

GEC PAC Meeting

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

@ 6:30pm in the GEC Learning Commons



In Attendance:

Emily Gardiner (Co-Chair, PAC)

Amanda Clark (Co-Chair & Treasurer, PAC)

Aimee Fildes (Vice Chair, PAC)

Anna Stewart (Secretary, PAC)

Jess Jenkin (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)

Lauren Fuhre (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)

Lisa Fairburn (DPAC rep, PAC)

Robyn Evans (Principal, GEC)

Nichola Vermiere (Member at Large, PAC)

Shevaun Brown

6:30pm-Meeting called to order. Good evening and welcome to the first PAC meeting of the 2024/2025 school year! We are so glad to have new parents join us tonight.

Land Acknowledgement by Robyn Evans

Adoption of Agenda

Our first order of business is to adopt the agenda for this meeting, which was distributed yesterday via the school WhatsApp. No changes requested; Approved as distributed.

Chair's report- Emily Gardiner

For any new parents, my name is Emily Gardiner, this is my fourth year on the PAC Exec, and second in the Chair role, now with Amanda Clark as Co-Chair. This is also Amanda's fourth year on the PAC Exec, and her third year as Treasurer, and I have two and Amanda has four children at GEC. We are excited to introduce our fantastic team for this year:

Aimee Fildes as Vice Chair

Amanda Clark as Co-Chair and Treasurer

Anna Stewart as Secretary

Lisa Fairburn as DPAC Rep

Jess Jenkin and Lauren Fuhre as Hot Lunch Coordinators

Ian McLaughlin and Nichola Vermiere as Members at Large

Jenny Clark as Garden Committee Head

For those of you that don't know, the purpose of PAC is 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, 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); Aimee Fildes is the contact for Class Parents, and please join our GEC PAC WhatsApp thread. This is a one-way thread, where we post reminders about special events, theme days, early dismissals, etc. If interested, please email gecpacchair@gmail.com with your name, child's name and phone number; a link will be emailed back to you to sign up.

It's been a busy and great start to the Fall so far – PAC hosted the Welcome Tea on the first morning of school, hosted a fabulous GEC Open House dinner (thank you Jenny Clark for all your work with that), and Hot Lunch is underway (thank you Jess and Lauren).

In terms of looking forward, we have an exciting Fall still to come:

- The PAC will be acknowledging World Teacher's Day on this Friday by supplying the teachers with goodies
- Lice was an issue last year, with some parents asking the PAC if there was more we could do to support parents around this annoying issue, so we have booked a speaker,

the CEO of the Greater Vancouver Lice Clinic who is hosting an education session for us on Thursday, October 10th from 7-8:30pm via Google Meet. She'll be talking about detection, treatment, how to prevent, doing some myth busting, and will have a Q and A session. So please join us for that... I'm sure we could all pick up some tips.

- We will be offering both the Stay Safe and Babysitting courses during the Pro D Day on Nov 12th. Sign-ups will be available on Munchalunch soon.
- The Scholastic Book Fair is coming up in November. Our next PAC meeting on Nov 20th is happening concurrently, so please come in and do some holiday shopping and join our meeting.
- We have secured another movie day at Cineplex Park Royal on December 20th, which is an early dismissal day. We have Sonic 3 on opening day, which is exciting. This is a nice way to kick off the holidays, so we hope to see you there.

More info on all of this to follow in the weekly e-bulletins and on the School WhatsApp thread.

What I want to highlight is the upcoming Fall Fair. That is happening after school on October 24th in the gym. Please come and enjoy carnival games, food and treats, and grab a pumpkin. Tickets must be pre-purchased through Munchalunch. Each child entry is \$25 (adults are free), and includes one pumpkin, hot dog, cotton candy, and popcorn. Additional food will also be available for purchase at the event, so we hope our GEC families can join us for that.

Hot Lunch-Lauren Fuhre

- Hot Lunch ordering has closed, but will reopen for changes/additions next week.
- There were some changes to the offerings this term. Mucho Burrito is available on "Taco Tuesdays" and the pizza vendor has changed from Fresh Bay pizza to Dominos. If you have feedback regarding the new options, please let us know at gechotlunch@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report- Amanda Clark

Statement of Financial Position as of September 30th, 2024

- We have a cash balance of \$100,977. This is a total of our three bank accounts, including the trust account.
- Our total liabilities are \$14,179, which is entirely comprised of our Hot Lunch Vendor Accrual. This represents what we owe to our vendors, and this is reasonable and will be whittled down as we pay our vendors throughout the Hot Lunch order term.
- We have Retained Earnings of \$86,797

Statement of Profit and Loss

There are a few new items to note on our profit and loss statement:

- Hot Lunch profits year-to-date is ~\$3k. With Hot Lunch orders finalizing last week, we are still waiting on some Munchalunch deposits to land in our bank account, which will bring this first term of Hot Lunch orders to ~\$5,700 in profit. This is slightly lower than last year, but there are fewer students at the school this year, and some higher food costs, so this number is reasonable and within target.
- The PAC paid for the successful Open House Event, along with the Welcome Back Tea, and we will also be supplying some sandwich/dessert/fruit trays to the Teachers this Friday for World Teacher Day.
- Planning for the Fall Fair has begun, and we have started to incur some costs associated with that (such as the Game rentals, etc). We expect to launch ticket sales next week for the Fall Fair, along with tickets for the Babysitting and Stay Safe courses that are happening on the November 12th professional day.

Other Items to note

- We received approval for our Gaming Grant of \$5,260. We have yet to receive the funds (should happen within the next few working days), but this is positive news.
- To recap, as per our AGM in June, our approved budget for 2024-2025 plans to bring in a total income of \$46,500, with total costs/expenses of \$65,700, resulting in a planned deficit of ~\$19k. This is consistent with prior year budgets and continues to maintain our cash balance above our minimum threshold.

View the [Profits & Losses](#) and [Balance Sheet](#) here.

DPAC Report-Lisa Fairburn

The complete minutes from the DPAC meeting can be found on the [West Vancouver School District Website](#).

To get DPAC updates and minutes delivered directly to your inbox [click here](#).

Principal's Report-Robyn Evans

- Upgrades to the school grounds include a newly refurbished friendship deck, the concrete stairs on the North side of the school have been repoured, two new view-boards have been installed and the staffroom has been refreshed with new paint and tables. New stairs at the front of the school to come soon.
- The staff would like to extend a big thank you to all the volunteers and families who supported the Cross-Country events over the last three weeks. It is a great community event.
- Thank you to Jenny Clark, Rachel Clearwater, and Rick and Lisa Kim for making the Welcome Back Open House a remarkable success.
- FSA's are underway, for grades 4 & 7, now until November 8th. Please ensure students are rested and fed and that devices are charged and are sent to school. The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is a set of literacy and numeracy assessments administered to provide a Provincial snapshot of how our education system is meeting the needs of students in these key areas. They are also a valuable indicator of where individual students might have challenges in reading, writing and numeracy and can be used to help plan their education.
- Feeding Futures, an initiative brought to us by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Education and Child Care, is providing a breakfast basket in the office for all students. This is a barrier free, no stigma, no judgement offering of a variety of non-perishable food bars to take and consume as needed. It is available from the morning bell until recess.
- There has been a request from a neighbour requesting a letter(s) of support from the school/PAC to the District to address the need for speedbumps on Keith Road and Marine Drive.
- The Terry Fox Assembly and the Welcome Back event highlighted the need for a new speaker system. Ms. Evans to follow up with an estimate to give to PAC.

7:38pm- Meeting Adjourned

Next PAC meeting: November 20th at 6:30pm