



WEST BAY SCHOOL

Parent Advisory Council

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-9:15am, Feb 05, 2021, Zoom Virtual Meeting

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|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Principal Kim Grimwood | Danielle Katerberg | Tanja Imhoff |
| Roxana Pistol | Vanessa Gill | Olag Mihailova |
| Martina | Sara Relling | Tina Pu |
| Srabana Dasgupta | Christina Argyros | Sara Mohamadkhani |
| Lucas | Hongchi Chen | Bill Auyang |
| Sylvia Butterworth | Selena Lee | Kathi |
| Emily Lapkin | Candice Montgomery | Aiping Lu |
| Peta Dirassar | Ryan Wang | Sandra Tanaka |
| Lina | Julie | Vivienne |
| Jak Liu | Sophie Ukani | Xiaolin Bo |
| Laila | Dani Renouf | Aden Nang |

1. Welcome and Call to Order:

Minutes of Jan PAC Meeting: Adopted by Sarah Relling and Sylvia Butterworth
Agenda for Feb PAC Meeting: Adopted by Danielle Katerberg and Bill Auyang

2. Chair's Report: Tanja Imhoff

- a. **Walk to School Week** - the beginning of the week didn't look too hopeful. It was fairly rainy and wet, but as the week progressed we definitely had more kids walking. The roundabout got emptier and emptier. A special shout out. To Candace Montgomery as she organized. She was standing in the roundabout, rain or shine, handing out treats with her kids.
- b. **Student Stress and Anxiety during the Pandemic** – Feb 4 event at Rockridge. Excellent presentation
- c. **Parents Education** - Events planned for Feb and March. Stay tuned for the bulletin
- d. **Mindfulness Workshop** with Haley Winter. We've already sold about 46 tickets for that, and I'm sure there's more coming and she's going to be doing a bit of a presentation and then a guided mindfulness meditation.
- e. **Valentine Meal Boxes** - Feb 11 pickup date
- f. **Lunar New Year** - big thanks to Tina Pu. She has been organizing that and details in Sues Bulletin will come out. There will be events during next week, culminating on Thursday with a craft that the both the primary and intermediate kids will do and Tina will talk a little bit about that.
- g. **IB Parent Event** - called building positive relationships. Bullying is a topic of interest, so Kim and Sheila Curling will be offering a workshop on this on February 16th, so please do sign up for that.
- h. **Pink Shirt Day** – Feb 24. Make sure you wear that pink shirt

- i. **Covid** - West Vancouver DPAC did send a letter to The West Vancouver Board of Education, asking them to lobby the government for more safety protocols, including mask wearing and of course yesterday there was the announcement made so I will let Kim answer any questions concerning that.
- j. **Mask Fundraiser** - thank you to Sarah Relling (100+ masks sold). Munch a Lunch Platform used for events/fundraising
- k. **WVSD District budget** - feedback requested from parents, given uncertainty. Link will be sent shortly

3. **Principal's Report: Kim Grimwood**

- a. Halfway point of school year – We had a small celebration. It's a time when reading, routines, growth period noted in the classrooms for deepening the learning
- b. **Grade 4 and Grade 7 assessments** - Letter from Chris Kennedy will be shared with parents once completed
- c. **Pink Shirt Day** - Dance Play has choreographed a group dance (Feb 24) We are sharing that in morning Announcements - highlight staff member - build connections, community, and compassion - ask your child
- d. **Black History Month** – February. Something that has been focused on
- e. **Communicating Learning (Report Card 2)** - home by spring break
- f. **Social Media and keeping kids safe online** - March - Carrie Wilson will speak about
- g. **Valentine's Day and Lunar New Year** - treat free year - cards are sufficient, please send nothing from home
- h. **End of Day** - please take children home as soon as possible - cannot have children stay longer past 3pm for play - please exit school as part of safety plan
- i. **Minister of Education and Health** - School policies - no significant changes for elementary schools, except that all adults need to be masked at all times unless at work stations
 - i. Guidelines changed for music and PE which will be applied in due course
 - ii. Encourage mask wearing when possible
 - iii. Middle school models are different than elementary schools so mask guidelines differ as a result
 - iv. School provides masks to children, which is a good sign because they are ordering masks again

