



# WEST BAY SCHOOL

## Parent Advisory Council

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-9:15am, Jan 08, 2021, Zoom Virtual Meeting

Principal Kim Grimwood	Danielle Katerberg	Tanja Imhoff
Dani Renouf	Bill Auyang	Sarah Relling
Kim Gould	Srabana Dasgupta	Julie Foo
Heather Fraser	Sophie Ukani	Vanessa Gill
Roxana Pistol	Candice Montgomery	Sandra
Selena Lee	Peta Dirassar	Corinna Wolf-Jeske
Michael Nordquist	Emily Lapkin	Vivienne

Minutes of Dec PAC Meeting: Adopted by Sarah Relling and Sophie Ukani

Agenda for Jan PAC Meeting: Adopted by Danielle Katerberg and Bill Auyang

### 1. Chair's Report

- a. **December Fundraising** – Thanks to Sara Relling and Kim Gould - a new set of volunteers is required for next year as both families are graduating - one successor found
- b. **Mask fundraiser** will launch shortly - Munch A Lunch platform for sales
- c. **Hot Lunch Treasurer** - Berry Lin - thank you for stepping in
- d. **West Bay Staff** - thank you for delivering Hot Lunch - Wednesdays only
- e. **New sandbox** – Thanks to Julie and Adam Foo for building over the holidays; the Foo Family is also working with the Outdoor Space Committee to beautify the outdoor spaces; Committee meets today
- f. **Outdoor space project \$10,000 donation** – Thanks to the Johansen Family for your generosity
- g. Feb Meeting Speaker - Garth Thomson (Grade 7 transition)

### 2. Upcoming Events

- a. **Walk to School Week** – rain in the forecast and Candace Montgomery will update
- b. **Lunar New Year and Norouz** – will be a little different this year with the new safety protocols. We have committees working on it. More updates soon.
- c. **Valentine's Day Box** – Anita Algie – will be a fundraising event. The box will include some kind of a charcuterie, cookie decorating, bubbly champagne or wine. More updates soon
- d. **Virtual Talent Show / Silent Auction** – Still have items donated for the last year's gala. We are looking at a spring date. Stay tuned.

### 3. Principal's Report – Kim Grimwood

- a. Thank you for all the generous and kind gestures for the holiday season for all the staff and school - everyone felt very supported
- b. **Reminders**
  - i. **Water bottles** please remind kids to bring them– fountains are closed and only filling stations and cups are used up like crazy
  - ii. **Intention forms** – There are a lot on the waiting list waiting for a spot
- c. **Provincial Health Order Extended to Feb 6** - please do not have play dates after school; frequent hand washing, regular mask use
- d. **School Goal** – There is a ministry requirement of a Framework to Enhance Student Learning which are in 3-year cycles; Critical Thinking was the framework for the past 3 years and prior to that was Communication (Written/Oral). Even though we are moving on to a new goal, we are still focused on these past goals as they have been embedded into the curriculum.
  - i. **Social Awareness and Response** – This will be our next framework, which includes 4 components: 1) Building relationships, 2) Contributing to community, 3) Resolving Problems and 4) Value diversity
  - ii. We started this with a Book Study - “Kids These Days” - please look at this reading resource (Canadian Psychologist)
  - iii. **Restorative Justice** - Teachers are engaging in workshops. Empathy is the root of all this to build student empathy - perspective taking, open-mindedness, 5 main emotions, and 32 nuanced emotions and learning the difference between them: for example: jealousy vs anger.
  - iv. **Mindfulness** - tuning into self, and also recognizing scope of the emotion - not to impede life at home and school - emotional intelligence
  - v. **Social/emotional learning** does not have a formal curriculum , so we are developing something that works for the school
  - vi. **Three part apology**: Acknowledgement/recognition/what will you do to make it better
  - vii. Please complete the survey in the ebulletin sent out in email yesterday:
  - viii. <https://forms.gle/uEribqHVbUiRezcg9>
  - ix. **Prevent Bullying** - Support each other to prevent bullying between children - school works on preventing bullying in the first place, and then, how can children help each other to not be bullied.
  - x. **Bulletin structure** - PDF vs email – we need to use a School Messenger platform – because sending out a large number of emails trigger spam blocks - School Messenger can prevent this in its format and this system is more efficient to prevent blocking of emails. Surveys could also be sent to teachers and then the link is sent out to parents.

- xi. PAC is looking at a messaging system as well to help send reminders/links.

