



WEST BAY SCHOOL

Parent Advisory Council

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-9:00am, December 13, 2019, Learning Commons

Tanja Imhoff	Srabana Dasgupta	Bill Auyang
Chen Tan	Danielle Katerberg	Andrea Mulkins
Vanessa Gill	Cora MacDonald	Kim Gould
Roxana Pistol	Joanna Zhang	Yin Yuan
Sara Mohamadkhani	Tina Pu	

1. Welcome and Call to Order:

Adoption of November Minutes - Kim Gould and Andrea Mulkins

Adoption of Agenda - Srabana Dasgupta and Sara Mohamadkhani

2. Chair's Report- Tanja Imhoff

- a. **Roundabout** – The gardener referred by Courtney Paine did an amazing job pulling out the weeds and the old plants and putting mulch on. More will be planted come spring.
- b. **Like (our lives on social media) screening on 19th Nov** - down at the rec center. It was really interesting. The film was about the impact of social media on our lives and kids' lives and uh, basically trying to show people if you have a better understanding of what it is, then maybe you can find better balance in it. It was followed by a panel discussion with some experts in that field and also some youth workers. And it was really interesting because a youth worker said this film is not that old, but it's already outdated. For example, on Instagram you can't like pictures anymore. And so that was one of the topics in this film about how the pursuit of those likes and how that really impacts kids.
- c. **Screenagers** is a similar film that we can potentially show in the near future. Its prequel was shown a few years ago. No other schools seem to be showing the film at this point in West Van.
- d. **West Bay Craft Fair on Dec 6** –A lot of people showed up despite of the traffic issues. There was really such an amazing assortment of vendors and crafts and it was really wonderful to see kids in their creativity. Thanks to any of you who came shopping. The grade sevens made approximately a thousand dollars off of that fundraiser between the table rentals, they got the \$20 per table as well as the bake sale that they had for \$450. Even though it wasn't easy to coordinate everyone, it went very smoothly.

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- e. **Purdy's and Poinsettia Fundraiser-** Thanks to Kim Gould for working through the computer issues. Between the fundraisers; Purdy's and Poinsettias we made about \$1,100.
- f. **Polar Express screening on Dec 12** - It made about \$800 at \$10 per family. About 15 grade sevens who are in charge of organizing, monitoring, and then clean up. They did a really good job during the movie. It was great because it was kid generated and kid involved. Maybe they could do something like this again in the spring or Valentine's day as it seems there is interest.
- g. **DPAC – Jan 8, 9:15** at the Kay Meek underground theatre - it's going to be a meeting held with the school trustees, school administrators as well as principals and Kim and Robin from Cypress Park. West Bay will be presenting as well. This is an opportunity for you to ask questions to the school trustees, to Chris Kennedy or to the principals. The Topic will be technology. If you're interested in going, please talk to Kim. There are only two spaces available. Kim and Robin will be doing a 10min presentation on technology in the primary years. Then there will be a chance to ask questions and have a group discussions.
- h. **Lunar New Year – Jan 23** – Tina will be organizing. More info to follow
- i. **Bingo Jan 29-30** - There'll be more information coming out about that as well. And we're hoping to do lots of advertising in advance so that we actually get a really good turnout because numbers have been going down a bit.
- j. **Vaping Talk - February 5th at 5:00 PM - Dr. Erin Smith** – Sara has kindly arranged for her to talk. She is a specialist in the area with an outstanding resume. There'll be a flyer coming out about this. This part is just for the parents. Then after that, the grade sixes and sevens are going to have Vancouver Coastal Health come and do a talk with them. This is going to be quite special because this is not someone who goes around to schools often.

3. Principals Report- Kim Grimwood

- a. **Afterschool Program-** Looking at expanding our afterschool programs by adding additional activities. If there's any interest from the parents, please let the PAC know.
- b. **WE Day** - 30 grade six and sevens went to WE Day this year. That's the most tickets we've ever offered. Students had to write an application and explain why they felt they deserve to go and what action they were going to take as a result of hopefully being inspired. We had over 70 applicants.. But those tickets are earned by participating in different WE Day activities. For example, WE Scare Hunger is one way that we earn tickets. So we earn tickets from WE Day, you can't actually buy them. So that was really

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inspiring. The kids who did go loved it, those who couldn't go are being offered an inspiration session later next week. They're Skyping in a special speaker that only they get to participate in. So we're also acknowledging that everyone could participate.

- c. **Book Fair** - We had a really successful book fair despite it's start on the first day of traffic changes. It was really great to see the excitement around books..
- d. **Dance Play Organization** – Its new for us this year. It was a PAC sponsored events. So thank you to the PAC. Each class got five sessions with our dance instructor and this is a little different than our usual dance residency. Normally it's Troy, but we've had Bob Shop and he comes in and have the kids learn a routine for performance at the end. But dance play was all about this idea of movement in fun. The kids left every day with an affirmation; "I am awesome" and they scream it out. And so it's really about kind of that idea. We are all moving in different ways that is good for our body. So we had a little celebration assembly where all the kids were able to showcase some sort of dance, but it was less about a polished product and more about fun with movement.
- e. **Basketball season** – our grade seven boys have won the District basketball trophy. They're very proud of themselves. The trophies in the trophy case will be probably a highlight for them this year. They know a couple of years ago when they won it, every kid's yearbook highlight of the year is that trophy when the girls came so close, they had an undefeated season, but they lost the game and didn't quite make it into the finals. But our girls also played phenomenally well. So thank you to our coaches. What I was really impressed with is almost all of our girls have never played a game of basketball before. And so to see their skill level at the beginning of the season and at the end of the season was really phenomenal.
- f. **Physical literacy** - Amber and Aaron The WV District physical literacy experts have been doing some workshops in our gym classes. We've booked them to come talk at our February PAC meeting.
- g. **Shrek the Musical** - 70 students auditioned for 30 roles, Grades 5-7 will be part of the ensemble. We are looking for princess costumes, Peter Pan, or any fairy tale figures. We'll need parent help with set and costumes changes. Rehearsals will start in the new year.
- h. **Report Cards** - Student learning documents go home today digitally by Fresh Grade. Teachers will post those between three and five o'clock,
- i. **First aid training** - Our grade sevens will be getting their first aid certificates next week. Thanks again to the PAC for funding that. So each class will get a full day of first aid training next week.

