



WEST BAY SCHOOL

Parent Advisory Council

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-2:00pm, Sep 18, 2020, Zoom Virtual Meeting

Tanja Imhoff	Roxana Pistol	Bill Auyang
Candice Montgomery	Dani Renouf	Danielle Katerberg
Andrea Mulkins	Candice Montgomery	Christina Argyros
Cora Macdonald	Corinna Wolf-Jeske	Courtenay Woodworth
Amie Padilla	Emily Lapkin	Erin
Fanqin Wan	Fereshteh Mahmoudian	Hongchi Chen
Ian Colotla	Jack	Jennifer
Julie	Kelly Chesko	Laila
Lin Dong	Marianne	Maryam Hajiloo
Maryam Sherkat	Mehrnoush	Mohamed Hussein
Mojdeh	Nasim	Olga Mihailova
Yin Yan	Renee Bouchier	Sandra Tanaka
Sara Relling	Sarah	Selina Lee
Shabi	Sophia	Srabana Dasgupta
Sylvia Butterworth	Tina	Vivienne
Vanessa		

1. Welcome and Call to Order

- a. We would like to welcome everyone to the PAC for this year. The AGM has been postponed, from which the PAC executive team will be officially voted in. So if anyone is interested in joining the executive team, including challenging the current PAC chair, please let us know. Despite the challenges, our goal remains the same. That is to provide a safe and exceptional learning environment by providing technology, supplementary learning programs, classroom supplies and our almost completed kitchen!
- b. All parents automatically become members of the PAC and you are welcome to attend our meetings and volunteering to help, such as our fund raising efforts.
- c. We would also like to introduce our team:
 - i. Vice Chair – Anita Algie (not present)
 - ii. Treasurer – Christina Argyros
 - iii. Co-Secretaries – Dani Renouf and Bill Auyang
 - iv. DPAC Rep – Vanessa Gill
 - v. Other members at large - Danielle Katerberg (past chair), Kim Gould, Roxanna Pistol, Sara Relling, Tina Pu, Sara Mohamadkhani

2. Chair's Report- Tanja Imhoff

- a. **Meeting time Survey Results (Friday 9:15am)** – Thanks for responding to the survey. We received 66 responses! We were lucky to get 10 in the

past. The meeting time will be Friday mornings at 9:15am. The schedules will be posted on the school website and included in the minutes which will come out on both PAC and school bulletins. There were some great suggestions regarding topics such as nutrition, anxiety, peer pressure, bullying, special needs, technology, executive function, tweens and fostering independence. We already have someone lined up for parent ed on anxiety. Dani will be giving us a nutrition talk in the October PAC.

- b. Events** – Due to the many restrictions, in person events have mostly been cancelled and we will have to revise them to virtual ones such as virtual bingo, which is in the cards for October or November.
- c. West Bay Rocks T-shirts** – The shirts are on sale for 12\$. The link has been sent out on the PAC bulletin and will soon be on Sue's bulletin as well. Sizes are limited, but more are on order.
- d. Kitchen** – Almost ready for a grand re-launch. Only the backsplash is waiting to be installed. Should be ready before the hot lunch program restarts.
- e. Lost and Found** – There is a large amount belongings left from the end of the year. All the items will be pushed outside the covered area between the library and preschool next week. Please take the time to take a look. At some point, these items will be donated.
- f. PAC Communication** – The PAC will have email bulletin that is separate from the one from the school, which is sent out by Sue. New parents are not on the list yet, they will be added from the release form information. If you are not on the list, please contact us.
- g. Volunteering** – There wont be a huge signup list. Volunteers will be requested as the need comes up. When hot lunch resumes, there will be a need for some volunteers. We will also need a lot of volunteers for the upcoming Terry Fox run.

3. Principals Report- Kim Grimwood

- a. Welcome and Introductions** – Thank you for attending. This year we have 402 students with 70 new families including 40 new Kindergarten families. Mr. Darling and Ms. Lee will be returning for divisions 1 and 2 in grade 7. Grade 6 has Ms. Flett and Mimi Ross. Ms Kelpin and Mr. Zaleski in grade 5. We have one of our newer teachers, Ms. Orr in grade 4 along with our Vice Pricipal, Ms. Richardson. Ms. Sun and Ms. Stanfield in grade 3. In grade 2 we have Ms. Campa and one of our new teachers Ms. Scott who will be partnering with Ms. Smyl, who is returing to us again for her second year. Ms. Millhouse and Ms. Ng in grade one. In Kindergarten, Ms. McGrath is on maternity leave and taken over by Ms. Huggett alongside Mrs. Griffin. Ms. Espenhain will continue as IB coordinator. There are three ELL teachers: Ms. Babul, Ms. Pelz and Ms. Ilan. Ms. Smith and Ms. Walker will continue their roles as learning support. Two music teachers Ms. Gibli and Ms. Oancea. Ms. Curling as school counsellor. Tas Ms. Victor, Ms. Toppling and Ms. O'Hanley. Ms. Hunt will be in the library three days a

week. We are still staffing for our French teacher.

