



WEST BAY SCHOOL

Parent Advisory Council

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-9:00am, November 8, 2019, Learning Commons

Tanja Imhoff	Jessica Richardson	Bill Auyang
Chen Tan	Danielle Katerberg	Courtney Payne
Candice Montgomery	Cora MacDonald	Sara Relling
Roxana Pistol	Joanna Zhang	Tina Pu
Kim Gould	Srabana Dasgupta	Sara Mohamadkhani

1. Welcome and Call to Order:

Adoption of Agenda and October Minutes - Kim Gould and Candice Montgomery

2. Chair's Report- Tanja Imhoff

- a. **Parent Ed at Kay Meek** - Creating a Free-Range Community for Children of All Ages. Empowering children to take risks during play and becoming more independent. Not to overly supervise or helicopter parent kids. Unfortunately attendance was very low. Don't know if it was just poorly advertised. This will be covered again over next year
- b. **November 3-9 Sleep Week** – Links on the DPAC Website to sign up for a sleep tracker and then compare the stats to national averages
- c. **Dec 6- West Bay Craft Fair 3-5:00pm** - We currently have 19 tables sold to and the grade sevens will be running the bake sale. All profits from the bake sale and the table rentals will go towards the grade seven fundraising.
- d. **Fundraisers- Purdy's and Poinsettias** – Both of them all set and went out with Sue's bulletin email on Nov 7. Pickup will also be at the fair
- e. **WB Gala- May 8th** - Venue booked. A band booked. About 5 people on the committee plus a few from Exec. Maybe Tina and Sara
- f. **Website Update** - Very outdated with a lot of misinformation. We would like to add a parent's page and a FAQ page similar to the Kim's blog. Some common questions include why can't we always park on the school field, when is recess, and there's just a few different questions about after school activities. If you come up with any useful frequently asked questions please let us know
- g. **Parent Ed- Screening of Screenagers Next Chapter** - no other schools seem to be showing the film at this point in West Van. So it might be a nice

opportunity for West Bay to show it. We can sell tickets for it. So hopefully a break even event for us. And I know that there's been some interest because it's a topic about social media and its impact on youth.

3. Principals Report- Jessica Richardson

- a. **basketball season** – Season just started and both the grade seven boys and girls teams have made amazing progress and so far undefeated. The teams have 2 more weeks until the final jamboree.
- b. **Book readings and discussions:** Dan Bar-el did a reading of his book, *The Very, Very Far North* for grade threes from both West Bay and Cypress Park; Bestselling author, Alan Gratz was at the Kay Meek discussing world history pertaining to World War II with grade sixes and sevens
- c. **Halloween** – An incredible success. Lots of positive comments from the teachers. Lots of activities and the kids really enjoyed it. I wanted to thank all of the parents who participated to make this a possible
- d. **Tech talk and IB Parent Night** - Amy Flett, our grade six teacher hosted the tech talk. New IB Coordinator Morike Espenhain hosted the IB parent night to help parents understand the IB curriculum better. It was very well attended, especially the kindergarten families.
- e. **Parent Teacher Interviews** are continuing and they look forward to connect with the parents.
- f. **Chipotle Fundraiser - 9th Nov, 4-8 PM** - Go and let them know that you are supporting West Bay. 33% of your purchase will go towards the grade seven's Quebec trip and it's a great opportunity to support the school and to have a nice meal.
- g. **Remembrance Day Events** – Decorating at the West Van lawn bowling club on Nov 8. A West Bay student will lay a wreath on Nov 11. Then a school assembly on Nov 12, 11am. Parents are welcome to join.
- h. **Changemakers** - Nov 19 event
- i. **Dance Play Organization** – Starting on Nov 25th. Thanks to the PAC for supporting. I've worked with them for the last couple of years and they put out an offer to run a free yoga play session. I emailed and said we would love to do that. So they came in and did a session for our grade one classes on Nov 7.
- j. **West Van Field Hockey** - They run sessions every year. Its free for kindergarten through grade four. So they worked with those students this week during their gym times to introduce them to the sport and get them excited. The club is the biggest club in North America.
- k. **Traffic: 5 Creeks Update** - it looks like starting on the week of November the 18th, there'll be no access to Thompson place. The field will be open during this time for parking. Let's inform all families to drop off your

students early. The library will be open at 8:30am to accommodate those kids who need a place to go and also for pick up later in the afternoon. The majority of the heavy duty work will be done during the winter when we're off, which will be great since it won't impact us as much.

- I. **Hot Lunch** - Milk cartons, juice boxes and smoothies are a bit difficult in terms of recycling them properly and of course there's the occasional spill as well. Some kids are not finishing them. The staff has requested those items be removed from future hot lunch orders. We want to make sure families know sometimes they don't always know if their kids finish the food that's ordered. Peter and Joanna will look into that for next term. The West Vancouver district for garbage recycling can provide a list of what can be recycled and what cannot be. With the list, Peter will talk to the vendors about how to move forward and they'll put a sheet together. There's also an excellent, very engaged group of grade fives who are working hard to reduce waste in the school and on the playground. They've even set up monitors in the hallway at lunch time to help other students sort waste and deposit them in the proper bins.

4. **Treasurer's Report – Chen Tan –**

- a. \$247,240 in bank.
- b. Gaming Grant approved for \$7,900.
- c. Hot Lunch: About \$11K profit on \$79K revenue for the first term.
- d. **Vote for Budget Amendment - Motion carried** for budget to include \$1000 for Gardening. Courtney Payne has very kindly referred her gardener and he has come back with a quote within the budget. She looked at what they can do relatively quickly to clean it up and make it look a little bit nicer during winter because it's getting really cold.

