



PAC Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, October 11, 2023

- **Meeting convened at:** 7:00 pm
- **Participants:** 19 attendees
- 1. **WELCOME:** held in person in the SLSS Library
- 2. **INTRODUCTIONS**
 - a. PAC CHAIR - Mr. Alaric Wang
 - b. PAC VICE CHAIR - Ms. Kelly Hambleton
 - c. TREASURER - Ms. Eliza Ko, Ms. Shelina Bindra
 - d. SECRETARIES - Mr. Ed Hung, Ms. Shirley Lim
 - e. DPAC REPRESENTATIVE - Mr. Volker Helmuth
 - f. MEMBERS-AT-LARGE - Ms. Dora Groumoutis, Ms. Marlene Wu
 - g. PRINCIPAL - Ms. Annie Varghese (regrets)
 - h. VICE PRINCIPALS - Mr. Nik Nashlund (regrets), Ms. Bronwyn Fackler
- 3. **Vote to add members to PAC Board** (*Mr. Alaric Wang*)
 - a. Daisy Wang, Valeriia Kravchenko
1st motion: Eliza Ko *2nd motion:* Ed Hung
 - b. Meeting voted to add both members as Members-at-Large
- 4. **BUSINESS MEETING:** (*Mr. Alaric Wang*)
 - a. Adopt minutes from September 20, 2023 meeting
1st motion: Volker Helmuth *2nd motion:* Marlene Wu
 - b. Adopt agenda for October 11, 2023 meeting
1st motion: Ed Hung *2nd motion:* Shelina Bindra
 - a. World Teachers Day breakfast Update
 - Parents dropped off food the day before and continue the next morning
 - Teachers appreciated the gesture
 - PAC would like to thank everyone for their contributions and to Mr. Tong for allowing PAC to use his room for the breakfast
 - Ed is putting together a document for next year's team. Any comments and feedback welcomed.
 - Some teachers were not able to attend because it was a PLT day so consider holding the breakfast on a non-PLT day or bring breakfast to the teachers who are unable to attend in person.
- 5. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** (*Ms. Annie Varghese*)
 - a. Grade 8 Students can reach out to teachers and admin if they have questions on PLT
 - b. Students enjoyed the Grade 8 camp. Ms. Fackler is looking into other options for next year's Grade 8 camp.
 - c. A few Grade 8 parents who were at the meeting commented that there could be more outdoor activities. Some popular activities filled up quickly and the Grade 8 students were not able to participate. Some suggestions for next year: Camp Jubilee, Camp Summit, Sasamat Lake.
 - d. There is an increase of inappropriate posts on Social Media and everyone needs to be aware and mindful of the impact of these on others. The school is working with RCMP liaison officers to have a session on social media safety, as well as how to protect one's mental health, given that there are many violent and disturbing images in the news and media.
- 6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** (*Ms. Eliza Ko*)
 - a. PAC received a gaming grant of \$22,480 and the balance as of Oct 6 was \$24, 935.35.

- b. PAC received thank you notes from PAC Scholarship recipients. Mr. Banta also thanked Ed Hung and Volker Helmuth for assessing the applications for the PAC Scholarship.
- c. School clubs that would like support from PAC should complete the funding request form for PAC's consideration before the end of October.

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

- a. District PAC met last night
- b. Presentation from Ms. Jane MacMillan (Richmond District Assistant Superintendent), who reported that the Ministry of Education will provide stable funding for the K-12 food security support program for \$2.3m per year for three years. The program funds breakfast, lunch and snacks for students facing food insecurity at home. Expenditure for equipment can also be applied for by school administrators, e.g., for large or small food preparation appliances.
- c. BC Teachers Federation representative for Richmond presented on the Fundamental Skills Assessment. The BCTF is opposed to the testing in elementary school, but will not actively petition parents to boycott it; however, they will be campaigning to ask parents to write to their MLAs, asking that the results not be allowed to be used to rank schools. The BCTF does not oppose the testing at the high school level, as it is understood to be a necessary graduation assessment.
- d. The District PAC's Traffic Committee reported that, as most years when school starts, there are a lot of complaints about drivers putting pedestrian and bicycling students' safety at risk, and generally causing unsafe situations on streets that provide school access. Parents are encouraged to report their concerns to school administrators, and to the DPAC so that the DPAC can bring issues to the attention of School Board management.
- e. Parents interested in learning more about how PACs operate and the roles and responsibilities of the PAC Executive positions (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) are invited to attend a training evening on Nov. 7th at MacNeill Secondary. There will also be a session on leading fundraising and organizing 'dry grad'. More information to come.

8. NEW BUSINESS (*Mr. Alaric Wang*)

- a. Planning for a guest speaker for the November meeting
 - Admin will reach out to the speakers and will announce the details when confirmed.
 - b. PAC support for student leaders of the Grade 8 camp
 - PAC will provide support (\$4,500) for the 32 student leaders from the Camp Leader Club who planned, organized and led the Grade 8 Camp.
- 1st motion:* Marlene Wu *2nd motion:* Ed Hung
- Meeting voted to reimburse \$4,500 to the Camp Leader Club

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

NEXT PAC MEETING: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 - mode to be determined

Meeting adjourned at: 8:13pm