

# PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

January 11, 2023, | 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Longstaff

---

## In Attendance

---

Nina Priddle | Tanya Beja | Kailey Toth | Lara Jansen | Caroline Marklund | Christina Service | Amandeep Duhra | Mandhu Gill | Courtney Daws | Karyn Audet | Marilyn Molinski | Amber Orchard | Wendy Rafuse | Marti Longstaff | Keri Pierce

---

## Call to Order

---

The meeting was called to order at 6:36PM.

---

## Land Acknowledgment

---

*The Herbert Spencer PAC recognizes and acknowledges the Qayqayt First Nation, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on who's traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.*

---

## Approval of Minutes and Agenda

---

Approval of Agenda: Kailey Toth 1st, and Nina Priddle 2nd

Approval of November 2022 Minutes: Courtney Daws 1st, and Kailey Toth 2nd

---

## Correspondence | Erin Shaw

---

- Thank you letter from the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. We were able to donate \$1,854!

---

## Principal's Report | Ms. Catherwood

---

- We have confirmed a number of field trips for the students using the affordability fund
- Grade 2 - 5 students will be attending an Abiotic vs Biotic Workshop at the Anvil Centre
- Kindies and Grade 1's will be getting a visit from "Mike's Critters"
- There is also discussion of visiting the VSO for the Grade 2's
- Grade 5's will begin the MDI survey on Monday. The survey consists of 60 questions about their school experience, social learning, emotional learning, etc.
- SLS - Student Learning Service - will be completed by the Grade 4's
- We had such a great experience with "Rhythm Resource". They will be coming back next December
- The school instagram is up and running, please follow @herbertspecerelementary
- Early dismissal Tuesday, at 12:24
- Grade 5 celebration at "Wild Play" is booked for June 14th

- Many parents and committee members would like to see Winter Concerts come back. School staff to discuss. There is a possibility of a Spring Concert. This would help with gym capacity issues. This could also be held at Massey or Anvil Center, even outside the school, or band shell in Queen Park.
- Field trips beyond NW was also discussed. School staff will discuss further. Admin is put in a hard place as they can not force teachers to go on field trips.

---

### School Board Trustee | Marc Andres

---

- Marc Andres is a high school teacher in Surrey. He teaches English, Social Studies, and PE. He lives in NW near Fraser River Middle School with his wife and daughter. You can reach him by email at **mandres@sd40.ca**
- The biggest issue the school board is addressing right now is school capacity. New West is currently running at 110% and growing 5% per year
- To address this the board has voted in favor of moving the daycare/childcare spaces from Qayqayt to Tweedsmuir and Howay.
- The Family Place will also be closing its Qayqayt location, a new location has not been announced.
- This allows for 200 new spaces
- Updating bus routes to the new daycare locations is in discussion with the city
- Fraser River Middle is also over capacity, the School Board offices in portables have plumbing so this may be a possible location to expand.
- The discussion of adding another high school in NW is up for debate. Perhaps, we can go to an extended day model at the current high school with staggered start/end times.
- Simcoe, the new elementary school being planned for New West, will be built to projected student numbers, the first time in British Columbia.
- The old New West highschool space will be turned into a memorial park. A large burial has been discovered under the property. The plan should be coming out soon March/April in a public forum
- Programs of Choice are currently under review. Can these programs be expanded? Where should they be? How can they improve?

---

### Chair's Report | Marti Longstaff

---

- Thank you Hot Lunch team for all your hard work! Last term saw a \$5000 profit!
- Thank you to the Christmas Craft Fair crew and to all volunteers
- 1st light was a great night!
- Thank you Amy and Courtney for taking on the Grade 5 hoodies!
- We are in discussion with QayQayt to hold a parent education night together
- Munchalunch for this term is open, please order!
- Movie Night is tentatively booked for April

---

## Treasurer's Report | Christina Service

---

- Halloween Howl was a wash, after expenses, we have a \$210.56 profit
- Craft Fair showed a \$6,170.16 total profit
- 2021-2022 Gaming Grant account summary was submitted
- NWFD v Canucks Alumni gained a \$965 profit
- Winter Greenery, profit of \$817.05

---

## CPF Report | Erin Shaw on behalf of Allison Mounsey

---

- Currently there is a Programs of Choice review happening with an external consultant, hired by the school board
- Focus groups are being held this month and there is a survey that is expected to be available on the school board website sometime this month for parents to complete – CPF will be participating in one of the focus groups
- There is more information about the review on the school board website. The survey link should be sent out to families when it is ready to be completed.

---

## DPAC Report | Lara Jansen

---

- Last DPAC meeting was Nov 17, there should be a good update at the next meeting in January.
- DPAC will help cover the costs of parent education
- Safety Issues were a big discussion point. A fall survey was sent to parents and student safety and mental health was a high priority. Especially bathroom safety in high schools.
- The Wellness Center at the new high school is a great new resource. This is run by Melanie Smith
- There is a 3 tiered approach - Councillors, Nurse Practitioner, and Educational Councillors
- There will be a walking school bus from Victoria Hill to QayQayt in partnership with Translink
- Jennifer Whiteside Q&A still unconfirmed

---

## Committee Reports

---

- Events Committee: Amber Orchard
  - 1st Light - Thank you Nina for the hot chocolate!
  - The Hyack leadership group were great, they helped hand out hot chocolate, and with set up and take down
  - Thank you also to Christina's husband as Buddy the Elf!!
  - The feedback was very positive, everyone loved the opportunity to bring the community together!
  - Craft Fair - Thanks to all volunteers!
  - This was the last year for Lambroula and Marilyn - thank you for making this and amazing event for some many years
  - We are looking for someone to take over the bistro portion of the fair
  - Movie Night tentatively planned for April 23rd ? Do we invite Howay?

- Other ideas brought to the table, Trivia Night, Family Dance, Pizza and Games Night?
- Parents Night Out at Georgies - a casual night out for community building, we could include a 50/50 to raise some money
- Fundraising Committee: Marti Longstaff
  - Winter greenery saw an \$820 profit
  - It is a bit of a pain to pick up for parents and volunteers, the drop off time is very vague
  - Do we do it again? Consensus is to not do again
  - Readathon is coming up and will be held during the school's Literacy week. Week is TBD.
  - Purdys Fundraiser for Easter is in the works
  - Freezie Fridays to come back in Spring
- Members Communication/Yearbook: Marti Longstaff
  - The yearbook cover has been chosen
  - Photos are coming in! Thank you teachers and caregivers.
  - All PAC meeting agendas and minutes are up on the website for review
- Governance: Keri Pierce
  - We will be sending out some questions to think about before our Feb meeting, stay tuned.

---

## New Business

---

- Grade 5 Committee: Tanya Beja
  - Ceremony date is June 23rd
  - There will be a graduation ceremony and lunch
  - We need some volunteers to serve the lunch and help set up
  - Water fight day is a go. PAC to purchase the super soakers. Karen to send the number of Gr 5 students
  - Gr 5 "Wild Play" is booked - PAC will subsidized
  - Gr 5 hoodies are here and will be disbursed Friday
  - Late immersion enrollment will be from Jan 16 - Feb 10 - this will be a lottery draw.

---

## Questions and Comments

---

- No questions or comments

---

## Next Meeting

---

Meeting adjourned at 8:14PM - Amber Orchard 1st, and Keri Pierce 2nd.

Next Meeting: February 1, 2023 @ 6:30