5. **DPAC Report- Tanja Imhoff (Anita Algie unable to attend) – Inglewood**

Centre the 1st Wed of the month 9:15am- Wanted to encourage parents to go as they are a great source of information on what's happening to our school district and also a great opportunity to meet parents from other schools.

- a. **West Van Library** – There's a new initiative to examine the impact of the library on youth. They would like to discuss with parents regarding issues such as reading motivation, downloading ebooks as well as finding resources such as encyclopaedias. Please contact Shannon Overly? For more info. Sara will contact them and see if they are interested in joining our December meeting
- b. **Like (our lives on social media) – 19th Nov 7-9pm WV Rec Center** – tickets are \$10 and then there will be a panel discussion afterwards. You can find information on the tickets either from the websites. It was in Sue's

bulletin yesterday as well as on the community center website. There's report that's coming up on the impact of social media on mental health that seems to be quite staggering. So this should be interesting

- c. **Traffic Safety report** – A gentle reminder that WB has not submitted its grant application yet... although only three schools have.
- d. **West Van High New Track** - Carolyn Brody, our trustee reported that the muni will give \$2 million towards the new track. Parents are encouraged to also donate as much as possible as this is for the whole community, not just WV High. \$1.5M is pledged while the last \$0.5M is pledged if donations are matched.
- e. **BC teachers Federation and BC** – Still an Embargo on negotiations. There will be a vote next week between the teachers and the union. But progress is quiet due to media blackout.
- f. **Walking Schoolbus** – A lot of schools are having traffic issues it seems. Parents need to work it out with their own schools as the municipalities are overwhelmed by calls from parents and it's slowing the progress.
- g. **McCreary Survey (2018 BC Adolescent Health Survey?)** – presented by Dr Mark Lysyshyn. Survey was done for grades 7-12 in BC regarding mental health, sleep, eating habits, drugs and alcohol. He compared North Shore stats to the rest of the province.

Highlights include: West Van kids have less exercise in general. West Vancouver has the lowest for active transportation to school at just 16%. West Vancouver is also the worst in the lower mainland for kids who slept eight hours per night. There is deteriorating mental health in general across the lower mainland and across BC. 41% of kids in West van did not receive treatment after getting a concussion. Rates of consumption of alcohol, marijuana and tobacco have declined, particularly marijuana use since legalization. However, a number of children who have tried alcohol, marijuana, and tobacco are higher in West Van than in the lower mainland. There was also some vaping statistics and it seemed fairly low. Only 27% of kids felt that they had trusted and supportive adult outside their family. 82% kids felt safe at school. This provoked a lot of discussion at DPAC and would love any feedback from parents from the PAC about this.

The detailed slides will be uploaded to the DPAC site. In spring, Mark will do a further breakdown between the different districts. He has also offered to speak to the staff about this and discuss as a group. There is immense interest in this topic which will most certainly initiate further research.

6. Hot Lunch- Joanna Zhang –

- a. **Backup team** called in to fill-in for Wednesdays
- b. **Recycling** – Good thing that was mentioned earlier as guidance is really needed. Because there is a lot of confusion as some containers are labelled as recyclable while the WV district does not accept them
- c. **Drinks** – There seems to be a general consensus to get rid of them, especially the juice boxes. They are not exactly healthy with high sugar levels in them.
- d. **Eating Utensils** – Should not give out forks and spoons at all as its not easy to get them cleaned and also less plastics. It may be a good idea to remove them entirely so the thought doesn't even enter the student's mind. This could be championed by the grade fives.

7. Committee Updates:

- a. Traffic- Candice Montgomery – Thompson closure is around November 18 finishing late December. They anticipate six weeks. The first phase is when the Thompson Crescent is going to be closed.
 - i. The main access point will be through Westmount place. They're going to be opening up the field to have two gates. The field will become the roundabout with one gate in and one gate out.
 - ii. For the next phase, Westmount will shut down. The only access to the school is going to be Thompson place and the roundabout. The major impact is going to be the kindies. We've come up a with plan to have one of the rooms open with a teacher waiting, who will be a walker to take some of the kindies up if the they're not comfortable. And then they can wait in the classroom.
 - iii. The city's really willing to work with us to provide us with a lot of flaggers. Basically the big crosswalk is going to be the main kiss and drop zone. There's going to be a flagger there to make sure the kids can walk down safely and then walk up Thompson place.
 - iv. Other areas that could be utilized include Benbow Park and Spencer Place. Please do not use Rosebery as there is not enough space and dangerous for those on foot. Please also be wary not to block people's driveways. Some have already complained to the city.
- b. Gala- Anita Algie (absent) – Committee of 5 assembled. She's booked the Vancouver Club and she said she's booked a band. Hopefully they'll come up with a theme and give us a better update next month.
- c. Kitchen Committee - got a quote from facilities for \$17,500 to renovate the current kitchen and half of the storage space in the room. The \$17,500 includes \$12,500 for materials and \$5,000 for materials and labor of the

flooring. The district will cover the labor costs. We want this done ASAP and therefore will vote for the budget change in Dec for about \$20,000. Old appliances will remain until we can acquire the wishlist items from the Gala. Andrea Mulkins And her husband, who have a lot of experience will be leading this project. Hopefully it can be done over Christmas or Spring break.

- d. Sand Box – Current long jump pit as a makeshift sandbox has rotting wood. A new sandbox seems to be a much larger expense then expected. \$2,500 just for the sand. Maybe we can wait til spring to decide on this and add it to the wishlist items.

8. New Business:

9. Questions/Comments?

Adjourn

Guest Speaker- Jessica Richardson. Come and meet West Bay's New Vice Principal.