



## Virtual PAC Meeting Minutes: Wednesday February 9, 2022

- **Meeting convened at:** 7:00pm
- *Participants:* 26 attendees
- 1. **WELCOME:** Due to COVID-19 and social distancing measures, a PAC meeting was held online over Microsoft Teams.
- 2. **INTRODUCTIONS**
  - a. PAC CHAIR -- Ms. Kelly Hambleton
  - b. TREASURER -- Ms. Tammy Ross
  - c. SECRETARY – Ms. Marlene Wu
  - d. MEMBERS-AT-LARGE -- Ms. Cigdem Cinarogl (regrets), Ms. Eliza Ko, Ms. Karen Pezzuto, Mr. Alaric Wang
  - e. PRINCIPAL – Ms. Annie Varghese
  - f. VICE PRINCIPALS – Mr. Lee Banta (regrets), Ms. Rosalind Poon (regrets)
- 3. **BUSINESS MEETING:**
  - a. Adopt minutes from January 19, 2022 meeting
    - 1st motion: Karen Pezzuto*      *2nd motion: Alaric Wang*
  - b. Adopt agenda for February 9, 2022 meeting
    - 1st motion: Eliza Ko*      *2nd motion: Alaric Wang*
- 4. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** (*Ms. Annie Varghese*)
  - a. Semester 2 start-up just occurred
    - good opportunity for students to have a fresh start/reset; set healthy habits and rethink learning strategies; have positive connections with their learning moving forward
    - encourage students to connect with their new teachers and new classmates; think of it as a new beginning
  - b. Course selection (planning for next year)
    - really important that students take the time to go through the program planning guide, talk to teachers, their counsellors, parents, etc.
    - counsellor presentations started last week (plans to have it in-person had to be revised since January)
    - occur over 4 mornings via MicroSoft Teams: Gr.8s & Gr.9s -last week; Gr.10 -today; Gr.11 -tomorrow
    - 1hr presentation covered: different course options, required courses, elective options; requirements and appropriate credits needed for graduation (for Gr.10s & Gr.11s)
    - students will submit course selection on myEd portal and also on the course selection form
    - course selection due date: 25February
  - c. Queries from parents:
    - When to make appointment for next year with counsellor if courses need to be adjusted/changed? Felt last year was delayed in getting email re: booking appointment with counsellor; by the time email received, the appointments were all booked up
      - Typically in June when the schedules are somewhat done, counsellors will go through them to see if there's errors that need to be fixed right away
      - In the summer, counsellors come in 4-5 days extra the week before school starts for appointments; try to prioritize Gr.12s and new students (who don't have a schedule) \*this school year was unique as was short-staffed one counsellor, and hence perhaps why all the appointments were filled already\*
      - Re: delayed email send-outs –limited to sending via myEd portal which sometimes has glitches and lag. Will look into that: have been talking to tech services about some alternatives if finding that myEd is not working well
    - In past years, students got their timetables on 1st day of school but it's available sooner on myEd. When does that occur? Also when is the timetable made up?
      - Once new school year rolls over (becomes "active"), schedules will be visible on myEd; this is dependent on how quick SLSS builds timetable and the date determined by Ministry of Ed

- Generally, a tentative timetable is in place before school ends/summer starts. This year, talking about how the timeline can be moved up a bit (when timetable gets finished, communication out to students about tentative schedule, opportunities to tweak things); no set plans yet but will relay message to parents & students once known
- During course planning today for Gr.10s, noticed that Life Sciences 11 is not a prerequisite for Life Sciences 12, is this a change this year?
  - Not a change. According to the Ministry of Ed, “prerequisite” is no longer used but rather “highly recommended”. It’s not mandatory, but keep in mind many skill sets and core competencies are worked on and taught successively (there’s progression in all the courses going from Gr.10 through Gr.12). Best to talk to the counsellors and/or specific course teachers for advice
- Concern about uprise in homophobia for student who identifies as part of LGBTQ community, feels targeted by students
  - Appreciated bringing this forward; this is something that the school’s been actively working towards
  - Working on broader themes with staff and students around diversity, equity, and inclusion. Staff is engaging in anti-racist pedagogy; also have a team actively working on equity, diversity, and inclusion as part of an innovation grant with a goal to facilitate a student group
  - Possible PAC presentation later this year: thinking about who’s part of our community, how to ensure focus is not just on tolerating but rather really creating acceptance in our school community for all members
  - 15February: Gr.9 Social Responsibility Day focus is on SOGI
  - 23February (Pink Shirt Day): SLSS StuCo hosting Table 38 –Presentation on pride & pronouns
  - Partnered with district’s Director of Equity and Inclusion team to bring education into the school
  - Also if student not feeling safe, staff and admin want to know about it and work through that on an individual level (want each student to feel safe and taken care of = #1 priority)
- Does SLSS have an honour roll system?
  - In the past, there’s been honour roll and different awards but because of COVID there’s been some interruptions
  - Being the 1st year back since COVID with some normalcy, the Awards Committee will be meeting later in the year to determine how to go about student recognition (seeing what it will look like)

5. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** no new updates

6. **NEW BUSINESS:** no new updates

7. **RICHMOND DISTRICT PARENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT** (*position open*)

- a. Currently, no meetings taking place right now but will continue to check-in regularly for any updates
- b. Volunteer needed to represent our PAC. The district PAC is hosting Zoom meetings that are accessible to the public. Follow them on Facebook for more information about what’s going on at the district level.

8. **DRY AFTER GRAD (DAG)**

- a. Date for the Grad Dinner/Dance has been tentatively set for Saturday, June 11, 2022 at Tsawwassen Springs. Traditionally, DAG (Dry After Grad) follows the dinner dance in the late evening into the early morning at the school. This drug/alcohol free and safe event is coordinated by parents for the students.
- b. questions, comments, or to volunteer contact Leanne Santha, DAG co-chair: [slssdag2022@gmail.com](mailto:slssdag2022@gmail.com)

For more information on PAC or if you should have questions for the PAC, please contact: [pacslss38@gmail.com](mailto:pacslss38@gmail.com)

**NEXT PAC MEETING:** Wednesday March 9, 2022

**Topic:** *Post-Secondary and Career Options*

**Special guest:** *Ms. Jacqueline Digeso, SLSS Career Information Advisor*

**Meeting adjourned at:** 7:33pm