



**PAC GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

**Rockridge Secondary School PAC Meeting
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, February 16, 2021 @ 7:00 pm**

PAC Executive:

PAC Chair: Tanya Mah
Vice Chair: Helen Hall
Past Chair: Tanya Petraszko (absent)
Treasurer: Barb Mitchell
Secretary: Debra Hadden (absent)
Online Communications: Tatiana Krapotkina
DPAC Representative: Amy Usher
Member at Large: Diana Steele

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome and Call to Order:

7:07 pm

The Chairperson, Tanya Mah, welcomed everyone to February's PAC general meeting and recognized that we are gathered together on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation.

Amendment/Adoption of Agenda: Motion by Amy Usher and Barb Mitchell: Agenda Approved.

Approval of January 19, 2021 Minutes posted on the PAC website and emailed to Rockridge email list: Motion by Helen Hall and Diana Steele: Minutes Approved.

Chair's Report: Tanya Mah

7:08 pm

1. Parent Education, "*Student Stress and Anxiety during the Pandemic*"

The PAC hosted a parent education session on February 4, on the topic of "*Student Stress and Anxiety during the Pandemic*," featuring speakers, Maureen Manning and Jennifer Radcliffe. The event received excellent parent feedback with 100 registered, and 55 attendees. Here is the link to view the session: [Meeting Recording](#).

2. Trustee Update

The yearly trustee shuffle took place in December. Trustee Sheelah Donahue was thanked for her attendance this past year at Rockridge, and Vice Chair Nicole Brown and Trustee Lynne Block were welcomed as Rockridge school liaisons for 2021.

3. Masks

The District PAC executive sent a [letter](#) to the School Board and Trustees on February 1st, in response to concerns from parents within our school community asking for advanced mask protocols in schools. Since then, there have been clarifications and updates to the school mask policy from the Provincial Health Office.

There has been an increase in positive COVID cases within North Shore schools. Parents were reminded to encourage their children to wear masks as mandated and whenever possible, as well as taking other protection measures such as using hand sanitizer and frequent hand washing; physically distancing where possible; and, following provincial health orders regarding limiting in-person gatherings to only those members within your immediate household.

4. Social Media

Parents were asked to sign up or follow the Rockridge School Facebook and Instagram pages we have set up. Tatiana, our Communications representative, regularly posts PAC information, reminders, and updates, so parents can stay up to date on what's happening from the parent perspective at Rockridge. Here are the links:

Facebook:

[Rockridge Secondary PAC – RSPAC](#)

Instagram:

[RSPAC Instagram](#)

Updates are also posted on the [Parents](#) section of the Rockridge website.

5. Upcoming Events

The next General PAC meeting will be **Tuesday, April 20th at 9:00am**. Special guest will be Dr. Barry Craig, President of Huron University. His presentation will focus on, "What is the Role of the Liberal Arts in a Stem World?" which is a very relevant topic.

The March DPAC meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 3rd** by Zoom. Parents who would like to attend are asked to please email the PAC for a zoom link and the agenda.

The next West Vancouver Board of Education meeting will be **April 20th at 5pm**. Parents can join virtually by emailing Amanda Barr abarr@wvschools.ca for a link.

Treasurer's Report – Barb Mitchell

7:11 pm

- Barb Mitchell reviewed the budget:
- \$500 has been allocated to the Rockridge PAC scholarship
- \$294 fee for Parent Education speaker (Maureen Manning)
- Miscellaneous costs paid for Outdoor Classroom
- \$53,153.71 is in the gaming account
- \$18,257.69 is in the general account
- Re-allocation of up to \$15K of gaming funds to outdoor classroom: clarification that it may be spent on outdoor enhancements such as seating and art
- PAC voted on wish list requests in January and the requests are now being fulfilled

Outdoor Classroom – Diana Steele

7:14 pm

- Diana Steele reported that 85 per cent of the total funds required have been raised (approximately \$51,000). Steele noted that there are options for some enhancements: Squamish stone supply plaque / benches.
- Construction will begin in Q4 with Mr. Henning's class. Construction company (Matkaluk Construction) may initiate work in the late summer (as there are permits, fire safety, safety with having cranes, # of people on site etc. to work out, and it was decided that it is safer to initiate in the summer when class is not in session)

Committee and Project Reports

7:17 pm

DPAC Meeting, February 3rd – Amy Usher

Amy Usher provided an update on the February 3rd, DPAC meeting she attended.

