



**WEST BAY
ELEMENTARY**
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-9:15am, October 14, 2022, Zoom Virtual Meeting

Tanja Imhoff	Candice Montgomery	Bill Auyang
Kelly Chesko	Jatinder Sidhu	Heidi Chen
Srabana Dasgupta	Bill Sun	Corinna Wolf-Jeske
Dani Renouf	Nikta Ardakani	Ausi
Carol	Jane	Denise
Elsa Pasto Carmona	Paris	Payam
Yan Feng	Yang	

Welcome and Call to Order:

Minutes of September: Adopted by Tanja Imhoff and Candice Montgomery

Agenda for October PAC Meeting: Candice Montgomery and Corinna Wolf-Jeske

1. Chair's Report: Tanja Imhoff

- a. **BBQ** – very successful. Food was sold out. 75 pizzas, 200 burgers and 70 hot dogs sold. Still waiting for the exact numbers from Vera. Thanks to Dani for arranging. Thanks to all the grade 7s and parent volunteers.
Curriculum Night - successful despite traffic issues; Thanks to all the parents willing to brave the trip. Parents received a lot of useful information and got a chance to sample the Hot Lunch from vendors. If you missed this please, connect with your teachers (in-person visits permissible, however, please make an appointment).
- b. **Terry Fox - Oct 6** – The event was moved up to last Thursday and thanks to those who volunteered. Fund collection will follow for the week
- c. **International Teacher's Day – Oct 5** - Thanks to Bill Sun for picking up the treats from Modern Pantry and Candace for bringing back the thermos. The staff was thrilled.
- d. **Apple Fundraiser** - first session raised over \$700, second ordering session upcoming on October 17, Zoom caramel apple making by Tanja. Scheduled pickup Oct 25. We will let you know where to pick them up.
- e. **Election** - please vote in advance or Oct 15, especially vote on the school trustees. They will be directly involved in your children's education. They will determine how funds are allocated in our school district.
- f. **Diwali - Oct 24** – Srabana will be organizing. volunteers requested. It does not need to be on the day.
- g. **Craft Fair** – Dec 9. opportunity to showcase children's talents and crafts. More details to come.
- h. **May 6** for major fundraiser – we are looking at some potential venues. please reach out to PAC if you wish to volunteer

- i. **Class Reps** have reached out to increase engagement with families. Many have already arranged class coffees and especially reached out to new families to make them feel welcome. It was a few difficult years for a lot of these families as they felt isolated.
- j. **Spirit wear** will take 4-6 weeks (Oct/Nov) to ship after the closing date of September 21. They will be delivered to school and handed directly to their classrooms.
- k. **Communications**
 - i. **PAC Bulletin** – A lot of people have an issue with the extra click (hard to believe, but it's a huge barrier) and would really prefer the bulletin embedded into the email. You can also use the West Bay Website for quicker access
 - ii. **WhatsApp** - feedback has been very positive and appreciative of the brief and quick reminders. Thanks to Kelly and her wonderful messages with good humor.
- l. **Outdoor space** beautification - less than the budgeted \$29,000 at \$28,967; retaining wall paid for by school district

2. Principal's Report: Michelle Labounty

Thanks again to the PAC for staff appreciation day. Its been a busy month in September: Terry Fox, Orange Shirt Day. Curriculum Night was a challenging evening for transportation but a good turn out nonetheless.

- a. **Learning Conferences** - Nov -upcoming
- b. **Band is up and running** - improvements noted, and it looks very professional
- c. **Cross Country** - wrapped; no cancellations due to near perfect weather this fall; very successful; thank you to coaches during practice and meets (Grade 3 - 7); appreciate it was a long day with practice and race on the same day (due to Mondays being off for much of September)
- d. **School Clubs** – Chess club starts at end of the month; other clubs bubbling up as kids take action - music club (replicate video game music live) thank you Ms Gibli;
- e. **Construction** - stairs and retaining wall required repairs - stairs removed after failure
- f. **Outdoor school** – 110 children will be going next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; adult support and highly regarded camp by school district and staff; fabulous opportunity for kids and parents who are volunteering
- g. **Halloween** - planning still in progress; appreciate that information will go out a bit later than usual
- h. **Remembrance Day** - Grade 7's are taking this on; assembly in 2 parts for fire regulations
- i. **Head Lice** - no previous issues with 3 years; currently there are some cases as the world opens up - a number of schools are reporting cases -

please be mindful for Grade 6 and 7 and thorough check before and after school; it is not a disease and we do not exclude children from coming to school - please check with school if you have questions; public health nurses do not check for head lice at schools as they are focusing their efforts on vaccination endeavours; it is up to families to check

- j. **Traffic Survey** - next week; a district wide traffic review is coming up
- k. **FSA - Grade 4-7 foundations skills assessments** - Ministry assessments - parents get results of all assessments. Unfortunate that it is used to rank schools and children, and its intent is only to be a snap shot and not best use of information in this way - rather that it helps guide the teaching.

