

Minutes

Rockridge Secondary Parent Advisory Council (RSPAC)

Held: Wednesday January 25th, 2017 in the Library Learning Commons, 2nd Floor

8.30am Welcome – Carol Fraser

The Vice-Chair, Carol Fraser, welcomed everyone and asked for a motion to accept the Agenda of the Meeting.

Adoption of Agenda: Motion Darius Matheson / Seconded Tanya Mah

8.34 am Rockridge Spring Soiree – Nicola Bailey

Nicola Bailey gave an update on the preparations for the Rockridge Spring Soiree which will be held on Saturday 13th May at 7.30pm at the Pinnacle Hotel in North Vancouver (with champagne reception at 6.30pm). The Early bird ticket price will be \$100.00 (after April 20th it goes up to \$120.00). Volunteers are needed. Please contact linda@pathgroup.ca or nicola@baileygroup.ca if you can help.

Funds raised will be applied to:

- **Teacher’s Wish Lists:** items and initiatives that will allow them to further enrich student learning and engagement in their classes.
- **Learning Commons:** to further enhance the Makerspace with equipment such as robotics and coding kits, and complete the re-visioning of the learning spaces with the addition of retractable glass doors.
- **School Wish List:** items such as a new scoreboard in the gymnasium for intramural activities, games and tournaments; replacement sewing machines for the textiles department, and a screen for Players Hall to facilitate student grade level presentations.

Nicola asked for a cash advance from PAC to pay deposits for the hotel and the DJ. A motion was put forward to vote to approve spending of up to \$3,500 for recoverable deposits plus expenditures for the Rockridge Spring Soiree.

Motion: Lesley Miler / Seconded Tanya Mah

Vote: Duly agreed and passed

9.40 am Treasurer’s Report – Darius Matheson

Darius reviewed the latest RSPAC Financial Report.

Activity was as follows:

- PAC Fees Received - \$1,025 in January

- \$40,000 added to PAC Budget for anticipated funds received from Spring Soiree
- Expenditures
 - Water Filters – \$146.61
 - Microphones - \$128.56

8.42 am DPAC Report - Lesley Miller

There have been two DPAC meetings since the Rockridge PAC last met. The first one was held on December 7th 2016 at the Inglewood Learning Centre with highlights as follows:

- January 24th 2017 forum at the Kay Meek Studio Theatre on Communicating Student Learning. Two parents from each school along with Administrators and District staff attended the forum with information sessions and round table discussions. Jeanette Laursoo along with Lesley Miller and Nicola South represented Rockridge. New report cards, core competencies, digital learning and student reflection were discussed. There is also an online survey through the Ministry of Education looking for feedback from parents on student report cards.
- May 2nd 2017 the district will be hosting a forum on Youth Mental Health at The Kay Meek Theatre. There will be speakers and a panel discussion. More information to follow.
- The Stan Kutcher Forum held in December at The Kay Meek was sold out, but unfortunately due to the snowfall was poorly attended. He has an informative website with videos which parents are encouraged to view. Teachers, counselors and administrators attended professional development with him in December.
- Reminder for parents who have children born in 2006 or later about the BC Training and Education Grant money available through the BC Ministry of Education.
- Carolyn Broady, the Board Chair, briefed members on a meeting that she and senior District staff had with the local North Shore MLA's to discuss issues relevant to them all.
- There will be a new Youth Health Hub opening in North Van in April 2017. There were 5 jurisdictions in the Province who received funding from the Provincial Government to provide a hub of services and resources for Youth Health. It is called Foundry and will be located at 215 West 1st Street in North Van. It will offer 5 core services; primary care, mental health services, substance use services and youth and family peer support and navigation as well as social supports (including vocational and housing services). Site partners will include the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Hollyburn Family Services, YWCA/WorkBC and the Canadian Mental Health Association. By offering these services under one roof, the centre aims to improve outcomes for youth with improved continuity of care and the ability to address multiple health issues before they deteriorate into more serious health concerns.

