

**West Vancouver DPAC General Meeting  
Inglewood Learning Centre  
Wednesday, March 4, 2020**

**School Attendance:**

All West Vancouver parents and guardians are invited to General DPAC meetings. Please try to ensure that at least one representative from your school attends these meetings.

Representatives present from the following schools:

Cedardale	Westcot	Pauline Johnson
Cypress Park	Hollyburn	WVSS
West Bay	Irwin Park	Cedardale
Ridgeview	Caulfeild	Chartwell
Gleneagles		

**Regrets:** (Rockridge) Tanya Mah, Christina Argyros

**\*Note:** Many emails about the flu, reduced attendance at start of meeting, 6 people were able to come late.

**Welcome and Call to Order:** 9:19 am

**Adoption of Agenda:** Monica and Wendy

**Amendment/Approval of Minutes:** February minutes approved.

We would like to recognize that we are gathered together on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation and want to thank our friends and colleagues in the Nation who are working with us to guide our understanding of the history of this land and its people. We respect and honour the Elders past, present and future as we bring this knowledge to the students of our community.

**Chair's Report: Upcoming Events**

- **April 8:** DPAC General Meeting will feature an introduction to e-Sports: a look at what is happening in our schools, high schools and universities across North America, and in the community. Speakers: Diane Nelson, Director of Instruction, plus Tim Holloway and Robert Oles from the Vancouver Titans. We will also have a presentation from Rob Gloor, Executive Director of Kay Meek Centre detailing their exciting new renovation.
- Coffee & Dialogue topic at the end of the April meeting will be a general PAC “check in” on popular topics like succession planning, PAC manuals and resource materials and online storage. We will be asking you to bring any resource material that you are willing to share – more information will be circulated through the eNews.
- **April 15:** DPAC Parent Ed – “Like” screening & panel discussion, 7pm at Kay Meek Centre
- **April 22:** Foods that Fit Workshop – 5:00 pm at the Educational Services Building, 2121 Lonsdale Avenue in North Vancouver
- **May 6:** DPAC General Meeting – Blanket Exercise led by NVSD Indigenous Education instructors

- Carolyn Broady explained a little about the experience and how powerfully it impacts people, through the exploration of Indigenous history in Canada

### **Treasurer's Report – Kyra Smiljanic on behalf of Christina Argyros**

\*\*Note: WV Community Grant is pending as future potential funding for fall Dinner & Dialogue event.

#### **General Chequing Account**

Balance Forward \$ 9,956.71  
 Expenses of \$ 0.00  
 Current Balance as at February 25th (statement) \$ 9,956.71  
 (Pending: Honorarium: \$250.00)

#### **Gaming Account**

Balance Forward \$ 1,644.30  
 Deposits and Interest of \$ 0.68  
 Expenses of \$ 0.00  
 Current Balance as at March 2nd (statement) \$ 1,644.98  
 (Pending: deposit interest: \$0.59)

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Finance & Facilities – Kelly Richter**

Meeting February 11th. Key points:

- WV Place for Sport - \$3.6 million raised as of February 11<sup>th</sup>, total of \$4.9 million needed. Final push and a community awareness campaign planned for this spring.
- BICS – new artificial turf needed; Bowen Island Municipality is responsible for the field now so it is not a WVS cost. \$200 - \$300K project, looking at crumb rubber fill. Used coconut fill last time; more environmentally friendly but it did not last.
- This year's \$10,000 WVS District playground grant was awarded to Irwin Park to fund part of their natural playscape project which incorporates 3 outdoor spaces – a natural common, a covered outdoor classroom and a rain garden pathway.
- Presented amended annual budget
  - Student FTE (Full Time Equivalency = full time enrolled students) was up, meaning a \$1.2 million increase in revenue
  - Net Operating Expenses increased \$1.4 million
    - Mainly due to increased instruction and administration staffing costs
  - With these amendments, the district still maintains an operating reserve within the recommended guidelines of 2-3%

#### **Enhance West Van– Kyra Williams Smiljanic**

The 2020 Spring & Summer Leisure Guide is here!

- Renew or Buy your Enhance West Van membership (\$10 for a family membership; \$6 for an individual) prior to registration day on March 11

Spring break is just around the corner! - Camps!

- Splash, glide, bounce & play for \$1 per day with a Spring Break PlayPass!  
 — small card your child can carry and have access to Pool, Rink, + Gymnastics all day

Newcomer Programs and support groups offered through WVCC and Library

- English Cafe, Tours, Activities Workshops
- <https://westvancouverrec.ca/general-information/newcomers>

West Van Rec's REHAB and prehab programs are offered through the pool and physio programs — helping one person at time!

- The West Vancouver Health & Fitness team specializes in all areas of wellness including programs like Health Hearts, Better Bones, Joint Replacement, Stroke, Parkinson's Rehab, GLA:D Canada, Cancer Thrivers, Women on Weights, sport physio (for youth as well), and beyond.

