



PAC Meeting Minutes: Wednesday March 8, 2023

- **Meeting convened at:** 7:05pm
- **Participants:** 10 attendees
- 1. WELCOME: held online via Microsoft Teams**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
 - a. PAC CHAIR -- Ms. Karen Pezzuto
 - b. Past PAC CHAIR -- Ms. Kelly Hambleton
 - c. TREASURER -- Ms. Eliza Ko
 - d. SECRETARIES – Ms. Marlene Wu, Ms. Shirley Lim (regrets)
 - e. DPAC REPRESENTATIVE - Mr. Volker Helmuth
 - f. MEMBERS-AT-LARGE -- Ms. Cigdem Cinaroglu (regrets), Ms. Dora Groumoutis (regrets), Mr. Alaric Wang (regrets)
 - g. PRINCIPAL – Ms. Annie Varghese
 - h. VICE PRINCIPALS – Mr. Lee Banta (regrets), Ms. Bronwyn Fackler (regrets)
- 3. BUSINESS MEETING:** *(Ms. Karen Pezzuto)*
 - a. Adopt minutes from February 8, 2023 meeting
 - 1st motion: Eliza Ko 2nd motion: Kelly Hambleton*
 - Adopt agenda for March 8, 2023 meeting
 - 1st motion: Eliza Ko 2nd motion: Kelly Hambleton*
- 4. GUEST** *(Mr. Ken Hamaguchi, School Trustee)*
 - a. joined during first 10 minutes of meeting to introduce himself to us; for us to put a face to name
 - i. He is the school liaison for SLSS
 - ii. Role: representative from the school board, supporting SLSS on the district level
 - iii. Updates from board level:
 - 1. Scott Robinson, current Superintendent, will be retiring at the end of Spring Break. Currently, going through selection process for his replacement (been posted externally), and by end of June hopefully will have a candidate
 - 2. Budget season this time of year. Over the next couple of months, meetings will occur with stakeholders. Andrew Scallion, RDPA president, will be representing the parent community
 - iv. Offered to help out as parent volunteer for DAG; Karen Pezzuto will pass his name to DAG chair
- 5. PRESENTATION:** Trends in Social Media *(Mr. Christopher Loat, Curriculum Coordinator for Technology, SD38)*
 - a. slideshow presentation:
 - i. current trends in social media, what parents can do to help teens navigate this area, tips and resources for parents to better equip themselves
 - ii. will be forwarded to Annie Varghese and Karen Pezzuto to share/post for all parents to access
- 6. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** *(Ms. Annie Varghese)*
 - a. March 7-9: Grade 6 & 7 Basketball tournament held at SLSS
 - i. great to see future SLSS kids from “family” of elementary schools participate in tournament and great to see current SLSS students volunteering and being good role-models for the younger kids
 - b. Spring break is coming up ($\frac{2}{3}$ of the year has gone by already); will be busy after Spring Break to June (many things going on):
 - i. April: course selection verification will occur right after Spring Break
 - ii. mid-April (after Easter holiday): report cards will come out
 - iii. end of April: Parent-teacher conference and grad assessments will occur

7. TREASURER'S REPORT: (*Ms. Eliza Ko*),

- a. *see attached detailed report*
 - i. 4 cheques were cashed out: about \$2800
 - ii. balance currently: about \$32,000

8. RICHMOND DISTRICT PARENTS ASSOCIATION REPORT (*Mr. Volker Helmuth*)

- a. meeting held yesterday (March 7, 2023)
- b. DPAC is part of the budget advisory committee meetings as mentioned by Ken Hamaguchi, and gives effective input and feedback there; been quite vocal and lobbying against school closures and staffing cuts
- c. Richmond Therapeutic Riding Association did a presentation (provide horse riding therapy for children with emotional and behavioural issues)
- d. *see DPAC Facebook page for more and most up to date information*

9. BUDGET REQUESTS (*Ms. Karen Pezzuto*)

- a. Drama club: rights to the Neil Simon play, "The Good Doctor" – approved by PAC
- b. *see attached for updated Gaming Funds budget*

10. NEW BUSINESS (*Ms. Karen Pezzuto*)

- a. PAC scholarships
 - i. PAC executive voted to separate PAC scholarships from the SLSS scholarship program; PAC scholarship recipients will be chosen by a PAC Scholarship Committee
 - ii. Background: in the past, PAC scholarship was part of the SLSS scholarship program. Recipients were chosen by SLSS scholarship committee and notified during Grad Convocation. Cheque was issued after the recipient provided proof of registration in a post-secondary institute and a thank-you letter; recipients had up to 2 years to claim the actual scholarship cheque
 - iii. Annie Varghese comment:
 - 1. generally SLSS scholarships are issued in the student's name (vs. the post-secondary institution).
 - 2. 2 year time frame/expiration for scholarship gives a window of time for students to still claim their scholarship if they choose to defer enrollment into post-secondary and opt to take a gap year
 - 3. perhaps look into rules of scholarship if awarding cheque right away; look at difference between scholarship vs. bursary
 - iv. Some of PAC concerns:
 - 1. currently there's about \$2500 in scholarships that are unclaimed, and \$5000 in scholarships have expired because over 2 years old (some going back to 2015)
 - 2. PAC has a budget and needs to show accurately how money is spent each year and accounted for; outstanding items/cheques not written and/or cashed out becomes a liability, especially for future PAC
 - v. PAC has revised scholarship application form to include a deadline to cash the cheques by certain time, that scholarship recipient will be notified during Grad Convocation, broadened volunteer work to include school community and community at large and not just PAC events
 - vi. Award amount and number of PAC scholarships will depend on how many applications will be received, how many past students PAC will be able to contact/connect with to write/cash cheques for their unclaimed scholarships – will have a separate PAC executive meeting to decide that
 - vii. At 8:41pm: Annie Varghese excused herself from meeting to allow PAC executives time to further discuss and make decisions re: PAC scholarships and SLSS Alumni Association scholarships
 - viii. Motions presented and passed:

1. Once recipient chosen for PAC scholarships, cheques will be issued immediately; no proof of post-secondary registration required, with 6 months deadline to cash cheque (1st: Volker Helmut 2nd: Kelly Hambleton)
2. Volker Helmut volunteered to be one of the members on the PAC Scholarship Committee
3. PAC will reach out and contact the 5 past PAC and Alumni scholarship recipients (from June 2021 and 2022) that have not claimed their scholarships to give them their cheques; will consider those past 2 years as expired and not able to honour those scholarships (1st: Volker Helmut 2nd: Kelly Hambleton)
4. Alumni Association scholarships
 - a. Alumni Association has not fundraised on their own, in the past the scholarships has been funded by PAC, in the amount of \$1500 total
 - b. Karen Pezzuto reached out to Alumni Association president, Glenn Kishi, back in September to discuss PAC involvement in funding their scholarship and ideas for co-fundraise and did not hear back (as going forward next school year PAC gaming funds will not be allowed to be used for scholarships)
 - c. Query who/what is the Alumni Association: is it still active? what do they do? dwindling members? what work has been put in to be more self-supporting, to increase membership/reach out to alumni –have not seen effort made yet
 - d. Hence, PAC decided to not fund the Alumni Association scholarships at this time (1st: Volker Helmut 2nd: Marlene Wu)

For more information on PAC or if you should have questions for the PAC, please contact: pacsls38@gmail.com

NEXT PAC MEETING: Wednesday April 12, 2023

Meeting adjourned at: 9:11pm