



**PAC GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 2021
MEETING MINUTES**

Welcome & Call to Order

4:30 pm

Barb Mitchell welcomed everyone to the first PAC virtual meeting of the year.

Julie Stewart acknowledged that the land on which we live and work is the unceded traditional territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations and we are grateful for the opportunity to do so.

PAC Business

4:35 pm

Adoption of Agenda: Diana Steele motioned the adoption of the meeting agenda. Debra Hadden seconded the motion.

Adoption of Minutes : Diana Steele motioned the adoption of the meeting minutes from May 18, 2021 PAC General Meeting. Lisa Mingo seconded the motion.

Chair's Report:

Barb Mitchell / Julie Stewart

- Coffee morning on October 8th was a success. Thanks to Julie Stewart for all her work organizing. PAC is planning another community building event.

- Introduction of Executive:

Barb Mitchell; Co-Chair

Julie Stewart; Co-Chair

Heather Thompson; Vice Chair

Debra Hadden; Secretary

Teresa Corey; Treasurer

Tatiana Krapotkina ; Online Communications (website/newsletters)

Lisa Mingo; Member at Large

Diana Steele; Member at Large

Dana Ranaud; Member at Large

Kim Whittall; Member at Large

Helen Hall; Scholarship Committee

Anna Day; Member at Large

Kim Gould; Member at Large

Denise Nosella; Member at Large

Sara Relling; Member at Large

Sylvia Butterworth; Member at Large

Kelly Richter; DPAC Representative

Tanya Mah: Past Chair

-Meeting Schedule

PAC meetings held on the third Wednesday of the month (Upcoming Meetings: Oct. Nov. Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May). Watch for the updates in the newsletter.

There is a DPAC Treasurer's Meeting tonight: Teresa Corey will be attending on our behalf.

Treasurer's Report:

Barb Mitchell (on behalf of Teresa Corey)

Budget put together and approved. Two accounts: General and Gaming

Gaming: balance increases because the school receives \$20 / person so typically about \$19K. This year the gaming grant was lower due to a reduced student enrollment. Current amount in the gaming account is approximately \$66,000. We can pull funds from this account for sports, uniforms, learning support, field trips etc. and certain items for the outdoor classroom could also be considered.

General Account: \$15,000.

Funds-in-Trust: \$70K for outdoor classroom

Wish List: There are some things that we can additionally fund out of the gaming account.

Committee and Project Reports

4:45 pm

Outdoor Classroom:

Diana Steele

Dave Henning presented the details of the Outdoor Classroom at the Executive PAC Meeting: Dave Henning introduced the idea of the Outdoor Classroom in 2018. The structure will be outside of the office facing the ocean. Plans were drawn but approval was not given due to issues with the fire code, so the structure has to be revised to be metal as opposed to wood. A new architect has stepped forward. Mark Ritchie (Lisa Mingo's husband) is still waiting to be engaged and has drafted IABC contract and forwarded to Dave Henning.

Funds raised are \$70K.

May need to do more fundraising depending on the final cost once the revised plans are approved.

Plans are for students in the ACE-IT carpentry program at West Vancouver Secondary to pour the foundation in the second semester of 2022, and the construction could take place in the summer.

DPAC Report:

Helen Hall (on behalf of Kelly Richter)

District has hired 22 new teachers, 40 new support staff.

This is a bargaining year, beginning in November and through to March (local to provincial).

District looking at implementing classes for parents to educate them on indigenous culture.

DPAC is investigating loss of education/mental health during the pandemic

WVSD is funding daytime custodians in WV Schools (funding no longer provided federally).

School District Trustees are asking parents to review social media posts regarding COVID with caution.

All schools in WVD have a HVAC system or HEPA filter – includes all portables, gyms etc.

Every school also has supplies of swish and gargle test for students that are feeling sick.

As of two weeks ago, only one COVID positive case (at Pauline Johnson) was reported. The whole school will be notified when any positive cases are discovered.

7,183 students in WVSD.

Over 1000 come from Vancouver; significant number from Squamish/Vancouver; decrease in international students and special needs students.

There is a \$300 grant we can apply for to apply to traffic safety. Question is where we could spend the money? Discussed the idea to repaint the arrows on the parking lot. Teresa (with community parent, Gavin) has created a traffic safety proposal. Diana Steele investigated getting a bus from Eagle Harbour to reduce congestion (52 families would have been able to join in, but the cost was prohibitive at \$10/student)

Online Communications:

Tatiana Krapotkina

Two social media accounts, specifically created to communicate with parents

Facebook page (Rockridge Secondary PAC – RSPAC) / Instagram page (rockridgepac) have been implemented. New parents are encouraged to sign up.

Rockridge PAC section of the website is a good source of info.

Parents will soon be able to view archives of past meetings on this site.

Scholarship:

Helen Hall

Every year, the scholarship committee gives out about \$18K to \$20K in scholarship funds.

10 years ago, the RPAC was very active in fundraising.

Used to be able to pull from the interest, but the \$104K in scholarship trust fund is diminishing due to low interest rates.

\$8K comes from the community every year and is contributed to scholarships.

\$ also donated from Caulfeild Merchant's Association.

Need to look at ways to replenish this fund.

Principal's Report

5:10 pm

Dr. Graham Jackson

Moved from AB; Has been a Principal in middle school; and worked in a variety of schools around the world.

Parents expressed some concerns:

1. No receptionist at the desk in the mornings to answer phones? Concern about availability.
Dr. Jackson said that student numbers have dropped, and therefore staff has been reduced.
About 25% reduction in staff count.
880 students at Rockridge currently: reduced numbers (trending down to reduced population).
2. Closed Bathrooms? What is the plan to have bathrooms open going forward?
Dr. Jackson said they have opened up a couple of bathrooms already (gender-neutral).
Requisition to restore the boy's bathroom. Supervision is the issue. Kids are accumulating (eating food, vaping). School has suspended students for vaping. This creates a safe place for all kids to go to the bathroom.
3. X Block for Grade 8 & 9?
GJ has acknowledged that kids need more boundaries on the expectations with regard to attendance (need to structure the unstructured time). The school is going to create a wide variety of events; designated areas for learning. Also looking at trying to implement 4 teachers/grade to take attendance. Duty of care is an issue. Will try and create a structure for grade 8s and 9s (creating a space for safety, belonging). Dr. Jackson's concern was that if the teachers don't meet our 950 hours per year, then we lose the opportunity to be creative.

Dr. Jackson expressed concern about School Events at Venues that require Vaccinations: If students are asked to produce passports (either don't have one, or are concerned about privacy), then the school cannot support this as a student activity.

New Business **5:25 pm**

Adjourn General Meeting **5:40 pm**

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- Next PAC Meeting: Wednesday, November 17th, 4:30pm