

PAC General Meeting minutes

Herbert Spencer Parent Advisory Council

June 7, 2023 6:30PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Longstaff

In Attendance

Erin Shaw | Courtney Daws | Marti Longstaff | Natalie Taha | Fabricio D'Annuzio | Karyn Audet | Nina Priddle | Keri Pierce | Patrick Service | Christina Service | Amandeep Duhra | Manishe Rojora | Caroline Marklund | Amber Orchard | Kailey Toth

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM

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 & Nina Priddle

Approval of April 2023 Minutes: Karyn Audet & Nina Priddle

School Trustee | Marc Andres

- The school board just completed their budget meeting for the year
- A pilot program for after school childcare has been passed. This will start in January 2024, site is currently unknown
- The Fuel Up Lunch program received \$826,000 in funding. There will be a new company providing the lunches for next year in hopes of higher food quality and more options
- The Family Affordability fund is about to expire and there is still \$150,000 of remaining funds. Please reach out to Marc if you are aware of a family in need at this time
- Air quality and movement was a topic of discussion. Our school will be getting an HVAC upgrade over the summer
- The heat in our portables was discussed. The students in our school are forced to hold classes in the library on hot days as there is no way to keep the portables cool. The school board has discussed many options to mitigate this, but have not yet come up with a good solution. There needs to be communication with the city in order to upgrade the electrical services at the school.
- Bathroom safety and cleanliness was discussed. The new vape detectors that were installed at NWSS are showing some effectiveness at this time.
- The school board trustees have partnered with the city and will be invited to meet with developers to discuss school size and population along with density plans.

- A new middle school on the west end is in the early stages of design
- The inclusive education plan has come to an end. There will now be a review of the effectiveness of the program.
- Our PAC would like to advocate for a weekend backpack program and/or breakfast program, a reduction in student assessment wait times, and to ensure the health and safety of our students is a top priority

Principal's Report | Karen Catherwood & Simran Hare

- Class photos were completed last week. It was a beautiful day so we were able to hold them outside on the playground
- Welcome to School for next years Kindergartens was very successful
- Rainbow day last Friday was gorgeous.
- Bill Ranford's visit last week was a great success. He discussed resilience and being a team player with the students.
- June sports week/spirit week will be coming up. The students will participate in 1-2 activities per day and on Friday there will be a school wide dance party along with Freezie Friday.
- Jersey day coming up this Friday
- National Indigenous Peoples day will be on June 21. Students should wear orange shirts.
- The grade 5 students will be going to Wild Play next week
- There are many classes out on field trips, which has been great to see.
- The grade 5 leaving ceremony will be coming up on June 23rd. Four family members are able to attend. The grade 5's will parade through the school as the rest of the students congratulate them. They will receive a school pin and certificate at the ceremony with a picnic lunch to follow and then their annual water fight in the afternoon.
- Report cards will be coming out on June 28th
- The last day of school is June 29th, early dismissal will be at 2:00
- PAC and the school admin will be providing lunch for all staff on June 30th
- The school calendar has been sent out for next year
- School fee information has been sent out. \$50 for school supplies, this will be up on School Cash in August.
- It has been confirmed that there will be 23 divisions next year
- Next year our school will participate in a math book pilot program along with QayQayt.
- Simran will be back next year as vice principal
- Simran and two other grade 3 teachers worked on the innovation grant this year. They purchased some math applications that focused on multiplication and fractions. The program had great success with the students, they all caught on fast and were very engaged. Upon reflection they noticed there wasn't much of an opportunity for assessment within the app.

- There was a large focus on social emotional learning this year. One area where we saw big success was with buddy reading, the big kids reading with the little kids. This really helped grow the big kids' reading confidence and also helped build community within the school.
- Before school and after school clubs returning has made a big difference in community building
- Schoolwide assemblies and singing together have been a big community builder
- Next year we will create more multi-age grade groups, participate in literacy week and create library sharing circles to further the school community engagement.
- We will also be working on building resilience with the students. When things don't go their way, we will work on building strategies to move forward. There will be more speakers coming in, including Bill Ranford who speaks on team sportsmanship. Staff will continue story telling and modeling resilient behaviors.

Chair's Report | Marti Longstaff

- The "Askable Adult" parent education presentation was a great night full of useful information. The presentation was fully covered by the PAC and DPAC funds.
- Saleema Noon has been booked for next year. The presentation will be held in April over 3-4 days. She will present to each class individually and at each grade level. There will also be a parents information night included.
- The school is looking for a new fish caretaker. Please reach out to Marti if you would like to take this on.

Vice Chair's Report | Courtney Daws

- Courtney presented the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Constitution
- Motion passed by majority.

Treasurer's Report | Patrick Service

- The gaming grant application process is underway
- Patrick presented the financial updates for the 2022-2023 school year
- Patrick presented the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 school year
- Keri Pierce and seconded by Karyn Audet
- Motion is passed.

CPF Report | Allison Mounsey

- CPF's BC Family French camp is still open for enrollment. Enrollment has been low this year for the Vancouver Island and Okanagan camps. If there are any families interested in more information they can look at bcffc.com or contact Allison

DPAC Report | Lara Jansen

- Lara passed out PACT program brochures.

Committee Reports

- Events Committee:
 - Parents Night Out was a success. Thank you to all who attended. There were over 80 attendees. The silent auction items were great. Revenue was \$4,700 and after expenses \$3,200.
 - Parent feedback was that it was held over a busy weekend. We will look at earlier dates for the next event. Sometime in January or February.
- Fundraising Committee:
 - Neufeld orders are completed. We made \$1,400 in revenue
 - Freezy Friday's have already seen great success. 480 freezies were sold in 15 minutes last week. There will be three more Friday sales throughout the month of June.
- Members Communication/Yearbook:
 - Yearbooks are enroute to the school.
 - End of year PAC survey will be sent out to all caregivers again this year. We received great feedback doing this last year. Keri and Karyn have volunteered to take this on

New Business

- Grade 5 grad lunch has been organized and is ready for the event.
- Nominations and Election of 2023/2024 PAC Executive:
 - Chair - Marti Longstaff
 - Vice Chair - Courtney Daws
 - Treasurer - Christina Service
 - Secretary - Erin Shaw
 - DPAC - Natalie Taha
 - CPF - Alison Mounsey
 - Past Chair - Amber Orchard
 - Member at Large - Jen Rhyne
 - Member at Large - Amandeep Duhra
 - Member at Large - Karyn Audet
 - Member at Large - Tanya Beja
 - Member at Large - Mavra Pappas
 - Member at Large - Shawna McCardell
 - Member at Large - Amy Parr
 - Member at Large - Rachel Abercrombie
 - Member at Large - Fabricio D'Annuzio

- Nina Priddle and seconded by Keri Pierce
- Motion is passed.

Questions and Comments

- Meetings will continue to be held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30PM

Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM

See everyone in September!