

**GEC PAC Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 30th, 2022
by Zoom**



In Attendance:

Kelly Kerklaan (Co-Chair, PAC)
Kirstie Simpson (Co-Chair, PAC)
Shevaun Brown (DPAC Rep, PAC)
Amanda Clark (Treasurer, PAC)
Emily Gardiner (Vice-Chair, PAC)
Anna Stewart (Secretary, PAC)
Jess Jenkin (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)

Lauren Gilchrist
Rachel Clearwater
Megan Bassendale
Waldemar Jonsson
Wendy Human
Robyn Evans (Principal, GEC)

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30pm

- Kirstie welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting and notified participants that the meeting would be recorded.
- Robyn Evans provided the land acknowledgement

Adoption of the Agenda.

- There are no changes to the agenda. The agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes

- There are no corrections to the minutes from the last meeting (Oct. 19th, '22). They stand approved as distributed.

PAC Chair Report (Kelly & Kirstie):

After a very busy start to the school year this past month has been less busy. Since our last meeting we have:

- Hosted a very successful bookfair which Lauren Gilchrest will tell us about in a few minutes.
- Hosted a Spirit Day Competition. Students were asked to show their spirit by wearing GEC spirit wear and/or school colours, the class with the most participation would win a pizza party. Mrs. Robertson's and Mrs. Zandvliets's classes tied for first place for having the most participation so both classes won a pizza party this past Monday.

Coming up we have:

- Staff appreciation lunch scheduled for Dec 14th. If you would like to contribute by cooking/baking or bringing something, a sign-up sheet has been distributed through your class parent and the school newsletter. There will be two more staff appreciation lunches, one each term so if you can't help this time there will be another chance. <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/4090e44a4ac2dabff2-term>
- Volunteers needed to help decorate the gym for the Winter Christmas concert. If you can spare some time on Dec. 9th after school or at other times during the week of the 5th please email Kirstie kirstie.a.simpson@gmail.com.
- We have planned another movie day for Jan 27th for the showing of Puss in Boots. Tickets will go on sale the first week in January and will likely sell out quickly. Save the date!

Treasurer's Report- Amanda Clark

- For our balance sheet, we have a cash balance of \$139,717 as of November 25th, 2022. This is a total of our three bank accounts, which includes our trust account.
- Our total liabilities are \$55,904. Our two large accruals being hot lunch vendor accruals, at \$21,516, which we see being steadily drawn down as we carry through this Fall term of hot lunch orders. Our other large accrual of \$33,329 is primarily made up of outdoor enhancement accruals (basketball court and playground equipment, etc). This accrual was also significantly reduced by \$19,800 since the last report as we paid for the Oodle Swing and outdoor classroom items.
- Income and expenses up to November 25th, 2022 - It has been a bit quieter with activity in the last few weeks. The Scholastic Book Fair successfully raised \$3,854 in Book Fair rewards. Other than that, nothing else to note.

DPAC Meeting Update- Shevaun Brown

Last DPAC meeting was November 2nd, 2022

- Review parent website - PAC's are encouraged to follow best practices, and that includes keeping your parent community informed. DPAC is encouraging PACs to review their school website and check in whether the following are posted under PARENTS:
 - Current PAC Exec list
 - Agendas and minutes of past meetings posted (including budgets)
 - Upcoming meeting dates
 - An updated version of your PAC Constitution & Bylaws
- It was noted that the Treasurer's Report needs to be included in your minutes (as per PAC bylaws). Money raised is meant to be spent. Budget must be shared upon request from any parents.
- Finance & Facilities update - tenders due now; estimated completion would be the start of the 2023/2024 school year if the project begins in Dec. Updates are available on the 'Facilities' tab of the District website.
- HR - staffing update: appointment of Mary Parackal, District VP for Early Learning & Childcare (a federally funded position/program)
- Board of Education Trustee's Report - Carolyn Broady

Nov 15 will be the first meeting of the newly elected board; chair, school/trustee liaisons will be assigned at that time. Board will begin working on a new strategic plan in April (which will be shared in the Fall). Tentative agreement reached with the BCTF; still to be ratified. *[Since report delivery, trustees have been sworn in and liaison assignments announced; Nicole Brown has been assigned to Gleneagles and should be invited to an upcoming PAC meeting.]*

- Superintendent's Report - Chris Kennedy

Enrolment process for next year begins now. The sooner applications are in the sooner SD45 can begin planning for next year and ensure adequate space is available. 7,240 students currently enrolled across 18 schools.

International education is a huge boost to the local economy but hasn't bounced back from pre-Covid levels (390 students this year vs 5_0 at its peak); lack of homestay families is the biggest obstacle. 50% of international students are from China. *Update post-meeting: The District is actively looking for Homestay families for international students to live with during the school year. If you are interested in getting more information on compensation and other questions, please contact Martina Brazeau at 604-341-0515.*

French Immersion program review in the final stages; interesting outcomes to come.

Affordability Fund - reaching out to schools to offer directions about how these funds could be used (fees, field trips, hot lunch); principals should be meeting with PACs to discuss how those monies should be allocated. The fund will be for this year alone to provide inclusion and access for all students (field trips, band, hot lunch, etc).