- Work and meetings are ongoing with teachers and the Government on the Supreme Court Ruling regarding teacher's contracts. The Language of the contract has drastically changed since 2002 especially in special needs designations, etc. The Government will start to fund more teachers and Districts slowly until the contract language is worked out.

Chris Kennedy-Superintendent Report:

- The grade 10-12 new BC Curriculum implementation has been pushed back a year to September 2018.
- PISA Results (Programme for International Student Assessment): Of the 72 countries and jurisdictions around the world participating [students in British Columbia were the highest performing in reading, 2nd highest in science and 6th in math](#). The results are outstanding. And this is no small test – over 500,000 15-year-old students participated around the world including over 20,000 in Canada.
- West Vancouver Enrolment Report: There is a decrease in young families in West Vancouver, yet the West Van School District enrolment has stayed steady and even slightly increased. There are 7,304 students in the District with 17% coming from North Vancouver (almost 1,200 students). This number has steadily increased for the past 6 years. English Language Learners comprise 15% of enrolment. Rockridge has 43 students from North Vancouver, Sentinel has 337 and West Van Secondary has 259. The many options of learning, ie Academies, IB programs, AP courses and Super Achievers programs all contribute to enrolment staying steady. Lesley has the total report on the District Enrolment if anyone would like to take a look.

The second DPAC Meeting was held on January 4th 2017 at the Inglewood Learning Centre with highlights as follows:

- Carolyn Broady, Board Chair, went over the new Trustee assignments for the District. Rockridge Trustee Representatives are now Dave Stevenson and Carolyn Broady.
- Superintendent Chris Kennedy reported that there is no more salt in the District to clear sites and they have started to put down sand instead. The School District calendar committee will meet next month to build the Districts calendar over the next two years. Vancouver, North Van and West Van calendars are all aligned and this will go to the Board for approval in April. The Choice Consultative Committee met and approved a High School Outdoor Education Program that will be run out of Rockridge. It will be geared around grade 10 and will run every other day with some extra field programs as well.
- Budget Planning for next year will be starting soon and as enrolment is slightly up the District is in a slightly better position than first thought. There will be less opportunities for Student and Parent input as with the new teachers contract the Government will be adding new funding with additional services but that figure isn't known yet. It is likely more items will be tied to the new contract and there

will be less room for District input with spending mostly mandated by the Government.

- Helen Yeung the Public Health Dietician for the North Shore spoke about Disordered Eating Prevention. There is a new program being run in the Elementary schools for grades 4 and 5 about Healthy choices for eating and exercise.
 - **Suggested Web sites:**
 - Healthyschools.bc.ca - website for comprehensive school health
 - Jessieslegacy.com - disordered eating
 - Mindcheck.ca – body image and eating issues - young people
 - Vancouver coastal health website has info on vegetarian nutrition for youth
 - **Suggested Books:**
 - “I’m Like So Fat” - written for parents about eating and exercise in a weight obsessed world by Dianne Neumark-Sztainer
 - “Secrets of Feeding a Healthy Family” by Ellyn Satter

The next DPAC meeting will be held February 1st 2017.

8.47 am International Lunch - Jeanette Laursoo

Jeanette noted the International Lunch is on Friday 3rd March. Parents can sign up to help in the office or on the following website: <http://www.perfectpotluck.com/> with the password: rock. If you have any questions please email Christy Coulthard at ccoulthard@wvschool.ca.

8.48am Guest Speaker Chris Burt - Teenagers: Challenging Behaviours and Difficult Conversations

Guest speaker Chris Burt spoke to parents about parenting teenagers and how to handle challenging behaviours and difficult conversations. He discussed strategies for engaging teens in conversations about problem behaviour that will invite learning.

9.58 am Adjournment

Carol Fraser thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday 22th February, 2017 in the Music Room E105 with guest speakers Todd Lund and Maureen Lee.

The PAC can be reached at ropac@wvschools.ca.