



WEST BAY ELEMENTARY

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

West Bay PAC Meeting Minutes-9:15am, Jan 13, 2023, Zoom Virtual Meeting

Tanja Imhoff	Candice Montgomery	Bill Auyang
Dani Renouf	Sara Mohammadkhani	Bill Sun
Michelle LaBounty	Srabana Dasgupta	Heidi Chen
Jatinder Sidhu	Nikta Razavi	Kelly Chesko
Roxana Pistol	Payam Poursaied	Elmira Montezami
Selina Lee	Sandra Tanaka	Asieh Ghourchi
Maryam Sherkat	Denise	

Welcome and Call to Order:

Agenda for January adopted by: Nikta Razavi and Candice Montgomery

Minutes for November adopted by: Nikta Razavi and Srabana Dasgupta

PAC Business

Chair's Report (Tanja Imhoff)

Thank You's

- families who came out to purchase Christmas presents at the Christmas craft fair.
- Srabana for organizing the Diwali table and providing delicious samosas.
- Xmas Hampers - Nicole Ridgedale and two other moms organized with Ms Espenhain. There was feedback that there was too much competition with other fundraisers. We will consider slimming it down next year, possibly supporting fewer families; one per grade rather than one per class.
- Support staff gifts - Sara Mohammadkhani collected more money to support the support staff gifts, and they were delighted and grateful. - thank you!

Open House this week – It was well attended. We hope high school counselors will give presentations to help grade 7 students transition. Michelle will provide more details in the upcoming parent ed.

Spirit Wear store will reopen and host more school spirit and team-building events. A teacher wants more high-quality plain T-shirts in different colors.

Bingo – We are looking for someone to lead, which is a popular activity at West Bay. We are willing to help anyone who is interested in taking on that role.

Table Tennis - organizing a ping pong tournament and is looking for interested participants

Walking Group for Parents - starting a walking group for parents to connect and do a walk around the school

Succession - PAC needs you - many executive roles are available as many members are graduating; please consider getting involved and grow your school community. All positions on the executive are open and encourage parents to get involved

Constitution and bylaws will be reviewed and voted on at upcoming meetings

Principal's Report (Michelle LaBounty)

Musical/band presentations (Dec) - Some grade fives and sevens were treated to presentations in December, including a musical presentation. They tried a different format for the band concert this year by having it in the morning to accommodate working parents, and it was well-attended. They performed three times, once for parents, once for primary, and once for Intermediate to make sure that all kids got to hear all the hard work that the band students have been doing.

Stimoji - 2 classes are very popular. There are a number of clubs running in addition. The school has stopped taking registration for the Stimoji classes as it was full.

Baseketball season has started for Grade 7s

Knitting Club (Ms Ross) "Knit Wits" - open to all students - knit for donation once a week. They are learning to knit items such as hats and scarfs to donate to people in need.

Chess Club - runs every Friday morning, which is a student-led initiative and staff-sponsored.

Parent Ed Events

- **Google Classroom for Parents** (Carrie Wilson) – Feb - led by the district technology innovation teacher for parents of intermediate classes
- **Parenting in the Digital Age** - late Feb/early March (Friday AM) also led by the district technology innovation teacher.

Treasurer's Report (Dani Renouf on behalf of Kelly Chesko)

Support Staff Gifts: \$2,475.00 was spent on the Holiday gifts for support staff leaving \$2010.00 for the remainder of the year and year-end gifts

Hot lunch Fall term: December invoices for Sushi are outstanding so will have an updated profit figure for the Fall term at the next PAC meeting. Should be approx \$1,500 for the 2 weeks.

Fundraising:

- We want to streamline fundraising efforts in the future. We welcome feedback from parents on how they can improve
- Awaiting the cheque from Purdy's Chocolates but looks like \$660.71 in profit. Down from last year by about \$100
- Awaiting cheque for poinsettias, down from last year as well.
- Awaiting cheque for Spirit Wear sales.
- Going forward we need to cut down on monetary asks in the Fall term so we can focus
- on Spirit wear, holiday fundraisers and hampers. Maybe Purdys and Holiday Flowers
- can become a Grade 7 Fundraiser rather than a PAC fundraiser?