- There have been clarifications and updates to the school mask policy from the Provincial Health Office as a result of the letter sent by DPAC.
- Chris Kennedy reported that enrollment is increasing in the district, and 2021 will be a bounce back because of international students (400 already registered for 2021).
- There was a survey sent out requesting feedback on the new approach to education because of COVID (quarter system). The plan for 2021(fall) will be to return to full time instruction for K-12; with the secondary system, they will start with the quarter system, and then scale up and adapt as per the evolution of the pandemic.

The highlights from the survey were shared:

- Parent feedback on the positive points of the quarter system were: 1) improved focus 2) less homework, more manageable work load 3) more efficient 4) better quality of learning and 5) improved interactions /relationships with teachers.
- Negative points were 1) less engagement/repetitive instructional strategies/long classes, and 2) fast paced/intense environment that has been created; and 3) the lack of breaks and long classes.
- Feedback indicated that there were many Pros and Cons of the quarter system – feedback was quite varied:
 - Google classroom is beneficial and working really well.
 - Hybrid is more challenging than face-to-face.
 - X block has been very well received because it allows time for tutorials/academies/greater flexibility.
- Chris Kennedy mentioned that West Vancouver had the most in-person instruction time than any other district in the lower mainland.
- Chris Kennedy reviewed a discussion about forward thinking (things that would stick after COVID – nationalized discussion about education):
 - Essential use of communication tools (high school has been forever changed); linkage between health and education as they are now permanent partners; digitization; equity; and, learning outdoors.
- Librarian from WV Memorial gave a presentation (resources listed on DPAC site / DPAC Resources) about various programs and resources. There is an app called Libby – free, popular, app where you can access books from the library (without having to visit in person).
- There was an open discussion about how to spend gaming grants going forward: For Rockridge, our scope is smaller: extracurricular activities, virtual art classes, virtual guests, field trips etc., self-regulation tools that the counselling department could use. We will examine ways to use these funds to the school's benefit.

Principal's Report

7:23 pm

Judy Duncan

Ms. Duncan gave a very informative update. Here is the [LINK](#) to her presentation.

Some items to note:

- There will be two new courses offered at Rockridge next year:
 - Music: Composition and Production (for students in grades 10-12, who are interested in music, but may not want to play in a band)
 - Economic Strategies Program (ESP) consisting of Economics 12 (regular rotation) and E-Commerce 12: Social Media and Digital Marketing (after school bi-weekly on Mondays for 2.5 hours). Students must enroll in both.
 - Learning Surveys for Grade 10 and Grade 12 parents (survey closes April 30th)
 - Grade 10 Graduation Numeracy Assessment (GNA) and GNA Re-writes for Grade 11, 12 students, during the week of April 12th
 - Re-writes for GLA 10 and GNA 10 from June 14th – 23rd
- District is engaging school and partner groups in budget planning – form is available on the website for feedback. Input is due Tuesday, March 2nd to Amanda Barr at abarr@wvschools.ca). Info will be presented at the Finance and Facilities Meeting on Tuesday, March 9th.

Guest Speaker

7:57 pm

Stephanie Langlois, *Rockridge Secondary Indigenous Education Support Teacher*

Ms. Langlois, the Rockridge Indigenous Education Support Teacher, gave an informative talk about the Indigenous Education program, which was the focus of the January 29th Pro D Day for the staff. One of the focuses of this year's DPAC/Trustee/Liaison meeting held the first week in January was also on Indigenous Education. Here is a [LINK](#) to her presentation.

Guest Speaker

8:21 pm

Stephanie Jansen, *Rockridge Secondary Career Life Education Teacher*

Ms. Jansen presented as part of a series of parent education sessions brought to Rockridge parents by the PAC in conjunction with the Careers and Post-Secondary Departments.

Ms. Stephanie Jansen delivered an excellent presentation outlining the experiential learning opportunities available to Rockridge students. Here is a [LINK](#) to her presentation.

Succession

The PAC has a number of volunteers returning but also have a few key openings on the executive. If this is something you may be interested in, please contact Tanya at ropac@wvschools.ca

New Business

8:44 pm

None presented.

Meeting Adjourned

8:47 pm

Save the Dates:

- Next PAC Meeting: Tuesday, April 20th, 9:00 am, Special Guest Dr. Barry Craig
Next Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, April 20th, 5pm (register:
abarr@wvschools.ca)
- Next DPAC Meeting, Wednesday, March 3rd (email ropac@wvschools.ca for link)