#### 4. DPAC Report – Vanessa Gill

- a. 6 West Van Principals Presented: (its recorded. Please check DPAC Website for details) - inclusive learning, cultural celebration, sport is powerful, model UN, diverse books are the norm, rather than the focus of the book
  - i. **First Nations Indigenous Learning Plan** - Learning through stories using authentic resource is in school, reading, literature and materials and it's a K12 program. Squamish language classes were also discussed. A first people's course is now opened in one school.
  - ii. **Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)** - What was discussed was that it's important students know they belong to the school community and that it is, most importantly a safe space for them. Discussion about gender identity inappropriate terms.
  - iii. Different schools discussing says Pride Month. There's universal washrooms at high school so.
  - iv. **Anti-Racism** – a distinction is made between non racism vs anti-racism, which is an active role rather than passive like the former. They also discussed more inclusive books in the school libraries to represent the diversity that we see in our schools celebrating cultures in the schools through music, art, and stories.
  - v. **Open-mindedness** is important and recognizing our bias and our privilege (we cannot walk in someone else's shoes) and being open to new ideas and new ways of doing things. You may sometimes let your children take the lead in recognizing some of our own biases. They may be able to help you understand misconceptions that you may have had.

- b. Tanja to send out DPAC video link as part of PAC Bulletin

#### 5. **Bullying Discussion** – Informal PAC roundtable brought up from the school goal of bullying prevention – A lot of good points were brought up

- a. Its happening at younger grade levels. Its prevalent in most schools in some form. Some simple tools and training geared towards each age group should benefit.
- b. Kids need to develop resilience by helping them understand their own emotions so they can solve problems on their own
- c. Bullying happens when one person has power over another
- d. Its not isolated to schools. It happens throughout a person's life. Learning how to deal with it is a very important life skill
- e. Bullying vs being mean. Sometimes meanness can be so insidious and persistent over a period of time that kids cannot really articulate it or they don't want to come across as petty if they talk to someone about it.

- f. On the flipside some people can get too hypersensitive about everything that they would even consider a disagreement a form of harassment or bullying
- g. Focusing on kindness may be the best way to combat this
- h. Principle Grimwood also addressed how she handles such situations within West Bay:
  - i. -Its very individual and dealt with on a case by case basis because the circumstance differs for example such as language barriers or grandpa was in the hospital
  - ii. -Parents and family members are usually involved in the resolution and most of the time they are very willing to work together
  - iii. -Situations are rarely a black and white aggressor / victim position
  - iv. -From a restorative Justice Perspective: Understanding the impact of your actions; no child wishes to be the bad kid or the mean kid. All children wish to have support and and a nurturing environment; social skills are taught, and some children read social cues and perspective better than others. Environmental factors also layer in - all these need to be considered before giving a punishment. Restorative justice factors in all pieces, explains repercussion of action and considers the family.
  - v. -There is no zero tolerance policy. We don't believe such an approach is educational nor does it benefit anyone. Situations are rarely black and white
  - vi. - Both cognitive and behavioural modification "it was just a joke" concept is worked on as part of curriculum - allows children to gain control and accountability to deal with something by changing my thinking and my doing
  - vii. -What about kids that are manipulative and knows how to hide their tracks when they bully? They are challenging situations, but we always try to work with both sides as always and not single out one side to be the bad side.
  - viii. -"Just Joking" - Book Reference recommended by Kim (it is already in the classrooms with notes to parents and educators)
  - i. This is perhaps something that we can have as part of parent ed and not confined to certain days such as Pink Shirt Day and we need to branch it out in February - PAC Event and special event with speaker
  - j. Sometimes teachers are bullied too. It is important to develop empathy on both sides - it is so important to build trust with student/teacher and student/adult for problem-solving support

## **6. Treasurer's report**

- a. \$189,352, literacy program and decoration expenditures
- b. \$5518 Gaming account
- c. Expenses to be decided with gaming account (Christina, Tanja, Kim to discuss

d. Kitchen almost finished, but needs some extra funds for finalizing

## **7. Hot Lunch**

a. We plan to stick with current vendors and adding one more pizza day.

b. Please contact Selena if you have questions.

## **8. Traffic**

a. Walk to School Week

i. Please park a couple of blocks away and walk

ii. Since the weather is forecasted to be poor we will set up a tent and hand out goodies

iii. Location moved around of the tent (logistics pending)

iv. Drive to 5 - walk couple of blocks

**Adjourn**