Some changes this year include substitute teachers will be assigned to only one school. French and Music will not happen in separate classrooms to minimize student movement.

Principal Grimwood would like to introduce herself for those who are new:

She is a mother of two children (grades 5 and 7) who are both hockey players. Wife to a scientist for childhood epilepsy drug treatments. He is also currently helping with the Covid-19 clinical trials. She has a masters in special education from UBC and also an undergraduate degree in education. She has taught every grade from K to 12.

She will constantly ask herself what is the best for the kids when making decision even though they may not be the most popular or easiest.

- b. Google Classroom** – Currently being setup and may not be ready for curriculum night.
- c. Photos** – Because of the new safety protocols, things took longer than expected and not all photos were taken. Grades K to two will have a new date for their photos: Oct 7
- d. Terry Fox Oct 1 and 2** – Its been split into two days to keep safety protocols.

4. Treasurer's Report – Christina Argyros

- a.** As of Aug 26, our general account has \$194,900.92. The gaming account only has \$51.69.
- b.** The gaming grant application is in process and the deadline and has been extended until Oct 31.
- c.** There has been quite a few changes because of Covid, especially on the fundraising side. Many items have been put on hold. The Gala and Hot lunch revenues are not going to come in.
 - i.** Field trips have been greatly reduced from a typical budget of \$24,000 to \$8,000. Due to safety, field trips had been reduced substantially.
 - ii.** Cultural events such as Lunar new year have also been toned down
 - iii.** The Rockridge and West Van High scholarship fund will continue
 - iv.** There will be a Covid-19 contingency fund for supplies and safety that we may need on short notice.
 - v.** Projectors are nearing the end of their lifespan and we will be expecting to replace them in the next 2-5 years. We have 16 that will cost about \$2,500 each.
 - vi.** Because of higher emphasis on Google classroom, we are looking at better cameras and microphones for recording sessions.

vii. The biggest change is a budget for outdoor learning and using the natural outdoor space as a classroom. We are looking to get a committee together for this.

viii. The sandbox will be on hold as it is quite a high ticket item.

5. Hot Lunch –

a. Two brave souls of joined the team. Selina Li will take on the systems while Ed Sun will work with the vendors. We are still looking for a coordinator and hot lunch volunteers. We will also need someone to shadow Selina, who will be leaving after this year.

b. We are still not sure when it will begin. We are currently in contact with Chris Kennedy to work out a date.

c. Those with Hot Lunch credits from last year will be applied as soon as the program restarts.

6. Traffic – Candice Montgomery – Please familiarize with the brochure Sue sent out in the bulletin:

a. **Upper Lot** – reserved for K and Gr. 1 families only. The street leading into it is also a 30km zone. Please keep that in mind as there are a lot of kids walking through the narrow street. Really make sure that you are not blocking the driveway of any houses there as many have kids to pickup around the same time in other schools.

b. **Thompson Place** – Please stick to the rules and stay in the car. Any stopping and parking will just hold up the line. The first few days were a little rough as many were parked to the right side. Please have the kids wait at the North side of the roundabout as there is a bigger sidewalk. Please do not park in the crosswalks as it is very dangerous even for an adult.

c. **Rosebery** – please don't use this narrow street as the pickup point. Any parked cars will make turning around extremely difficult, not to mention very dangerous for kids walking in the area.

d. **Stop Signs** – please do not do rolling stops as there are a lot of kids in the crosswalks.