4. **Treasurer's Report: Christina Argyros**

- a. 2 expenses paid - more library books \$345
- b. hot lunch \$1862 for first session; hot lunch refund \$599
- c. December - annual contribution \$185 from District granted
- d. Virtual Field Trip - \$217 (Grade 4) – expense

- e. 5 Chrome Books (Trust Account) - \$1874 – expense
- f. We need more clarification on what our costs for outdoor space project will be

5. DPAC Report: Wednesday Feb 3 meeting summary:

- a. **Inclusion and diversity** committee talk in March on anti-racism
- b. **Masks** - Schools are liable if they go against mask recommendations (grade 6-12 not mandated to wear masks)
- c. **Applications Increased** - per Chris Kennedy - increase in French immersion; secondary school will remain quarter school system. Students like quarter system
- d. Temporary transition program - 250 in program; large group return after spring break
- e. Trends that are here to stay: high school changed forever to digitization and learning outdoors
- f. West Vancouver Memorial Library is about to open seven days a week. It's currently closed Monday and Sunday. As of February 15th this may be open full time. website has been updated - increased resources and programs offered

6. Bylaw Amendment: Communication Policy Review

- a. **Bylaw** - current bylaws do not include social media clause - as a PAC executive, we are working on a policy - sent out by Tanja for feedback (PAC bulletin for this week)
 - i. There are some policies in place that would protect us and remind people what is appropriate and not appropriate when it comes to social media and posting.
 - ii. voted for this in March PAC meeting
 - iii. Communication Policy - messaging system to send out quick messages for reminders; Tanja has contacted school district to find out what application would be best for privacy. Still waiting to hear back

7. Hot Lunch:

- a. **Second term** started and we included pizza from popular demand
- b. We have also added one more day. Still insufficient staff capacity for three days.
- c. \$5000 raised so far. Thanks to everyone who have ordered

8. Traffic: Candice Montgomery

- a. **Walk to School Week** -week went well (Wednesday was so busy - sunny day). assortment of peanut free treats, stickers, pencils and tattoos
- b. Traffic update - fewer U-turns noted

- c. Thompson Place** please be careful when you are passing on Thompson as people are passing in opposing lane, which can cause safety risks. Just make sure to wait along the side if you're waiting to go into Thompson Place or if you see anybody you can always, you can safely snap a photo of their license. You can send it to Candace and she will pass them to the appropriate channels
- d. Upper Lot** - fewer reports or people parking in the middle and obstructing other cars
- e. Walk to School** - choose one day a week to walk to school or bike to school "Walk to School Wednesdays" - suggested by Kim

9. Committee Updates:

- a. **Outdoor Space** - Tanja showed a demo design for outdoor space with help of two parent partners, Julie Fu, her husband Adam; portable seating; planter boxes placed into the sun (glass planters to see the roots and plants growing); storage space for games equipment; proposed area for drawing and creating with a covered area in case of rain; design includes a community table where children could have lunch and draw (covered with an umbrella).
 - i. Samples will come from China and Kim has met with Julie, Adam and team. Architect and structural engineer consults are in progress to ensure regulation and rules (materials, slope, wheelchair accessible, playground regulations for children).
 - ii. Not certified materials - so next step to determine what proper pieces are required. This will build our budget.
 - iii. Get a cost, and put out to tender thereafter to start building as soon as possible.



- b. **Grad Committee** - Sylvia Butterworth and Sara Relling- working toward car washes, year book, fundraising (yearbook, activity, \$1000 contribution to school)
- c. **Bottle drive** - school can participate (in front of Whole Foods and milestones there is a bottle Depot where you can drop your returnables and if you have the code) - Money will get donated to Grade 7 fundraiser
- d. **Fundraising**
 - i. **Valentine Meal Boxes** - send out in PAC and School Bulletin - partner with Presto Catering (hot lunch vendor) - very large boxes, despite higher cost; vegetarian choice, two sizes; order by February 7, pick up February 11; each meal kit comes with decorating kit - great value and fundraiser for school; order through Munch A Lunch
 - ii. **Two Rivers Meats** also a fundraiser option for Grade 7 (discussed in September but now set up for March)
- e. **Lunar New Year** – Tina Pu - and it's always fun for kids and this year because of COVID-19 so we cannot hold a big event in the gym. So we thought about all the possibilities. It will be held online. Clay sculptures will be made as well as coloring. The materials will be delivered to school along with a video guide. The teacher then can guide the class. A small gift will also be available for everyone. Unfortunately, no food can be distributed this year, which will be a disappointment for the kids. If there is enough interest, a video about making dumplings can be created and sent out.

