPAC Executive will be reviewing the
 feedback they have received from school PACs and parents at their upcoming Executive
 meeting, and as part of the process they invite you to provide any feedback directly to them
 through the GEC PAC Chair. Please email any comments or feedback to gecpacchair@gmail.com
 by end of day Thursday, November 18th. The DPAC will provide this feedback directly to the
 Board.
- The 3rd Golf Game for the Kids in October raised \$7,000 for the GEC PAC. The Orchard Restaurant at Gleneagles Golf Course (newly opened by two GEC Dad's, Jason Hoffman and Jason Kitler) welcomed us with Covid friendly ambience and food and drink. We look forward to hosting a large event in the Spring, pending Covid protocols. Golf game standings and photos can be viewed here.
- Kelly Kerklaan organized a fantastic fundraiser with the Babysitting & Stay Safe! (Home Alone)
 Courses held on the November 12th Pro D Day at GEC.
- We are hoping to invite numerous speakers to our future PAC meetings, such as Chris Kennedy (WV Schools Superintendent), as well as an event on vaping. Jenny Clark is working on this through the DPAC. If you have anyone to suggest or any topics that you would like to hear more about, please email gepacchair@gmail.com with your suggestions.
- The Grad Committee has been hard at work and have started their fundraising efforts. Seasonal
 arrangements are being sold until November 23rd. These can be purchased online
 https://gleneagleselementaryschool.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home
- Saleema Noon will be coming to GEC in person in January, 2022. More details will be shared in upcoming school newsletters, and in the WhatsApp thread.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- KK reviewed that as of October 31, 2021, we had a cash balance of \$112,853.67 and receivables of \$15.79. After adjustments including amounts owing to parents for Muchalunch credits (\$7,220.60), to Hot Lunch vendors (\$28,972.25), and other accruals relating to last year (\$6,569), our retained earnings is \$70,107.61.
- The GEC PAC also received \$1,000 from the Lynn Valley Lions from their Christmas Tree Drive-Thru fundraiser.

Income (Up to October 31, 2021):

- Gaming Grant of \$5,020, which is based on \$20 per student;
- Golf Game for the Kids raised \$6,902.71;
- Spirit Wear sales raised \$417.88. Part of this profit will be used to host a pizza party for the class wearing the most Spirit Wear on Friday, December 3rd;
- \$7,638.07 profit from Hot Lunch sales;
- Miscellaneous income of \$314.12 from the PST refund.

Expenses (Up to October 31, 2021):

- \$371.97 for Self-regulation items;
- \$4,100 for classroom funds to be used by teachers;
- \$750 for a Principal's discretionary fund;
- \$210 for Aboriginal education materials;

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- \$565.37 for Outdoor Enhancement Initiative;
- \$5 for office supplies.

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

- Meeting was held November 18th with Aron Campbell, Kelly Kerklaan, Kirstie Simpson, Lisa Fairburn, WV School Facilities, and Dolores Altin (Landscape Architect) to review approval process for planned outdoor enhancements at GEC.
- KK and KS are working with Dolores to estimate costs, and to determine what is feasible within our budget.
- KK and KS have applied for an ArtsStarts Grant, and will also be applying for a WVSD playground grant.
- Craig Bench is preparing a Tree Canada grant that would support the planting of trees and shrubs on the school property.
- Dolores' Masterplan is still in draft form, with the aim that the final version will be ready in December. This will be shared with GEC parents.
- Gleneagles Golf Course has offered to give us some cedar tree stumps (including transportation to school), and the climbing wall will be removed by WVSD probably in the New Year.
- Kids are enjoying the Gaga Ball Pit.
- JC asked if we know where shade sail-covered area will be. KK indicated that the plan is to have the main learning area at the front of school to the left of the KG playground, under trees. This year, we are hoping to get boulders installed for the learning area and will consider adding the shade sail at a later date if we decide it is necessary. Shade sails are \$26K each.
- Rachel Clearwater asked about cushioning for bottom of Gaga Ball Pit, as kids are skinning their knuckles. AC will look into possibility (estimated cost is \$3-4K).
- Catalda Van Dyke asked how many can play at once. During school hours, the maximum number is 8 for older students, or 10 for primary students.

