



PAC Meeting
September 20th, 2023
6:30 pm

Location:

Rockridge Secondary School

Attending from Rockridge Admin:

Trevor Kolkea; Rockridge Secondary Principal

Moreno Stefanon, Rockridge Secondary Math/Science Teacher

Attending from PAC Executive:

Kelly Richter: Co-Chair

Heather Thompson: Co-Chair

Kelly Kerklaan: Vice Chair

Teresa Corey: Treasurer

Lisa Mingo: Secretary

Denise Nosella: Communications

Carrie Haver: Member at Large

Amit Gatenyo: Member at Large

Anna Day: Member at Large

Attending from Rockridge Parent Community:

Channa (Liza) Phon

Catalda Van Dyke

April Accola

Ivo Veldcamp

Marisa Yang

Tanya Imhoff

Sara Gardner

Patrick Law

Emily Wing

Welcome & Call to Order

6:00 pm

Kelly Richter (PAC Chair) opened the meeting with a welcome and a land acknowledgment as follows:

"We would like to recognize that we are gathered together on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and want to thank our friends and colleagues in the Nation who are working with us to guide our understanding of the history of this land and its people. We respect and honour the Elders past, present and future as we bring this knowledge to the students of our community."

Introductions – Attendees around the table introduced themselves.

PAC Business (Kelly R)

6:02 pm

Adoption of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda.

First: Sara Gardner

Second: Marisa Yang

All in favour, motion so moved.

Adoption of Minutes

Motion to approve the May 2023 AGM meeting minutes.

First: Lisa M

Second: Heather

All in favour, motion so moved.

Chair's Report (Kelly R)

6:05 pm

- We have had a few changes to our Executive team since the AGM. At our Executive Meeting in August we appointed a few additional members:
 - Vice Chair: Kelly Kerklaan
 - Members at Large who put their names forward over the summer: Emilie Irelan, Cora MacDonald, Srabana Dasgupta, Amit Gatenyo, Jas Purewal and Kim Taylor.
- We appreciate parents who came out for the Welcome Coffee & Pancake Breakfast event. Fantastic turnout and lots of support for PAC activities / sign-ups. If you are interested in getting involved with one of the committees, please let us know.
- PAC email is the same as in the past. Please send questions to this address: ropac@wvschools.ca
- PAC Meetings will be held the third Wednesday of most months (i.e. not December or March). We will be trying some morning meeting times to accommodate more parents –

the October 18th meeting will be at 8:45am here in the Learning Commons, and a speaker has already been set up for this.

- Outdoor Gathering Space Update – quick update as things have moved on since June.
 - Complexity of project has led to review by engineering, detailed engineering drawings are nearing completion.
 - Contractor (Bavahaus) informed us that they were closing their business and relocating to Europe. Very fortunate to have a contact at Kennedy Construction (part of our school community) so we have successfully started working with them and they are working seamlessly with our architect (ABC). A construction contract is being executed between Kennedy and WVSD for them to take over the construction and project management.
 - Forms are in the ground, construction fencing is in place. Expect to have more information and details by the October PAC meeting.
 - A question was raised about the project schedule – we should have a better idea of this at the next PAC meeting. Trevor noted that we have made great progress but have unfortunately hit a few road blocks.

Treasurer's Report (Heather / Teresa)

6:12 pm

- The current bank balances of \$25,000 in the general account, \$28,000 in gaming account and \$50,000 in trust account were highlighted.
- Income statement shows amount (\$17,500) expected to come in shortly from the gaming grant.
- Two expenditures so far this year have been the welcome breakfast (about \$450) and a \$500 deposit for the upcoming HolidayFest party.
- A question was asked about how much last year's golf tournament raised. Revenues were about \$20,000 and expenses about \$7,000, therefore clearing \$13k. One participant said it was a really fun day, and Trevor commented that it was a great way to end the year.

Committee Reports

6:15 pm

Fundraising & Events (Teresa and Kelly R)

- November 25th (Saturday) – There is a parent holiday-themed celebration planned for the banquet room adjacent to The Orchard at Gleneagles Golf Clubhouse. Watch for details and ticket link in the upcoming PAC bulletin. The theme is still being sorted out and the intention is for this to be a fundraiser.
- Golf Tournament – This has been booked again at Gleneagles Golf Course for Thursday June 13th.

Speakers (Carrie)

- Once a month we have speakers at PAC.
- October's speaker will be Lisa McComb from CPABC, who will present on financial literacy and talk about how to speak to your kids about money. Carrie will meet with her beforehand to discuss topics, so if anyone has ideas please send an email to the PAC with the subject line 'speakers'.

- There are confirmed speakers for November - Dani Renouf and Nikta Razavi will be speaking about the Women-Life-Freedom movement supporting women in Iran]
- We are looking to find speakers related to AI and how West Vancouver Schools is addressing this topic in the classrooms. Trevor can provide speaker ideas for this, possibly for our January meeting. Trevor hosts a monthly staff meeting called the 'Byte Bunch' where they discuss topics like AI. Trevor said we would either use an internal speaker or ask an external speaker to liaise with the teaching staff to see what everyone is doing. The District's stance is one of 'how can we support the use of AI'. At the DPAC level, they are already looking for speakers who can address the topic of AI at a broad level.
- If anyone has ideas on speakers, please send email to Carrie at PAC email: ropac@wvschools.ca

Staff Appreciation (Heather for Sophie)–

- As in previous years, there will be one staff appreciation event per term.
- The first event – a 'baking buffet' - is in mid-December, and we will be asking for volunteer parents to bring in baked goods for the teachers. The teachers will be able to select their own treats and take them home. Sophie will need assistance.
- Toward the end of the second term (May), there will be a pot luck luncheon, and we will be recruiting home chefs and volunteers for this as well.
- Sophie will be sending an email shortly to whomever signed up for this committee.