DPAC Report (Nikta Razavi)

Blanket Exercise for Indigenous Learning led by the Aboriginal Rights Coalition and facilitated by UBC instructors with some of the DPAC members (40 people attended). The exercise is an interactive way to teach the history of indigenous people in Canada and includes participants bringing a blanket that is meaningful to them. The exercise walks participants through a shared history as indigenous and non-indigenous people in Canada and aims to build understanding. Very profound and powerful to make an emotional connection with history. The speakers say that the facilitators of the event, Bob Baker and Stephanie Mackey, are the top people who could lead the event and they are offering to lead it three more times for the district. It will be offered to five or six parents at each school in West Vancouver. They also discuss the possibility of offering a similar exercise, called the paddle exercise, which is geared towards smaller groups of 15 people.

Open Parachute Parent Ed - April 24

PAC Committee Reports

Hot Lunch (Elmira Montezami)

You have time to adjust your order and more variety has been added on sushi days.

Succession - Elmira will not be able to continue in the position next year and they are looking for someone to take over. May have to shut it down if no one steps up to take the role. Spread the word about the opportunity to take over the hot lunch program and learn from Elmira before she steps down. She will provide help and support to the next coordinator.

Traffic (Jatinder Sidhu)

31st street construction includes improvements to sidewalks, speed bumps, visibility, and overall road surface, as well as the installation of a bike lane, which is 75% completed. It has halted temporarily; phase 2 postponed till spring; walking school bus suspended for now;

Mini grant program is available, providing \$300 for initiatives that encourage active transportation and getting kids out of cars, and is now permanent thanks to secured funding.

Gala (Candice Montgomery)

Venue - Venue and DJ have been booked for the graduation celebration at Glen Eagles' Great Hall

Fundraising

- Ongoing fundraising efforts have been successful, including a bottle drive which has raised almost \$200 and a previous fundraiser which raised almost \$600.
- More fundraising efforts planned in the future, including a possible evening restaurant fundraiser at Blaze Pizza or Chipotle
- Looking for leads on other fundraising ideas such as mini doughnuts or bubble tea
- A sponsor has been secured for the yearbooks, with North Vancouver Orthodontics funding the entire cost
- Thanks given to everyone who has supported the fundraising efforts so far.

purposeful learning spaces - Also looking into raising funds for this within classrooms (\$4000 - \$5000 per classroom which totals between \$65,000 and \$80,000). The traditional model of classrooms with primary colors and industrial features is no longer considered appropriate, and that modern classrooms should be designed to bring the outdoors inside, be in natural tones, and have furniture and lighting that is better for the student's physical and mental well-being. They plan to create vision boards and present them to parents at the end of the process. The school has funds in the bank to cover expenses for the next year, but if more funds are needed, they may use their reserves or look at revamping the budget.

Lunar New Year (Bill Sun)

Details to come - Michelle and Bill will meet today to finalize the details together and will update the PAC thereafter – Planned date is January 26th

Enhance West Vancouver - Jatinder reports that there will be a Lunar New Year event at the West Vancouver Community Centre (Day Long Event) organized by members of the Chinese Community (January 21)

Guest Speakers: Nikta Ardakani, Dani Renouf Human Rights and Iran

Woman Life Freedom - a movement started by a group of Iranian Canadian mothers at West Bay following the torture and murder of a young woman in Tehran. It aims to educate and empower children to be world peacemakers.

Curriculum - Nikki have consolidated a curriculum for teaching about Iranian history and human rights in schools, and they are presenting it to teachers during a professional day. It covers a wide range of topics, from Iranian history and culture, to human rights and current events. The curriculum is designed to be a supplement to the existing curriculum and it is tailored to different age groups, from kindergarten to grade 12. The speaker also mentioned that the curriculum is designed to promote critical thinking, active learning and problem-solving skills in students. They also emphasize that it is important to approach these topics in a sensitive and age-appropriate manner, to avoid causing trauma or distress to students.

Next PAC Meeting: Feb 10th, 2023 9:15 am