Hot Lunch Report (presented by Kirstie Simpson):

- KS provided update that Foodie Kids had to close the Hot Lunch portion of their business due to staffing issues. This was a sudden and immediate closure.
- Presto Catering was able to take over Thursday's Hot Lunch. All Foodie Kids orders were refunded into parents' Munchalunch accounts.
- Munchalunch was then opened for re-ordering, and only one Thursday Hot Lunch was missed.
 Unfortunately, not as many parents re-ordered, so we did lose money.
- Foodie Kids has reached out to us again to share their restart plan, which includes limiting their service to schools on the North Shore and offering a more limited menu. We are cautiously considering it, though leaning toward remaining with Presto Catering for January, and considering Foodie Kids again for the third term once their stability is better established. One question for parents is whether they mind having the same vendor twice a week.
- We also have been discussing the idea of expanding Hot Lunch to four days/week. If we decide
 to go ahead with four days, KS needs to know soon, so she can secure a third vendor for
 January. Subway might be an easy third option.
- There is some concern from the school with the amount of packaging waste. There are not many options other than asking kids to bring packaging home. Parents are reminded to pack utensils for their children.
- Munchalunch will be opening up in December for Hot Lunch ordering for the start of January.

DPAC Report (presented by Jenny Clark, DPAC Rep)

- JC reviewed topics covered in November 3rd DPAC meeting. At this meeting, DPAC Chair Kelly Richter spoke first about parent contact information and PACs. Chris Kennedy (WV Schools Superintendent) will be providing an update in his report about how this is to be managed, with the WV School Administrative Procedure 183 Parent Email Databases (June 2021 version can be viewed here) to provide further guidance going forward.
- There was interest expressed at the DPAC meeting in putting together a workshop on PAC communications.
- BCCPAC Zoom licenses have been renewed.
- At the October 19th School Board meeting, Trustee Nicole Brown brought forward an item regarding the availability of updated information on upgrades to HVAC and filtration systems in WV Schools. The updated information can be found here, and includes the following:
 - All filters have been replaced with MERV-13s, which is the recommended filtration rating to use for Covid-19;
 - Air circulation units are optimized to provide 100% fresh air with minimal-to-no circulation of air;
 - Where needed, portable air exchangers with HEPA filtration have been provided;
 - Operating settings have been adjusted to start two hours before schools open and to switch off one hour after closing.
- Anya Yashkina provided an update that the first Human Resources Committee meeting was held November 2nd, and a new District Principal of Inclusive Education, Corrine Kinnon, has been hired. She will start January 1st, 2022.
- Information was shared from Kyra Williams Smiljanic with respect to Enhance West Van, that there is a focus on getting programs up and running (with Covid restrictions), plus integration with immigrant groups that need more support than what has been available during the pandemic. Kyra is working with Julia Wang to lead a Special Interest Group for parents from China, with a focus on helping families find the support they need within the parent community.
- Information was shared from Kyra Williams Smiljanic that the Inclusion and Diversity committee is working toward a first meeting in mid-November, in order to brainstorm topics for discussion and programming for this year. There was a great list of learning topics carried over from last year, including SOGI (sexual orientation and gender identity), neural diversity, and local racism. If you are interested in being involved, please reach out to dpac@wvschools.ca.
- Carolyn Broady, Board Chair reviewed the Board of Education Trustee's Report, and mentioned that we are entering a bargaining year for teachers and support staff, which is expected to begin in early Spring, 2022. This bargaining includes anything not related to money.
- Graduation activities will be examined in relation to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, and
 examined as the situation unfolds. All venues are being held for Spring convocations and grad
 banquets, with the hope that they can proceed. Patience is requested during these changing
 Covid times. The Board is working with local health offices, Superintendents throughout the
 region, and trying to find solutions.
- Chris Kennedy provided the Superintendent's report, and noted the bounce back in international student numbers since the decrease related to Covid. The WVSD is on track to have over 500 international students next year.
- The WV Long Range Facilities Plan <u>document</u> notes that of the 19 WVSD schools, only Sentinel Secondary School will have a rebuild due to seismic issues. All other schools will require ongoing maintenance.

- CK noted they are hoping to move toward having more parents allowed in schools in 2022.
 Parents are allowed to watch secondary sports events due to the larger size of the gym facilities, bleachers, and viewing areas. Elementary schools do not have the additional space to safely accommodate a parent audience. Sign-in procedures and mask requirements are in place.
- PAC meetings have been asked to stay virtual until the end of December, and are open to inperson meetings in 2022.
- Consultation regarding a potential vaccine policy for WV school staff has begun. More
 information about this can be found in the November 3rd DPAC meeting minutes here.
- Guest speakers WVPD Chief Constable John Lo and Constable Nicole Braithwaite spoke about
 their many school-based programs for all grades, including a Police Youth Academy. Any crime
 (theft, bullying, harassment) in schools is mainly dealt with in school with parents, school
 administration, and the student. A program about consent in relation to sexual assault will be
 taking place in April, 2022 for students in Grades 10-12.
- Catalda Van Dyke asked how parents can share their feedback on possible vaccine mandate for teachers. Parents should email gecpacchair@gmail.com.
- A question was asked as to whether there are any initiatives to set up vaccination clinics for children under 12 years of age at schools. Nothing has been planned as of yet. Any questions can be sent to the DPAC (dpac@wvschools.ca).