3. Treasurer's Report: Kelly Chesko

Updating the books; spending has started (\$9,000) - budget from last year; revenue so far - gaming grant (\$7,980) - outdoor space used gaming grant; \$175,000 in general account (estimate as hot lunch orders are not paid to vendors until invoices received, so we may be at \$135,000); some money district holds for benches and repairs. We need at least a 1 year budget for contingency which we do have. Together with the large fundraisers we do each year, it should not be a problem.

- a. **Hot lunch** revenue about \$50,000 - it is a great fundraiser for the school
- b. **Budget amendment proposal** - Principal's Suggestion
 - i. **Demonstration Hive** - to have a bee hive supported by PAC: \$4000 plus \$1000 per year upkeep - proposal coming and parental survey to sent out for determining if costs should be covered by PAC and if this is approved by families; allergy to bees does not seem to be an issue with the beehive. Highly visible to students and taken up by one classroom - hallway upstairs is where the beehive will be placed.
 - ii. **Stream of Dreams** - wooden salmon painted by hand by each student to increase awareness of local streams; will take 2-3 days to complete project including education - not the same thing as a mural as all 400 children are involved - strong connection to planet and inquiry-based learning - \$15 per student = \$6000 - brought forward by staff
 - iii. PAC will receive further information and vote for this budget amendment for these two projects.

4. DPAC Report: Nikta Ardakani

- a. **DPAC meetings** takes place on the first Wednesday each month. Any parent can attend. It's a hybrid format and you can conveniently join in zoom or go to the Inglewood Learning Centre. Please check West Vancouver School District DPAC website for meeting times and further information

- b. COVID fund** – A one time fund has been allocated to the school district. There are two objectives for the fund. One is for food security and regular school cost such as the IB fee since some families are struggling.
- c. Traffic safety** – We want as few cars as possible driving up to the school doors. Alternate methods such as biking and riding the bus is strongly encouraged.
- d. Collective agreement** – with school staff has been reached. They will no longer strike.
- e. Misinformation** – Carolyn Brody, chair of the school board has brought to our attention that certain groups, in particular, parentsvoice.ca have spread misinformation regarding book banning and sexual orientation, gender identity education. Neither of these issues are under the control of the district at all. Books are determined at the provincial level and sexual orientation, gender identity education are federally protected.

5. Hot Lunch:

Another reminder that Hot Lunch is now an ongoing sign up and registration. Just allow two weeks for any changes to take place. There was a parent suggestion of Tue/Wed/Thur, given Monday and Friday are days for stats and pro-D days. That can be done except there are staffing and volunteer issues that need to be worked out first. Need to raise more funds for hot lunch - possible review for next year

6. Committee Updates

- a. Volunteers** – We are getting more and more as in person events are returning.
- b. Fundraising** – some are already developing ideas
- c. Grade 7 Fundraising** also happening
- d. After school Programs** – Steamoji beginning on Oct 25 for 10 weeks. Kids go to the learning commons. Team based program. Sign up on the bulletin.

7. Guest Speaker: West Bay's English Language Learning Program- with ELL Teacher Farah Babul

- a.** Kids learn basic interpersonal communicative skills through every day social interaction. Conversational skills are just the tip of the iceberg. Its really about learning Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency, which allows the student to learn more in depth subjects. An area that is below the waterline and not visible in day to day conversations.
- b.** There are 5 levels across a continuum of proficiency: beginning, developing, expanding, consolidating and bridging.
- c.** wear the hat of a new language learner; IB perspective on language learning; total number at West Bay 120 students (last year 107) - spread mostly in primary years; by end of grade 4, the funding ends, and they have academic vocabulary at that point.

- d.** partnership with classroom teachers, rather than separating
- e.** each child has a plan with personal needs; and supports are provided accordingly to support the child's unique learning with collaboration with classroom teacher
- f.** now, student has all the supports to tackle grade level material rather than slow down their curriculum learning along with language - not pulled out of classroom, rather have ELL teacher enters and connects with child within the classroom
- g.** broader language learning - changes in IB programming - language profiles (reflection and diagram in terms of other languages they spoke at home)
- h.** multilingualism is central to ELL - translanguaging and mixing 2 languages is so important to learning - speak more of your home language at home; volunteer to share your home language with WB