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- j. **Sing Along** – The Holiday sing along will be on the last day of classes. Our bands will be performing short little pieces. It'll be the first performance for many on their new instruments. Then Mr Darling's dance class will close out the show.
- k. **FSA scores** - if you have children in grade four and grade seven, your FSA booklet that the kids actually wrote in and their scores will be going home. I want some time for the staff to look through them because we do learn a lot from those assessments to inform our practices. I'm very pleased with our scores overall. It is a snapshot, but it gives us good information in terms of where we need to be moving as a school. So those will go home next week and then I'll present the results along with other assessments that we collect as a school in January.

4. Committee Updates: Tanja Imhoff

- a. Kitchen Committee - **Motion carried to amend budget to \$20,000** – We have received a quote of just over \$17,500 for the kitchen renovation and that includes new flooring, new cabinets, new countertops and an expanded space, taking over half of the storage room in the gym. The appliances are not in that quote and will be fundraised at the upcoming gala. We have money put aside for this in Trust with the School Board from a few years ago.
- b. **Hot Lunch** – Next session Drinks will be eliminated based on teacher feedback. Drinks were not being finished and they were being spilt and dumped around the school. We know our kids are great with their water bottles and drinking lots of water. The drinks were a big money maker We'll have to re-evaluate that component of it. A hot lunch survey will be coming out. Please fill out survey out to give some feedback.
- c. **Traffic** A very large number of kids are still walking on Westmount place. It's a safety issue. Some of the construction crew are parking big trucks there and it's quite narrow for the cars to come in and out. Please walk down Thompson. It's wide open with no vehicles. There are still a lot who don't follow the rules. They pull into the driveway to drop-off.

Feedback is that 30 kilometers is still too fast and they would like to have that lowered.

In January, the regular roundabout will re-open. In the next phase the upper lot will be closed off so we won't have extra parking for K's and ones for pickup. Please do not come early and park in the round about. We would like the roundabout saved for our kindies and ones. If you've got older kids please have them wait five or 10 minutes.

5. DPAC Report: Tanja Imhoff

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- a. **BC teachers Federation and BC** – They are at an impasse at the current moment. They were presented with a 2% increase plus several other things, classroom sizes, et cetera. But they're at a standstill. There is still a media blackout and not a lot of information. However, there is no talk of strike actions, so that's very positive.
- b. **Presentation on physical literacy – Sentinel Theatre February 24th**
- c. **Centre for sports** - The district of West Van has just offered more money, another \$2 million and 500,000 of that is dependent on getting matched by the district or by the community. So they are desperately still looking for donations until December 31st. The PAC at West Bay has already donated two or three years ago when this initiative first came out. If anybody's looking to donate, please contact the center for sports. If you wanted to get a tax receipt for your donation through the West Van foundation. They have a specific fund that goes to the place for sports.
- d. **Aboriginal education** - Ian Kennedy coming and he's going to do a presentation on Aboriginal education. The DPAC purchased a canoe. It's a first nations canoe for the school district. The West Vancouver police also have a canoe so hopefully we'll be able to use their canoes together. Because of liability and safety issues, West Vancouver yacht club has offered boats to accompany them.

6. West Vancouver Library – Presentation by Shannon Ozarny

- a. We are actually doing some planning at the library right now for our next strategic plan. The library did a survey onsite and offsite from about 2200 people, which is great for a community of our size. At the youth department we've also talked to parents before and after our programs. So we've talked to about 75 parents that way. We've done interviews in West Van schools with ELL teachers, settlement workers, early years instructors etc. We've also done focus groups or pizza chats with kids and teens. So we're really just trying to gather as much feedback as possible.

We're want to get a sense from people in West Van on what they value, and what's important to them. At the library we can connect those dots sometimes when we ask “what do you want from your library?” But we also want to see if there are bigger themes that are coming up to the community that maybe we can address or work on with other organizations to address.

Feedback from the West Bay PAC about the positives of West Van included nature, a great community, great education, a lot of programs and activities for kids and a safe environment for kids.

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When asked about challenges in West Van, one major feedback is that there aren't enough activities for young adults or even teenagers. Another issue is expensive housing that is pushing out people; especially our service providers, like our firefighters, police, librarians, teachers who we would love to stay in our community are having a hard time and they leave and they will likely provide the services elsewhere.

There was a suggestion about creating hubs where people can congregate and socialize. Libraries are not the best place since people need to remain quiet. More community building events like the summer harmony arts festival would be nice.

Other suggestions include better informing the public about the vast resources that are available at the library such as its databases and ebooks.

A lot of feedback is needed to best balance everyone's needs in the library, especially the kids area on the second floor such as noise levels, computer and room usage.

7. Questions/Comments?

Adjourn

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