10. **Covid**

- a. **Communication** – There has been a lot of frustration among parents regarding the timeliness of information. Rumor mill takes over and quickly goes out of control. Its hard to strike a balance. VCH is responsible for contact tracing and they will determine if anyone needs to be contacted. Due to privacy laws, we are not allowed to provide any individual information
- b. **No School Exposure** – VCH has confirmed that there was no school exposure during the symptomatic periods.

11. **10:15- Guest Speaker-** Rockridge Vice Principal Garth Thomson- Transitioning to Highschool Parent Q and A.

- a. **Virtual Meeting in Jan** – for the parents who will have kids transition
- b. **West Bay Grade 7** – Spoke with the grade sevens for about 40min each class
- c. **Grade 8 is opportunity to connect and explore and develop socially** – The new kids are encouraged to engage in activities that are offered. Whether that these clubs or sports teams are there, they are social opportunities that we have thorough mentorship program. It's the first step towards independence. This is also where teenage transition happens and

the social component is also developed through involvement in these activities

- d. **Physical and emotional development** - probably the most challenging here for kids. In many in most cases don't have full understanding of who they are or who they want to be.
- e. **Grade 9 - Discover their own interests** - What we want is to help them and we're doing our course planning now for our kids and start thinking about those things that they're interested in doing and to choose some of the electives. To start making some choices for themselves, along with help from parents, and that can be a great way to connect with kids that they may not even know have similar interests.
- f. **Grade 10** – Graduation program begins. Personal project happens around April of the year, which allows kids to become more entrepreneurial. They get a little more freedom as they get more time to plan and learn on their own. Time management is a huge area that is developed here.
- g. **Grade 11** – They leave the IB program, as we don't have that on a yearly basis.
 - i. **Advanced Placement** program is offered, the same as the American counterpart. Kids get to deep focus on a topic and build their social life around it and enjoy lots of success. A score of 4 or greater in an AP exam (worldwide standardized test) counts as an University credit. There are 14 AP courses to choose from and some students take up to 5.
 - ii. **STEM Program** also offered. Chemistry, physics, mathematics and engineering taught by two teachers. There is also hands on experience with building something which is unique to Rockridge.
- h. **Grade 12** – Leadership opportunities are offered. Before Covid, there were opportunities to connect with their previous elementary school. Now they are focused on assisting mentors. Also post-secondary exploration of universities start at grade 11. We have someone in the careers office to guide students in terms of courses to take and choosing the right university for that path.
- i. **Q & A** –
 - i. **Academics** – a new system is in place to ensure social distancing. The same timetable as the district. Best place to look is the district website for enrollment.
 - ii. **STEM** – There is no qualification requirement, just intent. Students in Grade 10 can sign up. Group size average around 30 per year
 - iii. **Orientation** – Normally there is a trip and we hope that can be the case around June.
 - iv. **AP Computer Science** – similar to the others with an AP exam. There is also a lab session like chemistry
 - v. **Parent Teacher Communication** – different from elementary. It becomes more formal and less personalized since the student now

- can have up to 8 teachers. There is a balance between allowing teenagers to be independent while not leaving parents in the dark.
- vi.** Mentorship program – Student led, teacher sponsored program. Its an additional course. They speak with the teacher two to three times a week
 - vii.** French vs Spanish – About 60% French / 40% Spanish split
 - viii.** Students with special, learning or gifted needs – Classroom support is given with additional teachers
 - ix.** Intermingling – groups of about 80 during times like lunch. Sports groups such as soccer go to 160.
 - x.** Lunch – cafeteria is not open this year, but may soon and also don't allow them to go over to the mall and overwhelm the village.