Communications (Denise)

- There are many different ways in which the PAC will be communicating to you:
 - Brief updates in eBulletin every Thursday;
 - [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) – can link via eBulletin or search for Rockridge PAC for high level information on upcoming events;
 - [School Website](#) has more general information;
 - A new WhatsApp group has been set up and will be used for brief one-way communication e.g. 'photo day tomorrow'. Send an email to ropacwhatsapp@gmail.com with the name/grade of your child(ren), and you will be added to the group. 133 parents have signed up so far.
- A question was raised about the extent of forms that need to be filled out (e.g. Camp Summit), and whether these could be digitized. This issue is more for the school vs what the PAC can address.
- There was also discussion around creation of an app like the one that West Vancouver Secondary has, that provides information at the class level (this was developed as a school project). At Rockridge we have some of this information on Google Classroom but no app – however this could be a good opportunity to develop something similar.

Clubs & Activities (Kelly K)

- In the past, clubs would approach a teacher or administrator if they needed money.
- We would like to encourage more clubs to apply for funding if they need it, but we also want them to go through some sort of application process which could include filling in a short form and presenting at a PAC meeting. This would allow us to learn more about these clubs and also provide the students with exposure to presenting.
- We also plan to split the budget in half, so that applications can be made twice a year and students will have two opportunities to apply.

- Trevor said we have about 40 clubs signed up for Club Day on Monday but he is expecting a few more.
- A question was asked about the criteria for setting up a club. There is an application form and they also need to obtain a teacher sponsor, who helps the group ensure their club is successful. Information about these clubs and when they are meeting is posted in the 'Daily Announcements' section on the Rockridge website; this information is currently still being populated over the next week or so.
- Staff members have access to add posts to Daily Announcements, so Trevor is encouraging students to save the website link to their phone so they can get current 'live' information on a daily basis.
- Clubs are one way that students get to their service hours.

Rockridge P2P (Amit)

- In previous years, Rockridge had a successful parent to parent program which died away during COVID.
- This group's chief aim is to help parents connect with other parents. This is not just for parents new to the school, but for all those who haven't had a chance (especially with COVID) to meet other parents.
- There is a separate WhatsApp group set up for the P2P, so parents will need to join this group in order to find out what's going on. This will be two-way communication, so parents are also welcome to comment and suggest activities. [WhatsApp P2P Group](#)
- The first P2P activity planned will be a Pub Night to kick off the school year.
- Promotion will start tomorrow, with info on how to sign up for the WhatsApp community.

Guest Speaker / Principal's Report (Trevor Kolkea)

6:55 pm

Trevor's PowerPoint slides are included [HERE](#)

- In September, Rockridge welcomed a new administrator, and a number of new office staff, teachers and educational assistants.
- Over the summer, the District invested a lot of money in refreshing and refurbishing the school including
 - Power-washed and stained beams on exterior of school;
 - Painted the Rockridge sign and added new yellow paint in the interior for wayfinding;
 - Installed new window into design space downstairs & removed unused furniture;
 - Replaced desktop computers with laptops for students who need to borrow a computer; and
 - By Friday much of the parking lot will have been repainted.
- Discussed FESL (framework for enhancing student learning) and how big ideas and competencies guide inclusive assessment at Rockridge; the school spends a lot of time around assessment and how to support students with this.
- Next week the school will be celebrating the National Day of Truth & Reconciliation (the stat holiday is on Monday). A Coast Salish (Squamish) artist called Slash gifted a new design to Rockridge and next week they will be selling orange shirts with the new logo. A new website for purchasing this merchandise has also been set up.
- Trevor also highlighted that there are now fewer students in grade 8 this year, so we need to continue to promote all the positive attributions of our school (IB, MYP, students

making practical connections between their studies and the real world, senior students can do AP classes which provides a high level of learning & hence 98% of graduates doing post-secondary learning within one year of leaving school).

- West Van schools have 3 goals – sense of belonging for student success and mental health, effective and meaningful transitions (from grade 7 to 8 and post-secondary), and numeracy;
- 820 total students enrolled this year - 30 less than last year which is basically grade 8 students.
- Schedules / FIT block
 - Most important thing is to get the students here for 8:30 am
 - FIT block is new and improved block 5 from last year
 - Careers in grade 8 happens in FIT block
 - FIT block happens before period 3 so expectation that you stay in the building (grades 11 and 12 can use common areas, rest expected to stay in their classroom)
- Collaboration day
 - Collaboration days – no attendance taken between 8:30 and 9:25 but students can be at the school, also fine if they arrive for 9:25 am
 - Next Thursday the 26th is first collab day and this is District wide
 - Question asked about difference between FIT and collab – teachers do not teach during collaboration time whereas they teach during FIT, collab time is not new for Rockridge but is for other schools in the District

Q&A

7:30 pm

Trevor addressed one question about how IB was incorporated into the curriculum (e.g. interdisciplinary, collaboration).

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Adjourn

The next PAC meeting will be Oct 18th in the morning. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.