7. Committee Updates –

a. **Fundraising** – We would like to get a committee together. There had also been some very generous sponsors from the gala last year and some items can be put on a silent auction or a virtual gala.

b. **Class Reps** – For those who are new to the role, class reps are the liaison between the classroom, teacher and school. The teacher will communicate with you to pass messages to parents. Typically, class gifts to teachers are arranged by you, but this year, it will be done virtually. Please contact Kim Gould (email on PAC bulletin) if you want to be a class rep.

c. **Terry Fox** – We are trying to make this a big event. The fundraising goal is about \$4,000. A lot of volunteers are requested for the event and a signup sheet will be up shortly.

d. **After School Programs** – Everything changed this spring break. Now things are on hold. We are looking to start an outdoor space committee and

Roxanna has agreed to be on that committee. If anyone else would like to join, please contact us. Some fundraising may be needed for that.

8. Guest Speaker- Q and A with Principal Kim Grimwood and Sean Nosek. Assistant Superintendent West Vancouver.

- a. We have considered all options and feel that it is important for children socially and emotionally to be back in a school environment. So we have established many safety protocols. All teachers were trained and prepared for three full days prior to the start of the school year.
- b. 94% of students are returning for full time instruction in West Van, which is the highest in Metro Vancouver. Very happy to see such a big vote of confidence to us. Hopefully, those remaining families, seeing the success of the current plan will decide to transition back to the regular program.
- c. **Q & A**
 - i. **When kids get sick, how long should they stay at home and is testing mandatory?** So right now we're talking about seven key symptoms that we're looking for in children: those are fever, chills, cough, or worsening, chronic cough, shortness of breath, loss, or of sense of smell or taste diarrhea, nausea, nausea, and vomiting. If you have any of those symptoms in the past, you would have kept your child home from school. We're asking you to do that as well. If you have one symptom, keep your child at home until the symptoms dissipate for 24 hours, if you have two symptoms, we are asking you to seek help a health assessment.
 - ii. **What about providing parents with a daily health check form to make it easier to assess their child?** We do have a template, a form somewhere in the website. With these specific symptoms, the daily health check protocols were revised in the last a week or two. We're putting some finishing touches on the most recent version.
 - iii. **Will the school inform parents if there's a case outside the cohort?** If there is a case that is linked to the school, we do not do the informing. It becomes a case for the provincial health officer. An important point to note here is that only a public health officer can determine who is in close contact. Every positive is investigated deeply. If the case has close contacts, then those close contacts will be directly informed. Its also important to note that someone's private medical background needs to be protected as well.
 - iv. **Do you think it's safe for parents to gather in front of the school at pickup time, excluding kindergarten and grade one parents maybe at least recommend face covering?** In June, the parents were not allowed on the school grounds. We're trying to strike a balance here. Because we are outdoors, the risk of transmission is lower. We are allowing more space on the school ground for our families. We want people to feel welcome here, but at the same time, make sure we're safe. So as much as I'd love to close down our

school grounds completely, I do understand that there's a level of comfort that that families need to have in sending their children off to school. We have big playgrounds, big spaces. We hope next week, our turnaround gets used more often and families are more comfortable dropping and heading off.

We also had playgrounds that were locked down and closed outside of school hours in the spring. That is no longer the case. We know that being outside and being active is really important for our students.

- v. **How about involving kids with sanitizing? Is too much time being spent on hand washing?** We do understand that safety measures will mean lower efficiency, such as photo day needing another day. But that is the trade off that is required to keep the school running. We are trying to find the best balance. We would love to involve kids with wiping down tables etc, but it does require a trained custodian to do that properly.
- vi. **Are playgrounds being sanitized?** The medical health officer is very firm that outdoor playgrounds do not need to be sanitized.
- vii. **Should a child be sent to school if there is a case in West Bay again?** The provincial health officer will decide after weighing on the risks. For the most part, the kids are doing really well with the new routines. But we still have to constantly remind them of touch points and social distancing.
- viii. **If a student is in touch with another (including siblings) that had symptoms, should parents keep them home?** The short answer is no. If the child has no symptoms, then its ok. The key is the daily health check. Make sure you check every morning for the symptoms mentioned above.
- ix. **For parents that are nervous about sending their children back to school. Can you elaborate more on the social, emotional impact of not being in school?** Even though kids staying at home have a home routine, its still not like a school routine. It is that feeling of accomplishment each day of finishing something, starting something, being challenged, intellectually, having conversations and, and independence outside of home that really contributes to social and emotional well being.
- x. **In the midst of pandemic, it seems, we might forget the regular kids issues, such as vaping at school. Do we still have enough attention to these old serious issues?** Yes, now that we have settled for a week into our new safety routines, we are going to start to gradually focus more on the typical issues that were discussed before the lockdown.

Questions/Comments?

Adjourn