Meet the new music & theatre art programs coming to West Van Rec—and the instructors behind them!

- Mini Musicians Parent & Tot
- Music Adventurers
- Guitar Camp
- Instrument Discovery Camp
- Intro to Drama & Acting

#### Forum: Accessibility for All – Building a World for Everyone

- Dialogue and Learning on the subject of accessibility.
  - Tuesday, April 7 from 7–9 p.m.(doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
  - West Vancouver Community Centre (Music Hall)
- The event will include presentations and an interactive Q&A panel session with local professionals in the field. Tickets are on sale for \$5. Buy tickets (Link):  
<http://click.mailsender05.com/ct/2924/2088179/742683172/a6b2d5de56dde29bf596e7c95b9ea833>

#### **Parent Education – Kelly Richter**

##### **April Parent Ed**

“Like” Screening and Panel Discussion – April 15, 7:00 pm at Kay Meek Centre.

- Electronic versions of the poster have been distributed to all PACs through the eNews – we ask that you be sure to push this out through your PAC communications channels and through social media networks
- Posters – will be sent to all schools; committee will be putting them up at key spots throughout the North Shore
- Very positive response so far – 65 tickets sold in the first 10 days the box office was open

#### **Traffic and Safety Committee (START) – Abbie Milavsky**

##### **Active Transportation with Dr Mark Lysyshyn**

- Students and parents in the West Van school community do not do a good job in the area of active transportation (walking, cycling, public transit). The vast majority of students are driven to school.
- There should be some coordination with the work that West Van Schools is doing in the area of Physical Literacy and Active Transportation. The two areas compliment each other.
- More work needs to be done in the area of “Risky Play” in order to encourage more independence and more comfort for active transportation.
- Focus on allowing for development of healthy self-governing children who can navigate buses, walk longer distances and managing a schedule independently, for active transportation.
- Parent question about our parent education for matters like this, (recent parent forum at Sentinel w/ Dr Kriellaars was an excellent opportunity of just this, but ironically had low attendance)
- There are few guidelines on what age is appropriate for kids to walk and bus to school alone and it is up to parents to judge – every kid is different: some kids are 6/7 and walk in groups
- Parents who are confident with their kids taking the bus at or walking to school at what is perceived to be a young age, must also stand up and advocate for themselves and their decisions to spread the word on allowing and promoting this kind of healthy independence
- Parents must stop being judgemental
- More information on the presentation will be sent at a later date.

## **Other Traffic Updates:**

- Upcoming water main work that will affect traffic for Sentinel and Chartwell. Principals will be sent information to distribute in a timely fashion.
  - Hoping to restrict full closures to spring break.
- Cedardale's issue around parking/drop off was discussed and "no parking" on that street is not an option. It had been tried before. Neighbourhoods must be on side with changes like these or other changes such as the addition of sidewalks near other schools.
  - have to work with the elected officials as these are voting issues
- Mini traffic grant application deadline is May 30<sup>th</sup>
  - 1 per school/per year
  - Lions Bay and Bowen should apply this year while funding is coming from Translink. Next year funding will be District of West Van so not applicable for either of those schools
  - Please make sure to submit a written report when your project is complete
- Elementary school walking maps now complete for all elementary schools – please look on your website and ask your principal if it is not there.
- HaSTE BC – no alternative on the horizon yet
- Bike to School info –
  - Link to newsletter here: <https://mailchi.mp/bikehub.ca/insert-subject-4328803?e=d727d9d467>
  - This is a good opportunity to apply for the mini-traffic grant (deadline May 30<sup>th</sup>)

## **Board of Trustees Report – Carolyn Broady**

### **Finance & Facilities**

- Reviewing priorities and process for funding model review (provincially was revised w/ WVS recommendations – changes were made, mostly around accountability and transparency)
- discretionary funding supporting schools

### **Housing**

- WV resident, Al Digenova is volunteering to create opportunities for building rental opportunities for teachers, 1<sup>st</sup> responders, police etc
- He is working with Provincial Government & developers, has worked and influenced excellent projects in the past and is looking for support to show we value the professionals that need to be able to afford to live in the community they work in
- He is putting on a talk or two / meeting to educate and spread support with this endeavour
- Lower-income housing, and making brochures and approaching community for support
- Monitoring the Coronavirus and recommendations – Chris to discuss

### **Negotiations**

- Parent question requesting teacher negotiation update
  - Negotiations – media blackout in place; parties in negotiations with mediator at present
  - No news is good news

## **Superintendent's Report – Chris Kennedy**

### **Housing**

- Reiterated Carolyn's point re: housing issue. WVS needs affordable housing options so staff can afford to live close to work.
- District is helping new staff organize housing and carpooling
- Chris is involved to help shape "what is affordable", trying to create a diverse community

## **September School Enrollment**

- Healthy numbers to date, parents asked to encourage others to complete registration process to ensure numbers are as accurate as possible going into next year
- Robotics academies/Ignite your Passion programs are full with waitlist
- Elementary schools are reviewing divisions after spring break – so help us get everyone registered now

### **West Van Place for Sport**

- Investment by WV Municipal District – Onni and Park Royal also came through with large donations
- \$3.5 million raised; require a total of \$4.9 million
- Naming rights available at this time. North Shore News ad ran today with a final push for donations; listed all donors to date.

