



PAC Meeting
February 21st, 2024
8:30 am

Location:

Rockridge Secondary School
Players Hall

Attending from Rockridge Admin:

Trevor Kolkea: Rockridge Secondary Principal

Attending from PAC Executive:

Heather Thompson: PAC Co-Chair
Kelly Kerklaan: Vice Chair
Teresa Corey: Treasurer
Lisa Mingo: Secretary
Denise Nosella: Communications
Sophie Ukani: Member at Large
Emilie Irelan: Member at Large
Kim Taylor

Attending from Rockridge Parent Community:

Sara Gardner
Carrie Siu
Rachel Clearwater
Kim Gould
Jen Cameron

Guest Speaker:

Lynne Block, Trustee West Vancouver School District

Welcome & Call to Order

8:42 am

Heather Thompson (PAC Co-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 in the room introduced themselves.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Sara Gardner to approve the meeting agenda.

Second: Rachel Clearwater

All in favour, yes - motion so moved.

Adoption of Minutes

Motion by Denise Nosella to approve the January 2024 meeting minutes.

Second: Emilie Ireland

All in favour, yes - motion so moved.

Outdoor Classroom Update (Heather)

8:50 am

The contract with Kennedy Construction has been signed and we are now ready to proceed with the construction. The next step is to arrange a meeting with Kennedy, key PAC members, a representative from the School District, and ABC architects. Then Kennedy will create the project timeline, and building can commence.

Treasurer's Report (Kelly K)

8:55 am

Presentation of PAC financials

There is currently about \$127k in various bank accounts, and most of this is already spoken for. There have not been a lot of expenditures since the last meeting. We did purchase a few sets of graphing calculators for the math department and paid the permit for the outdoor classroom.

Principal's Report & Presentation (Trevor Kolkea)

9:00 am

Celebration & events

- Grad formal happening next week at Pinnacle Hotel
- March 7th week: start course selection and complete in classes, have had online sessions with families & theatre presentations at grade level, course selection stays open until April 1st
- Mar 7-9th : theatre lab presentation at Kay Meek (Back Story, original piece), brisk ticket sales so far
- March 8th : term 2 learning update

- March 12th : jazz café, super event last year
- March 16th : spring break starts, senior class is taking an international field trip to France

Staffing News

- 4 new teachers by end of semester 1, very involved in school culture

School uniforms

- Have not been consistently branded in the past
- PAC has invested in some of the rebranding
- Group of teachers in the art and athletics departments and student input (committee) working on finalizing the new logo
- Repainting the logo at centre court will be part of this rebranding effort

Student safety

- Have heard concerns from parents that students are still hanging out in bathrooms, increase in vaping
- This is an ongoing issue but no worse this year
- Solution is educating students and changing behaviour
- Leanne our youth worker is helping to figure out why they are there & patrolling bathrooms
- Other part is dealing with addictions and peer pressure
- Final piece is communications about what is being done, i.e. bathrooms are being monitored by admin staff (regular patrolling of spaces), conversations with offending students, emails sent home to parents, students unpack their bags and school confiscates items
- Alternative is escalating discipline measures which could lead to suspensions and other behaviour management
- Also important to provide alternatives for places to hang out
- This all helps to change behaviour.

Registration

- Numbers looking good for next year, so starting in September with higher number of students than last year
- Bigger cohort of grade eights coming in
- Greater numbers of international and out of catchment students

Guest Speaker: Lynne Block, Trustee, West Vancouver School District

9:14 am

Lynne thanked everyone for inviting her to speak and for coming to the PAC meeting today. She was asked to come today to discuss several topics.

Lynne discussed the key duties of a school trustee as follows:

- Govern the school district, provide appropriate learning opportunities in the context of the district values and culture
- Handle the money based on FTE full time enrollment (she is vice chair of finance and facilities committee, & chair of audit committee) – note that we are one of the lowest funded school districts in BC with the sole employee being Chris Kennedy the Superintendent
- Report back to the people who voted for them
- Deliver high quality public education through student achievement

Why do we need a local School Board? Every school district is different, and the local Board knows best the community that they serve.

School Board Budget

- Just beginning process for 2024/25 budget
- Would love parental input
- Encourage everyone to contribute their thoughts and ideas by going to the [West Vancouver Schools Budget Feedback](#)

Strategic Plan

- 3 goals in their 4-year strategic plan which is based on FESL (i.e. the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning)
 - Education excellence
 - Visionary leadership
 - Successful transitions
- Budget looks like status quo
- Currently the main revenue source is international students, which have reduced in numbers first because of COVID and now because it can be difficult to find homestays for the students
- There is a team of 3 people who visit each of the School Districts to review how well you are doing with your FESL
- These results are posted on the District website, West Vancouver got a gold star this year but we are always looking for ways to improve
- Interesting statistic – 95% of West Van secondary students go to post-secondary institutions
- Have recently signed Protocol Agreement with the Squamish Nation, this is a good example of visionary leadership.

Lynne is also a member of the BC Trustee School Association. Currently they are forming a comprehensive school health committee and are looking at other school districts for best practices, in order to take advantage of what everyone is doing without reinventing the wheel.

District also gathers a lot of data, e.g. they put out 'Vital Signs' report which shows how our community is changing.

PAC Business

Chair's Report (Kelly R)

9:27 am

No chair report as Kelly was absent.

New Business

9:29 am

No new business.

Adjourn

9:30 am

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am for informal coffee meeting.