



Westcot Elementary School

PAC MEETING

21 MAY 2025 / 9:34 AM

PAC BYLAWS – Cory

DPAC is recommending that all PACs revise and update their bylaws as many schools have not updated them in a while. WPAC exec will be looking into these and will be emailing any suggested changes prior to our AGM in June. If anybody has any opinions or feedback after they receive the email, please attend the June AGM.

CONGRATULATIONS – Cory

Congratulations to Ms. Stina Martinez who will be the new Westcot principal next year. We are sorry to see Cathie retire, but happy that it will be a smooth transition with Ms. Martinez. The new vice-principal will hopefully be able to attend our next meeting for introductions.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Cathie

Thank you

- Spring Fling
- Treats for Sports Day – Kids love the WPAC tradition of Ricolo bars
- Prizes and support for Bike to School Week
- Planning for 2025 – 2026

Enrolment and Staffing

- Westcot is completely full at all grades next year, with waitlists
- Directed by District Leadership Team to mention the possibility of configuration changes if need be, at all of West Van District schools to address registration changes
- If families know they will not be returning for the 2025 – 2026 school year, let us know as soon as possible
- If families are returning, school opens on September 2nd. Students must be physically present by September 4 to hold their spot at Westcot. If they are not present by September 4, they will have to re-register, and since we have waitlists, that means they will definitely lose their spot at Westcot
- Staffing is still not officially confirmed but our Principal and Vice Principal positions are Ms. Martinez and Ms. Morton (currently the VP at Ridgeview), who are thrilled to be the new Admin team at Westcot

Special Events/Sports

- Reading Link Challenge – on May 7, “The Bookworms” team competed at the West Van Memorial Library
- Welcome to Kindergarten – on May 8, 40 new kindergarten students came to meet their new teachers
- Ultimate Jamboree – thank you to our coaches Ms. Pang and Mr. Simpson, who helped the team bring back the trophy
- UBC students – we have 7 student teachers currently learning from our staff, lovely to have them so involved in all aspects of school life
- Track Meet – on June 5 at SFU. Currently having two early morning practices on the gravel field
- Field Meets - on May 28 grade 6/7, on May 29 grade 4/5. Grade 7s will be running the Legacy Gift Freezie Sale during the Grade 6/7 meet on May 28
- Sports Day – on May 15 - “Family Teams Edition” . Legacy Gift Freezie sale following. We are rescheduling the balloon toss and tug of war, as our Grade 6 and 7 bands had to rush off to perform at Kay Meek directly afterwards.
- Cultural Fest – on June 6. Westcot will be on stage at 5:20pm. There will be a rehearsal, then a pizza thank you party
- Cultural Fest Art Show – on June 6. Check out the Westcot display in the West Van Schools Booth
- Bands will be playing at The Spring Fling on May 22 in the courtyard

- Bike to School Week - from June 2 – June 6. Prizes will be available - thank you to the PAC.
- Summer work – some viewboards still need installing and there are some wall repairs and repainting surrounding the viewboards.

2025 – 2026

- Calendar – WPAC Executive - please look at and confirm meeting dates for next year (attached)
- Lunar New Year – Tuesday February 10 (Gym)
- Norooz – Friday March 6 (Gym)
- Spring Fling - May 21?
- It is not a Kay Meek Year – but there will be a K- 3 Christmas Showcase and a Spring Musical Showcase
- 2 Art Starts in Schools Opportunities - staff have made some suggestions for fun, interactive opportunities - Stomp, Capoeira, Dance, Badminton?

FESL Update

- Thank you WPAC for partnering in the success of our FESL
- RAZ Kids home school support – Thank you for supporting reading at home. WPAC will pay the invoice for another year for RAZ Kids
- Join the WV Library Summer Reading Club – Last summer Westcot had the most amount of kids sign up and actually finished the library reading challenge.
- Writing FESL Update– Two of our Westcot staff - Ms. Kang and Ms. Dino presented to all District staff at the afterschool Lighthouse Learning on their Writing Program, moved to our Grade 2 this year as well
- Staff altogether looked at our writing data – noted what are we noticing, and what resources we need
- Intentional focus on writing moving forward for 2024 - 2027

Questions to Cathie's Principal Report:

Q: What does it mean when you say all classes are full?

A: As there are provincial rules to the maximum number of students per class, we are maxed out at capacity in the appropriate grades –

Kindergarten – 20 students maximum

Grades 1 to 4 – 22 students maximum

Grades 4 to 7 – 30 students maximum

FUN LUNCH - Nick

- Nick is reaching out to White Spot and a Mexican restaurant on Pemberton as possible new vendors for next year's Fun Lunch program
- These vendors come highly recommended by Chartwell and Ridgeview parents
- Will probably replace Subway as that is the vendor with the lowest orders

DPAC – Lirica

- All DPAC exec positions are up for nominations this year
- Sheila Donahue is the new school trustee
- Westcot has registered for the gaming grant already
- DPAC is looking for speakers for parent sessions
- Using the traffic grant, Eagle Harbour put their money towards a Pedalheads training session as many of the younger kids didn't know how to ride bikes
- A librarian from West Van Memorial Library came in and informed them about all the resources available at the library – e.g. Squamish language learning, borrowing instruments, etc.

Question re: DPAC Bylaws:

Q: What did DPAC propose re: bylaw updates?

A: Mostly housekeeping items, e.g. approve holding online meetings

FINANCIAL REPORT - Maryam

- Financial figures for the year are looking good except in the area of Fun Lunch. This actual income is much lower than the projected income, about \$26,000 short.
- WPAC is coming up with new fundraising opportunities
- Cathie mentioned that a cheque-writing campaign is an easy one where some companies match donations

Questions for Treasurer:

Q: Are we able to accept e-transfers at the Spring Fling for parents to buy wristbands and food?

A: Probably, but Maryam will look into it. For now, we encourage parents to bring cash in case e-transfers are not available.

Q: Are we able to see the Spring Fling income separately on Munchalunch?

A: Yes.

SPRING FLING - Sarah

- Really lacking in parent volunteers this year. Event cannot run next year if we have the same problem
- Silent Auction to continue in live format until 6pm on Spring Fling event. Many new items recently added
- Cash sales for last minute wristbands, food sales (as supplies last), and jolly jars at the event

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK

1. We need more volunteers to help run activities. Some school event ideas will not be able to run due to lack of parent volunteers - Maybe tap into kindie parents?
2. Q: Why are school events (e.g. Spring Fling) on Thursday? This may be a difficult day for parents to volunteer due to work.

A: Because traditionally many families go out of town starting Friday so there are less families around after school on Fridays.

3. Aburi Market sushi quality (e.g. salmon roll) is not as good as it was before – Nick will discuss with the vendor.
4. Aburi Market carries more traditional Japanese foods (i.e. they do not offer dynamite rolls.) Maybe we need to have a sushi vendor that offers the types of rolls that our children are more familiar with?
5. Some parents do not read the weekly newsletter but do get the information when it is sent directly from the classroom teachers – Cathie will work on having teachers communicate more school messages out.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28am