- **Guest Speakers** - Corrine Kinnon & Liz Hill - Mental Health Framework Overview

Corrine Kinnon (District Principal of Inclusive Education) and Liz Hill (Director of Instruction) provided an overview on the West Vancouver Mental Health Framework. They reviewed the four guiding principles and provided information about how schools are supporting positive mental health through curriculum, training, celebrations and programs. [Click here for an overview of their presentation.](#) There was a special focus on the district's newest learning journey with the Open Parachute resource and Gleneagles' own Gr 6/7 teacher Shawnah Staples and student Addison were in attendance to share/discuss what the Open Parachute resource looks like in the classroom. It was noted that Open Parachute offers a robust parent resource section as well. A link to the online parent resources [can be found here.](#)

A complete record of the meeting minutes can be found here: [Nov 2 DPAC meeting minutes](#)

Activity Updates- Kirstie & Kelly

- The installation of the outdoor classroom with new plantings and mulch is now complete.
- The benches that were made by Greg Cormier and his students at West Vancouver Secondary have been stained in the last few weeks by Wally and Kirstie and are waiting to be installed. These are intended to replace the picnic tables that used to be in the playground area on the gravel field.
- The undercover mural that we were hoping to have complete has been put on hold while we try to address the concerns of School facilities.
- Thank you to everyone who has donated to this project and to all the volunteers who have helped along the way.

Garden Update- Rachel Clearwater

- 800 bulbs have been planted by division 7. The bulbs were purchased with funds from the harvest sale. Next spring be on the lookout for daffodils, tulips, alliums, glory of the snow, bluebells, crocosmia

- Hillary Sawyer, the outdoor education teacher, built a leaf composter with Mrs. Foster's class. We're hoping that will provide us with some great soil for next spring.
- Division 1 helped Miss Sawyer pull invasive ivy from the school grounds. The ivy was later used to make & decorate Christmas wreaths. Ms. Staples class will be participating in the same activity, starting Friday.
- Ms. Harquil's class did a great job at tidying up the garden boxes. They saved seeds from the native plants, removed trellises, and marked all the boxes.
- The raspberry plants have been removed, as they were producing at the wrong time, when students aren't at school. They were replaced with some fall-bearing/everbearing raspberries in another part of the garden.
- The planting plan for next year is underway. Some potential uses for the harvest are for the harvest sale, and the Open House dinner. Suggestions are welcome!
- The tree that was chosen for the outdoor classroom was vetoed by Laura, the District gardener. She thinks it will be too large for the space. She will help choose a more suitable tree. The tree will be repurposed in another area of the school grounds.

Hot Lunch Update- Jess Jenkin

- Hot lunch ordering is ready to go; ordering opens tomorrow, Dec. 1st until Dec 16th.
- Subway is now offering rice bowls; however, there are some issues regarding pricing as well as the selection of toppings & condiments. Hopefully, to be resolved by tomorrow. Otherwise, they may not be included this term on Munch-A-Lunch. *Update post-meeting: Rice bowls are available on Munch-A Lunch!*
- The pizza vendor has been switched to Dominos to lower the cost. Most pizza orders will be switching from one slice of a large pizza to two slices of a medium pizza, except for GF pizzas, which will be 2 slices of a small pizza. Pasta and Chicken bites are also now available for order.
- In class deliveries will start January 3rd.

Book Fair Update- Lauren Gilchrist

- The book fair was hugely successful with sales of almost \$7,000
- The Scholastic program offers 60% back in rewards to the school once \$4,000 in sales is reached. We were able to get about \$3,800 in rewards for the school this year.
- Combined with residuals from previous years, there is about \$5,200 in rewards.
- The rewards will be divided amongst the teachers. *Update post-meeting: \$300 in Scholastic credits were distributed to each teacher as well as Learning Support to be*

used at their discretion. The remainder will be used primarily by the librarian to increase our inventory of second language books.

Roots of Empathy- Kelly Kerklaan and Kirstie Simpson

- Heather Nelson, our Roots of Empathy instructor, provided the following information as she was absent this evening. At the last meeting Heather was still searching for a mom and baby to participate in the program and we are very happy to share the Heather was able to find a mom and baby to participate in the program and has already started. Ms. Maledy's 4/5 class is the class participating in the program.
- Thank you to Jennifer Lawson, and baby Matteo for volunteering their time to be part of this valuable program.

Grade 7 Grad Update- Kirstie Simpson

The Grade 7's have been fundraising for their graduation ceremony lunch, after party and a legacy gift. The legacy gift is a gift that the grads give back to the school. The students are involved in picking a theme for their grad ceremony lunch and picking a legacy gift as well as number of fundraising activities. There is a parent grad committee that also helps with fundraising and plans and organizes the grad ceremony lunch and after party. Any grad fundraisers will be clearly stated as grad fundraisers and are separate to the PAC fundraisers. Planned fundraisers so far include:

- Bake Sales throughout the year. The first one at the Open House raised \$486, the next one is planned for the Winter concert and possibly another in the Spring.
- Christmas Plant fundraiser was just completed – over \$1,085 raised
- Pal'entine's for Valentine's Day
- Springfest West (pizza sales)
- Spring Fish Market Fundraiser
- Friday Freezie Sales – every Friday in June

The amount needed varies from year to year depending on the cost of the three main activities (lunch, after party, legacy gift)

Thank you to everyone who donates to make our grade 7's final year at Gleneagles special.