Principal's Report (presented by Aron Campbell):

- AC shared the terrific community spirit for Halloween, and acknowledged the leadership shown by the Grade 7 students in Division 2 in leading the Primary assembly.
- GEC Grade 7 Volleyball: AC thanked Mrs. Staples and Ms. McIntyre (Girls' team coaches), and Mrs. Foster and Ms. Wimmer (Boys' team coach). Upcoming jamborees will take place at Rockridge Secondary on: November 23rd (Boys) and November 30th (Girls).
- AC thanked the Grade 7 students in Division 1 for their leadership with the Remembrance Day Primary and Intermediate assemblies, and acknowledged the performances given by Divisions 10, 6, and 11, as well as the amazing decorations provided by students. AC also thanked Wendy Human who volunteered to videotape the Primary assembly. This video can be viewed here.
- Foundational Skills Assessments for students in Grades 4 and 7 are now complete. Results will be sent home to parents in early December.
- Tennis program is running at GEC from November 15th to 26th. AC thanked the GEC PAC for supporting this.
- AC shared that a Roots of Empathy program for students in Division 3 has returned, and thanked Heather Nelson for organizing and facilitating.
- AC shared enthusiasm for new Gaga Ball Pit. Students in Grades 6 and 7 have access to it in the morning, and Grades 4 and 5 have access at lunch. Primary students have access in both the morning and afternoon due to staggered recess and lunch times.
- An email was recently shared with each family's login and temporary password for the MyEducationBC Family Portal. This is a digital platform for communicating about student learning, and is how student CSL/Report Cards will be shared. A video demonstrating how to connect can be viewed here.
- Two potential dates for the 2021 Winter Concert have been selected: December 9th and December 14th, with likely one afternoon and one evening performance. It will be a primary performance only, with the Senior Band in addition, and will follow the PHO Gatherings & Events Order. Indoor events can have 50 spectators or 50% of seated capacity, whichever is

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- greater. The GEC gym has a capacity of 360 people, so 180 will be the maximum number of spectators.
- With regards to Health and Safety at GEC, AC has recently shared two communications after being contacted from Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) that there were positive Covid cases among the student body. In both cases, students had contact with someone outside of school, and there was no school transmission. VCH is strict regarding what information can be shared.
- KS asked whether it is possible to include Divisions in these letters. AC will approach District leadership about this. The past two notices were shared based on consultation with the District and in respect for GEC community.
- Catalda Van Dyke asked if VCH would contact anyone who was a close contact of a positive case.
 AC indicated that VCH reaches out to him for contact information, and VCH determines who are close contacts based on interview with positive case.
- KK wondered about including exposure dates in letters. AC will look into this, as it is sometimes difficult to determine exposure date(s).
- AC reminded parents that they can support kids by having them bring their own reusable masks.
 GEC now has a mask recycle unit within the hallway, so disposable masks can be recycled instead of thrown out.
- Lauren Gilchrist asked about the different restrictions in place this year as compared to last year, and whether AC was seeing changes in behaviors among students that might be making staff uncomfortable, and whether there is anything parents can do to support staff. AC indicated that the GEC staff is feeling more secure as overall provincial rates are trending down, and serious infections are predominantly among the unvaccinated. He asked that parents support student mask wearing, hand washing, and keep kids home when they are sick.
- Lauren Gilchrist asked about how we can support families of Covid positive kids. AC indicated that families have been reaching out to him to share this health information. AC acknowledged the strong community support in place to help these families.
- KK asked if Camp Elphinstone will be going ahead this year. AC is hopeful.
- Question in Zoom Chat asked if there is a way for the tennis program to continue after school. Parents are directed to email AC if they have questions about this (<u>ACampbell@wvschools.ca</u>).
- CIRCLES program is continuing at GEC. Program started October 7th for both Grade 4/5 classes.
 Focus of program is on issues of self-awareness, value systems, stereotyping, stigma, and compassion.
- Students in Grades 4-7 attended and participated in *Acceptable Use Assembly* on September 27th. Parents are asked to sign and return BYOD Contracts, and they are held on file for the year. Students in Grade 7 participated in a one-hour Safer Schools presentation on October 5th.
- 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.
- AC's full presentation can be viewed here.

Adjourned: 7:59pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 19th @ 6:30 pm (via Zoom) **Please note there is no PAC Meeting in December**

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Upcoming PAC Meetings:

January 19th 6:30pm
February 9th 6:30pm
March No meeting
April 13th 6:30pm
May 11th 6:30pm
June 15th AGM 6:30pm