



PAC Meeting Thursday May 7, 2020

7:15 pm via Zoom

Present:

Alexa Bodel
Shevaun Brown (Secretary, PAC)
Aron Campbell (Principal, GEC)
Tanya Cosgrove
Corrie Davis
Mitchell Davis
Marie Engelbert
Tim Engelbert
Lisa Fairburn (Chair, PAC)
Jing Gao
Katie Hlynsky
Christine Hulme (Vice Principal, GEC)
Wendy Human
Tannis Jakovljevic
Kelly Kerklaan (Treasurer, PAC)
Edward Ko
Danielle Lavallee
Jill McNeill
Heather Nelson
Heather Ramsbottom
Kelly Richter (Vice-Chair, PAC)
Grace Russell
Kirstie Simpson

Meeting called to order @ 7:19 pm.

Adoption of minutes from Feb 26th meeting.

Kelly K, Kelly R

Adoption of the Agenda

Kirstie, Kelly K

Chair's Report (Lisa Fairburn):

- Welcome to this evening's meeting; please bear with us as we navigate this new platform.
- We will run through our agenda and then hear an update from Aron Campbell and Christine Hulme.

Opening of Nominations for the 2020/2021 PAC Executive

- Nominations for the 2020/2021 GEC PAC Executive now open: PAC Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, DPAC Rep as well as Member at Large. In accordance with our PAC bylaws, nominations will close on May 31st (10 days before the PAC AGM on June 10th). The current team are all willing to put their names forward again for next year but we are also looking to add a 'Member at Large' position.
- Nomination Head: Sara Gardner – Please email [Sara](#) with any nominations or questions about GEC PAC Executive positions by May 31st.
- We are also looking to add to our Hot Lunch team for September: Allison Schatz (Hot Lunch Coordinator) and Teresa Corey (Hot Lunch Volunteer Coordinator). If you can give roughly two hours a week to run reports and familiarise yourself with how the hot lunch program works, we would love to have you. Any questions, please contact [Allison](#) Schatz.

DPAC Report (presented by Wendy Human):

- DPAC Mtg Apr 22: considerable discussion about when students would be returning to school and how.
- Hollyburn – 20 children in attendance currently; taking up children of Tier 2 workers in May.
- Bargaining: agreement reached between teachers and government; ratified over the weekend.
- Remote learning – fewer questions seem to be asked; parents seem to be finding a rhythm.
- Summer School registration opened May 4; only open to students in WVSD; will be based on what is recommended by health officials.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Kelly Kerklaan):

- Kelly presented updated budget; all more or less on track as school closure cut some fundraising revenues but also removed many costs due to cancelled events.
- Bank balances: Gaming account has been spent down. Cancellation of Hot Lunch left \$39K of credits owed to parents; some parents have been refunded but we hope to keep approx \$33K in parents' accounts to carry forward to next year; \$560 in hot lunch credits have been donated back to the PAC. Hot lunch ordering incurred \$1150 in credit card fees which cannot be retrieved.
- Changes to Revenues and Expenses from last month:
 - \$720 in playground equipment
 - \$2500 (\$3000 total) to ZenMaker Lab (workshops)
- One line item in the Capital Upgrade category requires amendment to the budget to allow for higher cost of classroom equipment (tables for Grade 6/7 class). Alexa moved to increase the budgeted amount from \$3000 to \$3475.67 to cover the cost; Wendy seconded. Online poll completed confidentially by all attendees; motion passed unanimously.
- Anyone who is still in possession of receipts, please submit these asap so we can ensure everyone is reimbursed and budget can be finalised by June.
- Preliminary budget for next year to be drawn up in next few weeks, ahead of the AGM on June 10th.

Principal/Vice-Principal's Report (presented by Aron Campbell and Christine Hulme):

- Gratitude to parents who are holding the line at home in challenging circumstances.
- Steep learning curve for teachers to have pivoted for home learning delivery, many who are looking after their own young children at home.
- Many levels of meetings occurring on a weekly basis; patience needed as teachers are being pulled in many different directions.
- EAs/teachers involved in 1:1 meetings with children who have a specific needs; some teachers holding weekly Google meets with students, office hour 1:1 conferences, etc
- Connect/Concern/Care process ~ varies from teacher to teacher; attempting to keep kids engaged from many angles.
- School is in the process of reimbursing parent contributions paid for Museum visits and Drama Workshops via School Cash Online.
- Thanks to Lisa and Kelly for passing on concerns/communication from the school community. Staff

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were very appreciative of the collage which was recently compiled by parents.

- Moving forward: message from government is that we exercise caution as we enter the next phase. BC Minister of Education is working with all districts, BCTF, CUPE to ensure schools are safe. Vulnerable students, RAPP Program participants being invited to attend some degree of in school instruction (currently 3-5 students at GEC), engaging with teachers, Learning Support, etc.
- Any return to school will require health and safety assurances from all stakeholders; guidelines will be clearly established from the outset.
- Ministry document regarding the 5 staged approach to learning is public knowledge. BC will be progressing from Stage 4 to Stage 3 in the next few weeks; this will likely be on a voluntary basis until September and will provide some degree of in-class learning for students in Grades K-5 (access to in-class learning as needed for grades 6-12).
- Chris Kennedy to provide another video message to students/parents shortly.

Q&A – Discussion questions from parent body; responses by AC.

- *Anticipating return to school at some point for the kids (Sept or sooner), what can be done to ensure access to hand washing facilities for the kids? Can the PAC do anything to support this?* Routines and expectations would have to be clearly established as soon as students are allowed to return to school environment (Stage 3). Sanitising ‘used’ items will be a new reality; caregivers will not be allowed in the building.
- *Would school year extend into July?* Looks like Stage 3 rollout will take place sometime after the May long weekend; no plans to extend mentioned at this point.
- *Are students expected to wear masks when they are attending classes?* Ministry of Education suggested there was no need for masks in school. Parents can make their own decision based on what they are comfortable with in the process.
- *Has there been any information shared from other countries in terms of how students have returned to school and what has worked or not worked?* Smaller groups, but no specific details at this point.

Adjourned; 8:20 pm

Next meeting: AGM - Wednesday, June 10th @ 7:15 pm (via Zoom)

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