### **Physical Literacy Forum**

- Forum last week with Dr Kriellaars was very powerful
- A robust Q & A period with many questions and resources discussed: nearly a three hour forum
- Event had disappointing attendance; comment that perhaps charging a nominal fee for the event might have been more successful.

### **E-Sports**

- Chris commented that many WV students play these games; there is an opportunity to connect the kids to their school community and validate this activity
- Often these kids who are serious gamers have historically been disconnected from their peers and from school
- Opportunity to influence and control what games our kids are playing and pursuing and what garners scholarships etc.
- They are looking to fill Rogers Arena with 18,000 kids/ people to play – this sport is becoming as attractive with a following similar to that of the Super Bowl

### **Coronavirus**

- Sean Novak – WVS lead on this issue; updates have been sent by both Sean and Chris
- Make sure DPAC & PACS are a clear conduit for accurate info, disseminating the RIGHT information
- Posting recommendations: reducing touch activities, shaking hands
- Increasing cleanliness and education on clean habits
- Supplies and schedules, routines for washing hands & education on washing hands
- Investing in paper towels vs air dryers
- Will be looking at advice from Canadian Gov Health websites for travel advisories, especially for school trips, (SD45 has excellent travel insurance for cancellation of all school trips)
- Trips to destinations like Japan, Italy, China are to be cancelled; continue to monitor trips to other destinations
- Many people travel around Spring Break – parents question: what is the expectation for families after returning home?
- Health & Government website recommends self-quarantine for 14 days after travelling to high risk countries like Iran, China etc – but WVS or parents are not allowed to ask people where they travelled or tell them what to do. It is still a private decision with a 'recommendation' only
- If a 20-25% absence is reached in school, there is a law for schools to inform all contacts and alert them a critical stage is reached where they may choose to keep their child at home and decision to close school is discussed.

- Former Caulfeild Principal Craig Cantlie, now principal in Dubai, has his school closed for 4 weeks to be pro-active
- Chris Kennedy's emails reach every parent regarding these communications
- Parents are advised to check to make sure their contact info is correct and that they are receiving Chris's emails
- DPAC parents asking questions on their input to improving accuracy of emailing
- Cindy Nairne from PJ school with PR background, suggested WVS establish a web page for updated information where parents can easily receive up to date information directly from the school district. Chris indicated they would pursue this option. (Note: that web page has been established and can be found at: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/news/coronavirus-update> )
- Parents suggested we as parents assess the risk for things like school movie night, multicultural lunch, etc.
- At this point, it is still up to each individual family, parents on attendance at these functions
- The school has a stocked up on certain supplies ie: school hand sanitizer
- Chris re-affirmed this is why it is up to each family to self determine the need for self-quarantine.

### **Presentation – All Things MATH!**

**Math today looks different than the math most parents did when they were growing up and subsequently many parents are grappling with what is being taught, how it is being taught and how they support their children.**

### **Guest speakers: Ian Kennedy, Liz Hill, Matt Trask**

**(PowerPoint Presentation link under: Resources – Additional Resources - March 2020)**

#### **Matt Trask**

- From Rockridge, showed us some math problems and provided information on apps that help students:
  - Microsoft Math and (video) that show the steps to solve
  - Kahn academy videos involved and solving strategies
- Math has changed big time: it is a completely different game, different playing field, actually totally different sport now!

#### **Ian Kennedy**

- It used to be rote memorization and now it is more flexible thinking and individual application to build a bridge to the answer (make a prediction or estimate is more frequently part of the problem solving)
- Slide showing what teachers see when they teach a lesson plan
- Goals of math in BC government ministry – newer highlights: process based, reasoning, situation context, abstract thinking

#### **Liz Hill**

- No longer 'Math', more numeracy – putting ideas to work, how to solve real life problems?
- Look at her slide on Numeracy, robust shift in the definition of the work
- Teaching students how to be mathematicians
- All shifts are research and evidence based
- Slide – "What the Experts Say "
- "know – do – understand "

### **Coffee & Conversation**

- Many Parents stayed to discuss until 11:30 with coffee and muffins
- 6 requests for this talk and any video and/or audio to relay how well it explained Numeracy and Math Approach in our schools today

**Adjournment: 11:05 am**