Other Business-Kirstie Simpson and Kelly Kerklaan

- We are in the beginning planning stages of a parent social in February. Potential locations include the school gym or the Gleneagles Clubhouse. Anybody interested in volunteering (organizing, decorating, etc.) can email gecpac@gmail.com
- For future PAC meetings, we hope to bring in speakers to discuss topics of interest to parents, such as internet safety, mental health, social media, among others. If you have a suggestion, please let us know at gecpacchair@gmail.com
- In response to some parents noticing the Oodle swing was shaking, whilst in use, the installers came to do a safety check. Nothing abnormal was noted, but parents are encouraged to take a video if they see anything of concern and email the video to gecpacchair@gmail.com.
- There was a question regarding types of clothing accepted for the clothing Drive. Robyn Evans confirmed it is any warm clothing: sweatpants, sweaters, boots, shoes, jackets, etc.

Principal's Report- Robyn Evans

- We had our annual Shakeout BC earthquake drill
- We've had two separate professional development days for staff. One was based provincially and allowed staff to connect with other educators from around the province. The other was school-based and our team focused on collaborative work related to our vessel.
- With the grade 6/7 students in division 2 leading the way, we ran GC scares hunger food drive at the end of October. Over 600 non-perishable food items were collected for the Harvest Project.
- Grade 6/7 students in Div 1 hosted our winter clothing and gift card drive in support of the North Shore Family Services. They are still accepting donations until Friday Dec 2nd.
- We celebrated Halloween
- Remembrance Day was acknowledged as a whole school together for the first time since 2019. Hopefully, next year we will be able to have families there as well.
- We've had students go on field trips to Science World. The grade 4/5s explored the Body Works exhibit and the 1/2s got to see the T-rex exhibit, among many more exciting things. The grade 3 students got to visit the Big House at the Cheakamus Centre in Squamish, where they were immersed in a full day of what it was like living in a traditional longhouse.
- We've had a whole school Art Starts performance by Raincity Improv. It was a fun and interactive event for students and staff alike.
- The grade 7 volleyball teams wrapped up their seasons playing in the district jamboree this week. Both teams showed tremendous improvement over the course of the season. The girls' team had the best possible outcome, winning the championship and coming in

first in the district! Thank you to Miss Foster and Miss Wimmer, who coached our boys' team and to Miss Hood and Miss Purich for coaching the girls' team.

- Coach Curtis has been teaching the students tennis over the past week and a half. The students have been developing their skills through fun activities and games.
- We also managed to sneak in a World Cup Soccer game!
- Communicating Student Learning documents (report cards) will be posted Friday Dec 9th to the MyEd BC Family Portals. It is recommended to login prior to this date to ensure that you can access these important documents. We encourage you to download and print a copy of the documents as they will not be available after 45 days.
- We received an increase in our English Learning time, from 1 day a week to 2 days per week. The position has been posted, but has yet to be filled; however, there is a TTOC in place until the position is filled.
- We are happy to have Ms. Inkster start back to school, gradually returning this month. She is working alongside Mr. Claridge on Mondays and Fridays, currently and will be moving up to 2 days a week in January on Tuesdays and Thursdays. As we move towards our winter concert, we are lucky to have both Ms. Inkster and Mr. Claridge to work together! We will be able to increase our capacity with our music program to provide additional support for our primary students. Ms. Inkster's return does mean that Miss Sawyer's time will be reduced. Fortunately, Miss Sawyer needs extra time for her master's studies. We are happy for Ms. Inkster to return and to keep Miss Sawyer.
- Our winter concert is coming December 12th, with both matinee and evening performances. Please let your child's teacher know if your child will not be coming to perform in the evening performance. Tickets will go on sale this week, there is a limit of two tickets per family for either the matinee or the evening performance, not both. If you need more tickets, please contact Maria Pistilli and she will put you on a waitlist.
- There will be a grade 7 bake sale at the evening performance, as well as hot chocolate sales.
- The Student Affordability Fund is a one-time allotment of funds to schools from the provincial government. It is intended to support families who are struggling with food security and basic costs associated with participating in public education, such as school fees, athletics, school supplies, food security, and so on. There are a couple of items that have been designated across the top from the funds that the district has received that will support large groups of elementary and secondary students. For example, this year there will be no charge for any family across the district for participating in track and field. Gleneagles was lucky to receive an allocation of \$6,000. If there are families struggling with costs associated with school participation, please reach out to Robyn Evans. It is completely confidential.
- FSA results are expected in the first few weeks of January

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm

Next meeting Feb 8th, 2023. Location/Format to be determined.